

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

The Messenger

Free ♦ Our 155th Year ♦ Issue 21 ♦ May 29, 2026

H-D Teacher Honored

Dan Heath, a teacher from Hillsboro-Deering Middle School is among ten middle school teachers from eight states who have been selected to participate in the prestigious National STEM Scholar Program, a unique professional development program providing advanced STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) training, national network building and project support for middle school science teachers nationwide.



John Stark Student Chosen

John Stark junior Anna Chasse has been chosen as one of the "50 Students, 50 Stars," an honor bestowed on students demonstrating outstanding citizenship by the New Hampshire Secretary of State. The award is for "students in grades K-12 who have applied foundational civic knowledge to a civic engagement activity that enhances the lives of others." Anna fits that description because of her outstanding leadership at John Stark High School.



This week in history

MAY 29, 1843

John Frémont begins Western expedition

MAY 30, 1971

Mariner 9 departs for Mars

MAY 31, 1859

Big Ben goes into operation in London

JUNE 1, 1980

CNN launches

JUNE 2, 1865

American Civil War ends

JUNE 3, 1965

Edward White becomes first American to walk in space

JUNE 4, 1783

First sustained flight in a hot-air balloon



See photos of Memorial Day Observances in area towns on pages 12 & 13.

Goffstown man arrested after hit & run accident in Bow

On May 25th, Bow Police responded to the intersection of Crescent Drive and South Bow Road for a report of a motor vehicle crash. The caller informed responding officers that someone had stolen his vehicle and crashed it.

Upon arrival, it was determined that the caller was actually the driver of the

vehicle and had fled the scene on foot prior to officers arriving. The suspect was identified as Shawn McComiskey, 23, of Goffstown.

McComiskey was located on foot by a Hooksett Police Officer and New Hampshire State Trooper who were providing a perimeter after a NH State Police K9 was

deployed. McComiskey was charged with Conduct After an Accident, False Report to Law Enforcement, and Operating After Suspension Subsequent Offense. McComiskey was out on bail for a previous crime at the time of this offense and was held without bail pending arraignment in Concord District Court.

Andy Sanborn to plead guilty to federal fraud charges

Former State Sen. Andy Sanborn intends to plead guilty in federal court to a single charge of misusing more than \$250,000 in COVID-19 relief money for personal use, including buying sports cars, according to the plea deal filed in federal court. Sanborn, a Republican

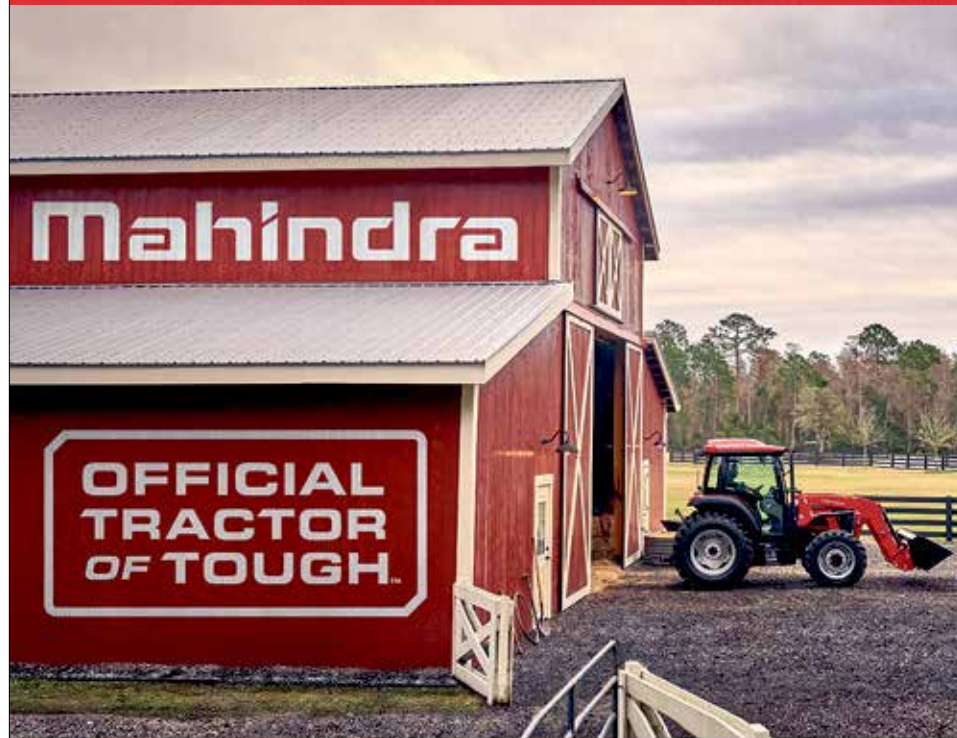
from Bedford, was charged with one count of theft of government funds. The plea deal comes after Sanborn waived his right to have "this matter presented to a grand jury," according to the deal.

Under the deal, prosecutors will recommend Sanborn spend a year and one

day in prison. He is also liable to repay the amount used plus interest.

Sanborn's guilty plea will "satisfy any potential criminal liability by Win Win Win, d/b/a Concord Casino, and the defendant's spouse, Laurie Sanborn," according to the agreement.

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Yesteryear *Local history as reported in The Messenger*

May 30, 2025

New Boston Town Administrator resigns
Henniker residents want OHRVs off Dodge Hill, Hemlock Center Roads
Four pets killed in Bradford house fire
H-D School Board briefed on new State Educational Standards

May 31, 2024

Andover and Newport sexual assaults reported
Carl Weber welcomed as New Boston Town Administrator
Historic District Commission approves 5 requests for Hancock Inn
Deering Conservation to test drinking water from private wells

June 2, 2023

New London Hospital doctor pleads guilty
"One Goffstown" hopes to make community more welcoming
Hillsborough Select Board discusses paid parking permits
Renovations underway at New London's Whipple Hall

June 3, 2022

Goffstown student 1st at Future Business Leaders Conf.
Jennifer Huard Weare Schools named Assistant Principal
Hopkinton students compete as National Young Inventors
Fire consumes New Boston home - no injuries

June 4, 2021

Deering Town Admin & Assistant both resign
AG supports complaints against Antrim Wind
Warner's Sean Toomey named NH Fire Marshal
Henniker Police promotions announced

June 5, 2020

Hopkinton voters say "NO" again
Fire causes damage at Cousineau Forest Products
Work begins on Hillsboro-Deering playground
Warner Select Board approves Rail Trail design

June 7, 2019

Warner man's rape conviction upheld
Hillsborough man sentenced to 6 months in jail
Deering's School of Falconry featured on Netflix
Hopkinton may raise age to buy tobacco vapor products

June 6, 2018

Hometown boy joins New Boston Police Department
Henniker Select Board OK's deduct sewer meters
Dunkin-Jenkins proposes Performing Arts Auditorium
Mount Sunapee Resort will soon be sold

June 9, 2017

Hillsborough celebrates Peter Brigham Day
Senator Shaheen tours Franklin downtown businesses
Crotched Mountain to close rehabilitation hospital
Selectmen rebuke Fortner's effort to remove Aucoin

June 3, 2016

Four men arrested on riot charges in Northfield
Telephone bomb threat at Bow High School
Guidance Counselor appeals indecent exposure
New Scoutmaster installed at Hopkinton Troop

John Stark students attend DECA International Career Development Conference

John Stark Regional High School DECA members attended the annual DECA International Career Development Conference (ICDC) that took place in Atlanta, GA, on April 25-28.

The #DECAICDC spotlights DECA's top student performers from nearly all 50 United States, the District of Columbia, Canada, Puerto Rico and Germany. It highlights innovative business partnerships that empower these emerging leaders and entrepreneurs to tackle the challenges of an ever-evolving and increasingly complex economic landscape.

Five students from John Stark DECA, along with their advisor Mandy Hibbert, attended the International Career Development Conference (ICDC) to participate in DECA's Emerging Leader Series and competitive events. Juniors Evan Payeur and Kaeden Vanasse, sophomore Jayleigh Fournier-Shelto, and freshman Lucas Guillemette represented John Stark in the

Emerging Leader Series. Aligned with 21st Century Skills in the areas of critical thinking and problem solving, communication and collaboration, and creativity and innovation, DECA's Emerging Leader Series prepares DECA members to be effective leaders in college and careers.

Additionally, junior Luka Madecki competed in the Entrepreneurship Series event, where he demonstrated his ability to recognize and act on business opportunities, assess market needs, conduct marketing research, identify sources of capital, and apply effective management skills.

While in Atlanta, the students also had the opportunity to explore several of the city's most popular attractions, including the Georgia Aquarium, the World of Coca-Cola, the College Football Hall of Fame, and Centennial Olympic Park, enhancing their overall conference experience.

The International Career Development Conference serves as DECA's premier event, bringing together top students from around the world to

compete, network, and develop career-ready skills. John Stark DECA is proud of its students' dedication, professionalism, and commitment to excellence.

For more information about John Stark DECA, please contact Mandy Hibbert at John Stark Regional High School (mandy.hibbert@sau24.org)





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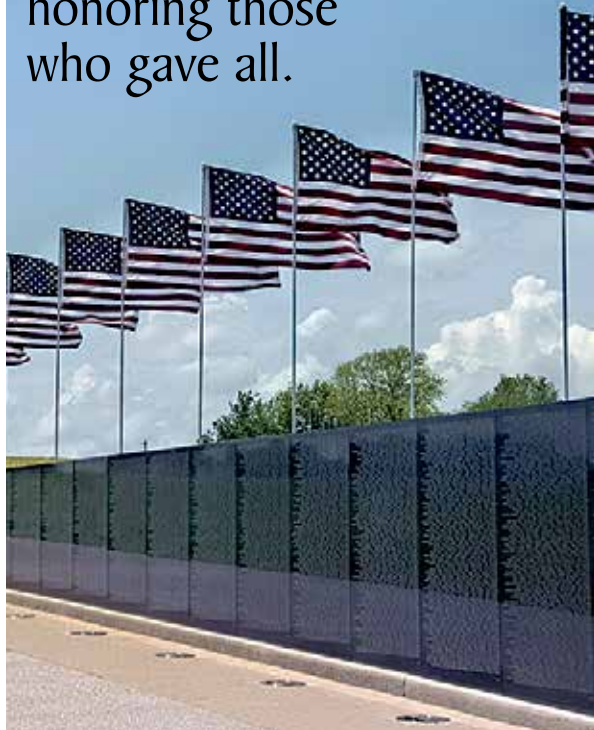
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Honoring Hometown Heroes



The Boy Scouts of Troop 2 spent their time placing flags at the graves of veterans in Antrim's cemeteries. Memorial Day parades were held in Antrim and Bennington on Memorial Day.



American Legion Henniker Post 78 repurposed 300 flags from 578 flags replaced from Veterans' graves from Henniker Cemeteries to commemorate the 250th Anniversary of America's Independence. This past weekend, members placed the flags at Woodman's Veteran's Park in the form of 250 and will be kept in place through the holiday and celebration of the anniversary, which is officially July 4th, 2026. The best of three hundred flags were selected to celebrate the anniversary after having been on the graves of Henniker veterans since last Memorial Day – a fitting tribute to our veterans and the country they have served. These flags will be retired in a fitting ceremony used for the proper disposal of flags at the Post after the anniversary celebration.

Goffstown studying the need for new police station

The Goffstown Select Board moved one step closer to a new police station during its recent meeting.

Members approved charter language for an ad hoc committee tasked with investigating the growing need for a new police station.

The committee will include members of the public and representatives from the town's planning, budget and economic development boards and committees. The physical planning process and approach is to be presented and acted upon at the completion of the charter.

Police Chief Eric Sereno told members he's investigated similar ad hoc committees and their organization.

"A couple meetings ago we had talked about putting together an ad hoc committee to put together a building committee charter," Sereno said. "Looked through a few different

ones we've seen throughout the state, kind of put that together and this is kind of my initial draft to you all of what we are thinking."

Town Administrator Derek Horne told members that, typically, the Select Board would finalize the charter then advertise the resident volunteer positions for a period, potentially one month, before reviewing applications.

During their meeting on April 13, board members directed Horne and Sereno to draft a charter for the ad hoc committee, with timelines and deliverables.

The committee will be tasked with presenting findings to the Select Board. They'll evaluate the facility needs of the police department and deliver findings within one year, in time for the 2028 budget process.

According to the committee



charter, they'll investigate three primary scenarios: renovating or adding on to the existing facility at 326 Mast Road; constructing anew at the Mast Road site; or new construction at an alternate town-owned site or future land purchase.

"We've done a lot of studies already on whether the building should be renovated, rebuilt, but I think the big thing here is using some of that data that we've already established and paid for from impact fees and really kind of put together this com-

mittee and really try to see," he said. "Towards the end of it, the overall deliverables to this board would be kind of the overall findings of where we should go."

Sereno said they'll consider the needs versus the wants of the department.

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TAKE YOUR MEDICINE



BY SARAH CHAPIN

Researchers have found that prenatal exposure to acetaminophen may increase the risk of neurodevelopmental disorders, including autism spectrum disorder and attention-deficit/hyperactivity disorder (ADHD), in children. The study, published in *BMC Environmental Health*, is the first to apply the rigorous Navigation Guide methodology to systematically evaluate the rigor and quality of the scientific literature. Acetaminophen (often sold under the brand name Tylenol® and known as paracetamol outside the United States and Canada) is the most commonly used over-the-counter pain and fever medication during pregnancy and is used by more than half of pregnant women worldwide. Until now, acetaminophen has been considered the safest option for managing headache, fever, and other pain. Analysis of 46 studies incorporating data from more than 100,000 participants across multiple countries challenges this perception and underscores the need for both caution and further study. The Navigation Guide Systematic Review methodology is a gold-standard framework for synthesizing and evaluating environmental health data. This approach allows researchers to assess and rate each study's risk of bias, such as selective reporting of the outcomes or incomplete data, as well as the strength of the evidence and the quality of the studies individually and collectively. While the study does not show that acetaminophen directly causes neurodevelopmental disorders, the research team's findings strengthen the evidence for a connection and raise concerns about current clinical practices. The researchers call for cautious, time-limited use of acetaminophen during pregnancy under medical supervision; updated clinical guidelines to better balance the benefits and risks; and further research to confirm these findings and identify safer alternatives for managing pain and fever in expectant mothers.

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THE NEGATIVE EFFECTS OF VAPING, SMOKING, AND DRINKING ON YOUR TEETH: PART I



Dr. Esin Narli

Smoking e-cigarettes or water pipes (known as vaping) may seem less harmful than smoking regular cigarettes. Yet this may not be the case for the health of your mouth.

When you vape, you inhale e-liquids (also called vaping juice) which, even when labeled 'nicotine-free', can contain harmful substances. These include nicotine, heavy metals, volatile organic compounds (VOCs), and cancer-causing chemicals. The risk of vaping devices causing problems in your mouth is much higher if they contain nicotine.

The long-term effects of vaping are not fully known. There is significant emerging evidence of the impact of vaping on oral tissues.

The main one is xerostomia, or dry mouth, which leads to taste changes as well as increased risk of tooth decay, tooth erosion (acid damage), tooth sensitivity, and gum disease.

This is primarily due to the propylene glycol (PG) and vegetable glycerine (VG) vaporizing into acidic compounds that cause teeth to dissolve or erode. When the vapor combines with the added sweetened flavorings they can create a sticky residue that sticks to teeth increasing the risk of tooth decay. The additives in vaping liquids can also cause discoloration on teeth.

Vaping may be seen as a way to quit smoking. Yet vaping may make it harder to quit smoking completely which increases the risk of diseases associated with tobacco use, such as mouth cancer.

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Hometown Heroes



The Dunbarton Board of Selectmen recognized Sergeant Brian Tyler (10 years), Officer Joseph Milioto (35 years), and Officer Thomas "Cody" Tompkins (5 years) for their noteworthy years of service.



Congratulations to Chloe Caron (L) who just completed her internship at Henniker Police Department. Chloe is a member of the Class of 2026 at John Stark and will be attending New England College in the fall in pursuit of degrees in Criminal Justice and Outdoor Education.



We celebrate a significant career milestone achieved by Sergeant Brian Tyler: 10 years with the Dunbarton Police Department. Sergeant Tyler began his law enforcement career as a part-time patrol officer in 2016.



The New Boston Fire Department announced the retirement of Assistant Fire Chief Cliff Plourde effective June 3rd, 2026, concluding an extraordinary 45 year career in fire service to the community.



Big congratulations to Kolyn and Sadie from the Concord Regional Technical Center on completing their 10 week internship with the Hillsboro Police Department. During their time there, they got an inside look at police operations and experienced the day to day work.



Peterborough Police Sergeant Sweeney, Lieutenant Xenakis, and Chief Scott Guinard were presented Life Saving Citation Bars, Field Training Officer pins.

New London Conservation Commission installs “pollinator garden”

As the world is learning more about the importance of pollinators to our food supply, and the fact that pollinators are in decline, the New London Conservation Commission is taking action. The NLCC has installed a “pollinator garden” along the Esther Currier Wildlife Management Area at Low Plain, right alongside the beaver dam at the Wildlife Pond on Davis Path.

The garden is filled with an amazing variety of native plants that attract the pollinating animals, including bees, butterflies, flies, wasps, and hummingbirds. Those pollinators seek the food of the flowering plant and then inadvertently spread the pollen that has collected on their bodies to other flowering plants.

There are many people to thank for making this project happen but one person deserves the most credit. Leslie MacGregor, who represented the New London Garden Club,

is the person most responsible for making this happen. She first approached the NLCC with the offer to help to establish a garden. From there she sourced the plants, purchased the plants, and then donated them to the project. She arrived at the site on May 17 with 50 plus plants, a plot layout, and then ready to plant.

Those who also need to be recognized are – Bob Brown, Chair of the NLCC, who had the vision of a pollinator garden for several years; Mike Gelcius and the Elkins Fish and Game Club who provided the materials and labor to build the raised bed; Don Bartlett who worked alone to fill the bed with compost; Don Ostler who helped Leslie install the plants, and the NL DPW for providing and delivering the compost. Please be sure to visit the main entrance of Low Plain at 677 Andover Rd. (Rte. 11) to view the garden.



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In Service to Others



Members of the Henniker Lions Club joined many other organizations including other Lions Clubs for the yearly Future In Sight's 'Walk for Sight'. Future In Sight's nonprofit organization is dedicated to advance the independence of people of all ages who are blind and visually impaired.



The Knights of Columbus from St. Mary & St. Theresa Parish are raising money by asking for people to fill these baby bottles with change and return by Father's Day.

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Gorham named Quarterfinalist for 2027 GRAMMY Music Educator Award

Serena Gorham of Weare Middle School has been named a quarterfinalist for the prestigious 2027 Music Educator Award™, presented by the Recording Academy® and the GRAMMY Museum®.

The national honor recognizes educators who have made a significant and lasting contribution to music education

while demonstrating an ongoing commitment to ensuring music remains an essential part of students' lives.

Gorham is among 202 music educators selected nationwide from more than 2,100 nominations submitted across the United States. According to the Recording Academy, quarterfinalists represent 177 cities across

36 states. At Weare Middle School, Gorham has inspired students through excellence in music instruction, student performance opportunities, and a dedication to fostering creativity, confidence, and community through the arts. Her commitment to student growth and passion for music education have made a lasting impact on both students and families throughout the district.

Serena Gorham's passion for music education and dedication to her students make her an extraordinary educator and an invaluable part of our school community.

The Music Educator Award was established to recognize current educators from kindergarten through college, in both public and private schools, who have demonstrated outstanding achievement in the field of music education. The final recipient will be honored during GRAMMY Week 2027 in Los Angeles.



Serena Gorham



Dunbarton observes Memorial Day.



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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.

Remembering & honoring those who gave it all

Memorial Day is a federal holiday in the United States for mourning the U.S. military personnel who died while serving in the United States Armed Forces.

It is observed on the last Monday of May. It is also considered to be the unofficial beginning of summer.

Memorial Day is a time for visiting cemeteries and memorials to mourn the military personnel who died in the line of duty. Volunteers place American flags on the graves of those military personnel in national cemeteries.

The first national observance of what would become Memorial Day occurred on May 30, 1868. Then known as Decoration Day, the holiday was proclaimed by Commander-in-Chief John A. Logan of the Grand Army of the Republic – a fraternal organization of veterans – to honor Union soldiers who had died in the American Civil War.

This national observance followed the example of many local observances which were begun between the end of the Civil War and Logan's declaration. Many cities and people have claimed to be the first to observe

it, however, the National Cemetery Administration, a division of the Department of Veterans Affairs, credits Mary Ann Williams of the Ladies Memorial Association of Columbus, Georgia, with originating the idea of an annual date to decorate the graves of Civil War veterans with flowers.

Official recognition as a holiday spread among the states, beginning with New York in 1873.

By 1890, every union state had adopted it. The world wars turned it into a day of remembrance for all members of the U.S. military who fought and died in service. In 1968, Congress changed its observance to the last Monday in May, and in 1971 standardized its name as "Memorial Day." Two other days celebrate those who have served or are serving in the U.S. military: Armed Forces Day, which is earlier in May, a ceremonial U.S. day of commemoration for honoring those currently serving in the armed forces, and Veterans Day on November 11, a legal holiday which honors all those who have served in the United States Armed Forces.



The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) recently endorsed the three White Democrats, in the bottom row, over the three Black Republicans, in the top row. Perhaps the organization should change its name to the (NAADP) National Association for the Advancement of Democrat Politicians.



On Saturday, May 23rd, the Sunapee Fire Department, along with mutual aid from New London and Springfield, were dispatched to a residence on Lake Avenue in Sunapee for a reported smoke condition inside a residence. After a thorough investigation, fire personnel determined the cause of the smoke to be an issue with the home's HVAC system.



On Thursday, May 21st, the Sunapee Fire Department, along with mutual aid from the New London Fire Department, was dispatched to Interstate 89 for a reported brush fire in the median. Due to New London Dispatch receiving multiple and conflicting location reports regarding the exact location of the fire, both Sunapee Fire and New London Fire were toned to ensure a rapid response. Sunapee arrived on scene and located an approximately 30x30 area actively burning in the median near the Sunapee/Springfield town line. Forestry 6's crew quickly deployed a hose line and began extinguishment efforts. Crews from the New London Fire Department continued to the scene to assist with final extinguishment operations.



The Greenfield Police Department and the Greenfield Volunteer Fire Department, alongside Wilton EMS, were dispatched to the area of 125 Zephyr Lake Road for a reported single vehicle into a tree. One patient was evaluated by EMS.

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Crime Watch



Weare man sentenced to 3 months in jail for firing gun

A 68-year-old Weare man has been sentenced to three months in jail after firing a shotgun at a driver who mistakenly pulled into his driveway.

Michael Durgin was sentenced last week in Hillsborough County Superior Court by Judge David Anderson, following his conviction for reckless conduct with a deadly weapon. Because he is now a convicted felon, Durgin—who had no prior criminal record—will no longer be able to legally own firearms. The sentence drew sharp disbelief from Durgin, a reaction that Judge Anderson noted with concern during the hearing. “I understand you think you did nothing wrong here, but that is partly what troubles me here,” Judge Anderson said, according to a report by the New Hampshire Union Leader. Anderson told Durgin that firing at the vehicle was a “gross deviation” from how a law-abiding citizen is expected to act. “That is the message you need to take from this process,” the judge added. “I am concerned that you don’t seem to understand the basis of what the jury concluded.”

The charges stem from an October 2024 incident involving a 25-year-old Black man from Massachusetts. The driver, who was attempting to buy a truck part via Facebook Marketplace, accidentally pulled into the Durgins’ driveway.

According to court testimony, Michael Durgin claimed he heard screaming and gunshots outside, which prompted him to grab a 12-gauge shotgun and fire a single shot at the moving car as it attempted to leave.

Prosecutors revealed that upon his arrest, Durgin insisted he did nothing wrong, threatened to sue the department, and made racist remarks to law enforcement, stating, “Trump wouldn’t appreciate you arresting me.”

Durgin’s wife, Diane Durgin, is facing separate, more severe legal consequences for her role in the confrontation.

According to authorities, Diane Durgin initially approached the lost driver while carrying a holstered handgun. She allegedly threatened to kill the man while using a racial slur, and then fired two shots at his vehicle as he tried to flee the property. She has been charged with: Civil rights violations, Criminal threatening, and Reckless conduct.

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Goffstown man waves arraignment for stabbing man to death

A Goffstown man charged with second-degree murder in connection with a fatal stabbing at a Manchester gas station on Monday waived his arraignment.



Antonio Cajigas

Antonio Cajigas, 22, is accused of recklessly causing the death of Christopher Marcoux, 25, by stabbing him, according to the New Hampshire Attorney General’s Office.

“An element of reckless second-degree murder is that the defendant has to act with extreme indifference to the value of human life,” said Assistant Attorney General Brian Greklek-McKeon.

A probable cause hearing was scheduled for May 28. Greklek-McKeon said it’s common for arraignments to be waived and that it doesn’t indicate much about the defense.

Officials said Marcoux died from a stab wound to the abdomen. He was found outside the Alltown gas station on South Willow Street at about 5:40 p.m. Monday and was taken to Elliot Hospital, where he later died.

Witnesses told News 9 that several cars pulled up to the victim as he walked through the gas station parking lot, and he was attacked before the vehicles left the scene.

“We can’t comment on the specifics of cars, individuals or the number of individuals at this point,” Greklek-McKeon said. “We can tell you that multiple people who were at the gas station have come forward and given statements.”

The gas station is less than half a mile from Manchester Memorial High School, where several after-school sports events were taking place at the time Marcoux was found.

Andover man arrested for possession of fentanyl

On March 5, 2026, the Andover Police Department executed a search warrant on the property of Jeremy Carter. On March 8, 2026, the Andover Police Department arrested Jeremy Carter of Andover N.H. and as a result Mr. Carter was charged with possession of controlled drugs. Mr. Carter was in possession of various quantities of suspected fentanyl.



Jeremy Carter

His arraignment date was May 11, 2026, out of the Franklin District Court. The Andover Police Department was assisted by the N.H. Probation/Parole, Wilmot Police Department, Danbury Police Department and New London Police Department.

Weare man arrested and charged with Drug Possession

Scott Fortin, born in 1982, of Weare, was arrested at 8:36 p.m. on April 23 on felony possession of a controlled drug-subsequent and transport drugs in a motor vehicle charges following an incident or investigation on South Main Street.



Warner in Winter exhibit at Upton-Chandler House

This summer, the Upton-Chandler House Museum will feature an exhibit titled Warner in Winter, highlighting many photographs and stories. Visitors are invited to come explore how winter shaped daily life in Warner—and how the town, in turn, learned to shape the winter. Rebecca Courser, Exhibit Curator.

“From oxen-drawn sleighs to snowplows, the story of winter roads in Warner is one of adaptation, ingenuity, and community effort. Each generation found its own way to meet the challenges of the season, leaving behind a rich visual and historical record.” Kathy Inman, Warner in Winter: Keeping the Roads Open. Warner Histori-

cal Society Spring 2026 Newsletter

The exhibit preview reception will be Friday, June 26 from 5 - 7 p.m. with refreshments at the Upton Chandler House Museum, 10 East Main Street, Warner. The museum will be open Tuesdays from 1 p.m. - 4 p.m. and Saturdays from 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. until mid-October.

The Warner Historical Society formed over 50 years ago to preserve, educate about, and keep alive Warner’s heritage. The Society has yearly exhibits, and programs in the Upton Chandler House Museum on Main Street and maintains the Lower Warner Meeting House which is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Antrim’s Swap Shop temporarily closed for improvements

The Antrim Recycling Team and Station, or A.R.T.S., announced the temporary closure and relocation of the Swap Shop at the town Transfer Station to accommodate site improvements. The Board of Selectmen approved

the purchase of a 20-foot-by-8-foot storage container to house the Swap Shop. At the same time, changes are made to improve emergency access, traffic flow and material storage at the facility.



The Antrim Grange honored three church members at their annual awards night. Diane Chauncey received an award for her many years of service to the town, and Bill and Helene Newbold received the National Community Service award. Congratulations on receiving the awards and thank you for your service.


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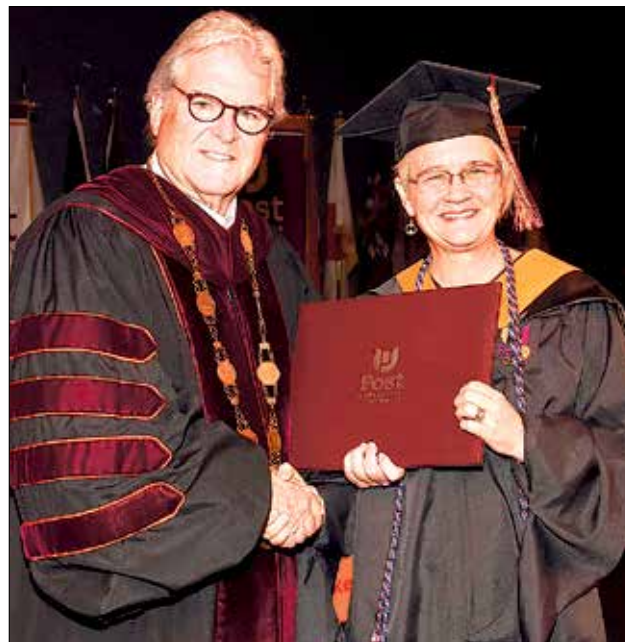
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Alma Mater



Sharon Gamache, RN (right).

Hillsborough Nurse Honored for 30 Years of Service

May 9th was a milestone for Sharon Gamache, RN, the beloved nurse at Hillsboro-Deering Middle School. Amidst a series of ceremonies in Waterbury, Connecticut, Sharon graduated from Post University with her Master of Science in Nursing (MSN) in Organizational Management and Professional Leadership.

Sharon's journey in medicine began in the early 1990s, serving as a medic in the U.S. Army Reserve. Her military service was specifically recognized during the commencement ceremony on Sunday at the historic Palace Theater, where she joined fellow graduates in a moment of tribute.

The weekend was full of honors for the veteran nurse. On Saturday at the Post University campus, Sharon was inducted into Sigma Theta Tau, the international nursing honor society. She also participated in the traditional Master's Hooding and Nursing Pinning ceremonies—symbolic rituals that mark her transition into high-level nursing leadership.

With over 30 years of experience—ranging from the operating room to her deep-rooted passion for home health and hospice—Sharon has spent the last eight years dedicated to the health of Hillsborough's students.

During the ceremony, Post University Provost Mary Carr praised the dedication of graduates like Sharon, stating:

"It has been an honor to be part of their success, and we look forward to the meaningful impact they will make in their careers and communities."

By bringing this advanced expertise back to HDMS, Sharon continues to serve as a pillar of care for Hillsborough. Please join us in congratulating Sharon Gamache, on this incredible achievement.

Other Colleges & Universities

Justin Tanner Wyle of Deering, is earning a Bachelor of Science degree from Muhlenberg College. Wyle is majoring in Biology.

Katherine Carey of Greenfield and **Makayla Strickulis** of Goffstown received their diplomas during Stonehill College's 75th Commencement ceremony.

Adam Ventola of Warner and **Hannah Leahigh** of Antrim were named to the Chancellor's List at Western Carolina University.

Sofia Douglas of Goffstown has been named to the Dean's List at Western Carolina University.

Garrett Fitzgerald of Contoocook and **Ryan Metzger** of Hopkinton earned degrees at Holy Cross.

Nazareth University is proud to announce that **Juliana Stevens** of Goffstown, NH has been named to the Dean's List.

Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor:

VILE BEHAVIOR

Memorial Day, a remembrance day for those who fought to preserve our freedoms, has come and gone.

The Democratic National Committee (DNC) posted a vile 'tribute' on their web page. It has since been removed. The 'tribute' included a graphic of the 13 service members killed in the US-Iranian conflict and blamed Trump for the deaths. How low do the Democrats go!! The post was called out (same day) by two elected Democrats who are combat veterans. The tone deaf Democrats can not climb out of their TDS mentality.

How low do the Democrats go in New Hampshire? Elected Democrats have staged walk-outs at the State

House when they don't get their way. During Governor Ayotte's State of the State speech, numerous Democrats 'flipped the finger' at the Governor. They seethe with anger at anyone and anything they despise. Democrats are blinded by an orthodox belief in government control over all of us.

No way do the Democrats earn privilege to be the majority to lead New Hampshire or our country.

Democrats will most assuredly lead us into woke oblivion – a completely dysfunctional government.

Our nation has numerous issues where the electorate is 80/20 in favor. Where are the Democrats? On the wrong side of each of these issues.

Stephen Pierce, Bradford

Bennington's Annual Rhubarb Festival scheduled for Saturday, June 6th

Mark your calendars and bring your appetite: the 2026 Bennington Rhubarb Festival is set to return on Saturday, June 6, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Sawyer Field, located at 148 State Route 202 in Bennington, behind the US 202 Express Mini-Mart ("Harris' Store").

This promises a full day of family-friendly fun, deli-

cious food, local creativity, and, of course, plenty of rhubarb-inspired treats. The Rhubarb Festival has become a favorite early-summer gathering for residents across the region, offering a relaxed and welcoming atmosphere where neighbors and visitors can connect, laugh, and celebrate small-town community spirit.

Free Caregiver Wellness Series hosted at the Cornerstone Building in Henniker

White Birch Center is partnering with Granite VNA to present a free two-part Caregiver Wellness Series designed to support caregivers with practical tools for managing stress and maintaining emotional well-being.

The sessions will be held at the White Birch Center Cornerstone Building, located at 116 Main Street in Henniker. Community members are encouraged to attend either or both events at no cost. This series welcomes anyone providing care or support to another person — including those caring for par-

ents, spouses, children, family members, friends, or loved ones facing health challenges or life transitions.

- Upcoming sessions include:
- Tuesday, June 2, from 3–4 p.m. — Managing Caregiver Stress
 - Thursday, June 25, from 3–4 p.m. — Emotional Well-Being for Caregivers

The demands of caregiving can often become overwhelming, impacting physical health, relationships, and mental wellness. During the “Managing Caregiver Stress” session, Granite VNA Community Health

Educator Kelli Anaya will discuss strategies caregivers can use to recharge, reduce stress, and find greater balance in daily life.

The second session, “Emotional Well-Being for Caregivers,” will focus on understanding emotional health and coping with the challenges caregiving responsibilities can bring.

Participants will learn practical strategies for managing emotional wellness, building resilience, and navigating change.

“These workshops are designed to provide support, encouragement, and practical tools for anyone caring for others,” notes Morgan Ring, Family Resource Director at the

Cornerstone Building. “Caregiving can take many forms, and it’s important for caregivers to make time to care for themselves as well,” shares Ring.

Registration is required. For more information, email morganr@whitebirchcc.org or contact the Cornerstone Building at 603-428-3077.



The Henniker Beautification Alliance planted flowers in the containers around Henniker with a red, white and blue theme (and even flags!) this year to celebrate America’s 250th birthday.



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Warner felon arrested on new drug & domestic violence charges

A felon with a lengthy criminal history who faces dozens of new charges, including drug and weapon possession, and domestic violence, is not contesting a revocation of his bail.

Joseph Henriksen, 31, of Pleasant Lane in Warner, was in Merrimack County Superior Court Tuesday for a bail revocation

hearing after being arrested in Hollis in April while on the lam after failing to appear at a pretrial hearing in February. He is currently being held at the county jail.

During the hearing, which lasted a few minutes, Zosia Anna Buse, a public defender, told the court they would not contest the bail revocation. Instead, she,

Meredith Lugo, another public defender, and Susan Venus of the county attorney's office would be working in the coming

weeks toward a resolution of his cases, Buse said. A status conference hearing was then set for June 23.



Joseph Henriksen of Warner was in Merrimack County Superior Court for a bail revocation hearing after failing to appear, fleeing from cops, and being captured in Hollis in April. He faces dozens of charges.

Newbury planning 250th & Old Home Day celebrations

The Newbury Select Board was given an update on this year's Old Home Day. Ms. Fogwill reminded everyone that it is the 250th anniversary of our nation and she recommends purchasing red, white and blue t-shirts for the volunteers and for purchase. Mr. Finneral said they will order them from the Rec Revolving Fund and they can be sold at the welcome table.

Ms. Fogwill said the total donation amount so far is \$8,455. This amount includes private pays from individuals as well as businesses and she is very happy with this amount. Ms. Fogwill said they are full for vendors. The food trucks are all in line other than Kona Ice because they can only work in certain zip codes.

The one owner that normally comes

has sold her truck. There will be BBQ, Thai food, hot dogs, fried dough, hard ice cream, and a soft service ice cream truck. This gives a total of 10 food trucks. The fire department will do breakfast sandwiches.

Ms. Fogwill said they desperately need volunteers. There will be bingo, a climbing wall, photo booth, boat rides, wildlife show, dunk tank, etc.

The group has decided that from 4:00 p.m. until 7:30 p.m. there will be no activities so people can rest a bit before the evening activities. Dock Ten is the band and then there will be fireworks.

Ms. Fogwill said they have received permission to allow the vendors to park across the street.

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Obituaries: Friends & Neighbors Remembered

Ramona Kean Lane



Hopkinton - Ramona Kean Lane passed away on May 6, 2026, at Cornerstone at Hampton (NH), after a lengthy battle with Parkinson's Disease. Her loving family was by her side. Ramona (Mona) was born in Nashua, NH on October 10, 1937, to Thelma (Hart) and Randall Kean. Mona was pre-deceased by her beloved husband, Donald Kerivan Lane. She is survived by her four children and eleven grandchildren: daughter Jennifer (Lane) Pope and her husband Sandy of South Yarmouth, MA and their four children, Matthew and his wife Sarah (Battista), Christopher and his wife Emily (Worcester), Katherine and her fiancé Chris Solis, and Julia and her husband Jay McDermott; son Donald, Jr. of Newfields, NH and his two children, Mark and Maria; son Mark and his wife Anne (Swenson) of Hampton Falls, NH and their three children, Abigail and her husband Nick Smith, Eric and Emma; son David and his two children, Rachel and David 2nd. She was also blessed with four great-grandchildren, Sunny, Teddy, Arthur and Wesley. Visitation will be held on Tuesday, June 16, 2026, at St. Theresa's Church, 158 Old West Hopkinton Rd., Henniker, NH from 9:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. with a funeral mass at 11:00 a.m. Following the mass, a luncheon will be served. In lieu of flowers, the family welcomes donations to the Hopkinton Historical Society, 300 Main St., Hopkinton, NH 03229.

Harold A. LaValley



Newbury - Harold A. LaValley passed away peacefully at the Jack Byrne Center in Lebanon, N.H., on May 19, 2026, at the age of 94-and-a-half. He was surrounded by members of his large and loving family. He leaves behind his wife of 73 years, Geraldine; his daughters, Nancy (Larry) Huot, Lori Barnes, Jodi (John) Miskowiec; his son, Steven (Jessy) LaValley; nine grandchildren, Bryan (Fran) Huot, Erin (Robert) Nicoletti, Jayna (John) Hooper, Renee (Randy) Feather, Tracy Huot, Kirt Barnes, Andrew (Holly) Miskowiec, Elena (Frank) Miskowiec, Daniel (Lindsay) Huot; and 13 great-grandchildren, with the 14th expected soon. He was predeceased by his parents, Harold J. LaValley and Eunice (Putnam) Gladue, as well as his beloved siblings, Edwin and Pearl. Harold was the founder and CEO of LaValley Building Supply. A memorial service for Harold will be held at the LaValley Family Community Center on Sunday, June 14, at 2 p.m. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to "Newport Recreation" at the LaValley Family Community Center, 17 Meadow Rd., Newport, N.H. All contributions will go specifically to the center's fund to sustain ongoing recreational programming.

Thomas Earle Allen

Hopkinton - Thomas Earle Allen of Hopkinton NH died peacefully on April 19, 2026. Beloved husband and life partner to Nini, Father to Leeland (Francesco Bar-



bara) and Joselyn and PaPa to Esme. Born and raised in Newport Vermont, Tom is also survived by his younger brother Barry (Anita) Allen as well as many cousins, nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by his parents, David and Wilma (Wallace) Allen; his brother, Michael Allen; and his sister, Winsome (Allen) Hamilton. In lieu of a traditional memorial service, Tom's family will be celebrating him later this Summer with "Tommy Allen Day", welcoming neighbors, friends and family to the home and land that he worked and loved to remember his incomparable spirit.

Judith Lynn Miller



Hillsborough - Judith Lynn Miller passed away quietly after a long fight with stage 5 kidney failure, on May 6, 2026. She was born August 3, 1955. She is survived by her husband Richard, her sons Joshua and Steven, a grandson and granddaughter, along with her two cats Butterscotch and Willow.

Jean Feather



Deering - On May 14th at the very tender age of 94, our mother, Jean Feather passed on. She was born on May 3rd 1932, at her family farm; The McAlister farm in West Deering, NH. She will always be in our hearts.

The Deering Historical Society will be hosting the kickoff event for the celebration of our nation's **250th Anniversary.**

This event will consist of a

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We are currently accepting applications for vendors for this event by contacting the Market Manager at geoserv@tds.net. Please come for a day of fun, food, and celebration of the anniversary of this nation!

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SATURDAY MAY 30

DEERING AUTHOR: Lisa Q. Mathews discusses "The Jig is Up" and her recent sequel "Buried in Shamrocks", as well as tips on how to get a book published. For adults and young adults, starting at 10:30am, at the Deering Library.

MONDAY JUNE 1

REGISTRATION: for The Learning Institute of New England College summer lifelong learning classes opens at linec.org. Course listings are available online and registration remains open until June 28 for July courses on the campus and online.

SATURDAY JUNE 6

FRANCESTOWN COFFEEHOUSE: The performance begins at 7pm, doors open at 6:30pm at the Francestown Town Hall. Variety of music with featured act Edyta and Steve Weigart. Also artist's display by Paula Kerouac, along with snack foods. \$8 suggested donation per person. See francestowncoffeehouse.org.

NATURE PHOTOGRAPHY EXHIBIT: by photographer and Deering resident Deanna Farrell Wood. From 10:30am until 12:30, at the Deering Library. Check out some of her awesome images on "abirds-tale.com", or on facebook at "A Birds Tale by Deanna". She will be available to discuss her work.

THURSDAY JUNE 11

TASTY THURSDAY: Join us for a FREE community dinner at Smith Memorial Church at 5pm, 30 West Main St, Hillsborough. Feeling like summer? Come to an old-fashioned hot dogs and beans supper will all kinds of salad, iced tea, lemonade, chips, cookies and watermelon.

SUNDAY JUNE 14

ROCK & ROLL: at Jim Mitchell Park. 2-5pm. Raffle tickets, drawing during intermission. Food will be available from Reed's North. Sponsored by Weaver Brothers Construction Company and MadgeTech. This event is free. Donations

TUESDAY JUNE 16

HENNIKER CONCERT: The Party Crashers. Opening the 2026 Henniker Concert Series is a high-energy six piece band that specializes in crowd-friendly, dance-driven performances playing hits from the 60's to today. Starting the evening is the John Stark Stage Band showing off some very talented local youth. 6-8pm, Angela Robinson Bandstand, Community Park, Henniker. Free. Donations welcomed. In case of rain, concert will be held indoors in adjacent Community Center.

TUESDAY JUNE 23

HENNIKER CONCERT: The Dan Fallon Band – A best of the Lakes Award-winning band known for being fun,

engaging and dance focused. Their performances are designed to keep audiences smiling and moving all night. Henniker Summer Concert Series, 6-8pm, Angela Robinson Bandstand, Community Park, Henniker. Free. Donations welcomed. In case of rain, concert will be held indoors in adjacent Community Center.

TUESDAY JUNE 30

HENNIKER CONCERT: Peabody's Coaltrain – This local NH acoustic, Americana 6-piece band featuring strings and shared vocal harmonies is an annual crowd favorite. Musicians include Jason Teaster on acoustic guitar, Dave Anderson on harmonica, Steve Cybulski on banjo, Dave Carroll on mandolin, Mark Frales on upright bass, and Scott Hayes on guitar and dobro. Henniker Summer Concert Series, 6-8pm, Angela Robinson Bandstand, Community Park. Free. Donations welcomed. In case of rain, concert will be held indoors in adjacent Community Center.

TUESDAY JULY 7

HENNIKER CONCERT: The Scott Spradling Band. Since 2010, the 11-piece Scott Spradling Band has played events like Best of NH, fundraisers, community events, weddings and celebrations across New Hampshire. Their repertoire spans the last 50 years, with a strong focus on 60's, 70's and 80's music, plus big band swing and current pop hits. Henniker Summer Concert Series, 6-8pm, Angela Robinson Bandstand, Community Park, Free. Donations welcomed. In case of inclement weather concert will be held in the adjoining Community Center.

TUESDAY JULY 14

HENNIKER CONCERT: Blues, Brews & BBQ Fest – 50 Shades of Blues, an established working band playing exceptional and rocking rhythm and blues music. Based in Southern New Hampshire, they are dedicated to bringing expert musicianship along with outstanding vocals and harmonies. Come and hear both classic tunes and more current selections, creating a captivating mix of music, perfect for a summer's evening. Each member of the band brings decades of performing and recording experience: Henniker Summer Concert Series, 6-8pm, Angela Robinson Bandstand, Community Park, Free. Donations welcomed. In case of inclement weather concert will be held in the adjoining Community Center.

TUESDAY JULY 21

HENNIKER CONCERT: The Dwayne Haggins Band – Returning for the second year, this band was among the top five performers last summer. Get ready for blues and soul singing rising star, Dwayne Haggins. Described as the love child of Hank Williams and Otis Redding. The John Legend of rockabilly, and even, the what-took-you-so-long? fusion of Elvis Presley and Marvin Gaye. Every performance is a showstopper – don't miss it! Henniker Summer Concert Series, 6-8pm, Angela Robinson Bandstand, Community Park, Free. Donations welcomed. In case of inclement weather, concert will be held in the adjacent Community Center.

TUESDAY JULY 28

HENNIKER CONCERT: Not Fade Away – NH's premier Grateful Dead tribute band. Celebrate Jerry Garcia's birthday with full sets of Primal Dead hits. Henniker Summer

Concert Series, 6-8pm, Angela Robinson Bandstand, Community Park, Free. Donations welcomed. In case of inclement weather, the concert will be held in the adjoining Community Center.

TUESDAY AUGUST 4

HENNIKER CONCERT: Ferns Family Band – The Ferns Family Band is a trio fronted by award winning singer Mara Ferren, who never fails to impress with her seemingly effortless vocal prowess. Mara is supported by her brother, Quinlan, the backbone of the band on keys who masterfully juggles all piano, organ, bass, percussion and orchestral sounds. Henniker Summer Concert Series, 6-8pm, Angela Robinson Bandstand, Community Park, Free. Donations welcomed. In case of inclement weather, the concert will be held in adjacent Community Center.

TUESDAY AUGUST 11

HENNIKER CONCERT: Kotoko Brass - This 7-piece, Boston-based brass and drumming ensemble, melds the beautifully complex traditional drumming of Central Ghana, the sturdy bass and keyboards of the Caribbean, and the joyous horns of New Orleans to forge a sound the Boston Globe has described as "propulsive, infectious party music." Henniker Summer Concert Series. 6-8pm. Angela Robinson Bandstand, Community Park, Free. Donations welcomed. In case of rain, concert will be in the adjacent Community Center.

TUESDAY AUGUST 18

HENNIKER CONCERT: Waking Finnegan - A critically acclaimed, high energy Celtic rock band blending traditional Celtic music with modern rock. Known for lightning-fast fiddle and whistle tunes, powerful ballads and an infectious stage presence, they have toured internationally and been featured on radio stations in the US and abroad. Henniker Summer Concert Series. 6-8pm. Angela Robinson Bandstand, Community Park, Free. Donations welcomed. In case of rain, concert will be in the adjacent Community Center.

TUESDAY AUGUST 25

HENNIKER CONCERT: Studio Two – The Beatles are back! Hailed "New England's Best Beatles Tribute Band," the group pays tribute to the early Beatles years, concentrating on the most exciting and fun time in the Beatles career—the touring and club years. Henniker Summer Concert Series. 6-8pm. Angela Robinson Bandstand, Community Park, Free. Donations welcomed. In case of rain, concert will be in the adjacent Community Center.

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ATTENTION: HENNIKER RESIDENTS



Poisons are being used on your town-owned properties. These poisons harm and kill dogs, cats, birds and other mammals.

Please attend a hearing on Tuesday, June 2nd at Henniker Town Hall 6:30 p.m. to learn where they are used and whether it is necessary to use poison for rodent control when other solutions exist.

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TOWN OF HENNIKER NEW HAMPSHIRE PUBLIC HEARING

Place: Henniker Town Hall
18 Depot Hill Road, Henniker, NH 03242
Tuesday June 16, 2026, at 6:30 PM

Per RSA 31:95-b III (a), the Town of Henniker will hold a public hearing during the regularly scheduled Selectboard meeting on June 16, 2026, at 6:30pm at the Henniker Town Hall to hear public comment regarding the acceptance of unanticipated grant revenue from the Cogswell Benevolent Trust in the amount of \$12,000 to replace the furnace at Academy Hall a town owned building leased to the Henniker Historical Society.

For more information visit the town website www.henniker.org or contact the Town Administrator 603-428-3221 or email townadministrator@hennikernh.gov.

Rhubarb Festival

**SATURDAY
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