

The Messenger

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

Free ♦ Our 155th Year ♦ Issue 29 ♦ July 24, 2026



Hillsborough teen injured

On Friday, July 17th, the Hillsboro Police Department and Hillsboro Fire & Rescue responded to a motor vehicle crash at the intersection of West Main Street and Bridge Street. The preliminary investigation indicates that a 15 year old male operating a dirt bike was traveling through the intersection of West Main Street and School Street when he was struck by a sedan driven by a 72 year old male who was attempting to turn left from Bridge Street onto West Main Street. The juvenile sustained serious, but non life threatening injuries and was transported to Concord Hospital. The driver of the sedan remained at the scene and fully cooperated with the investigation. Sun glare appears to have been a factor in the crash. The accident remains under investigation.

This week in history

JULY 24, 1908

Sultan of Turkey restores the Constitution

JULY 25, 1978

World's first "test tube" baby is born

JULY 26, 1908

The FBI is founded

JULY 27, 1794

Maximilien Robespierre is overthrown in France

JULY 28, 1929

Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis is born

JULY 29, 1981

Lady Diana Spencer marries Charles, Prince of Wales

JULY 30, 1965

President Lyndon B. Johnson signs Medicare into law



Deering and Hillsborough came out for the Special Election for the teachers contract. It passed. Hillsborough: Yes: 232, No: 200; Deering: Yes: 86, No: 64. Total both towns: Yes: 318, No: 264.

Andover Selectman censured by colleagues

Member James Delany violated Board's Code of Conduct

On July 16th, the Andover Select Board, after due discussion in a duly noticed public meeting determined that Select Board member James Delaney's recent actions were inconsistent with the standards of conduct expected of members of the Board, and formally voted to censure him.

Specifically, the Board found that:

On June 25, 2026, there was a verbal exchange with Town Administrator Don Seiburg, during which you pounded on the table and shouted at him. During this exchange you rose out of

your chair while sitting next to him and pointed a finger toward his face again shouting, "I don't come into the office anymore because I don't like you!" On February 19, 2026, a similar outburst occurred where you pounded the table shouting for the Town Administrator to, "Shut up and let me finish, stop interrupting and talking over me!"

These two incidents are examples of behavior which does not meet our standard of conduct cited in the Andover Select Board's Governance and Policy Manual, Section V - Board Conduct and

Code of Ethics, which states members shall: "Treat all staff, residents, and fellow Board members with respect, professionalism, and civility, even in disagreement."

This letter serves as a formal censure — a public expression of the Board's disapproval of your conduct. While it is not an effort to remove you from office, it is intended to underscore the seriousness of the matter and to encourage adherence to the Board's standards moving forward. The Board expects that members will at all times.

Warner Selectman Michael Smith's trial postponed

Warner Selectman Michael Smith, who has been charged with tampering with a public record, has had his trial delayed to an unspecified date.

Originally scheduled to begin on Tuesday in Hillsborough District Court, Judge Erin B. McIntyre reviewed a new

complaint in Smith's case and rescheduled his trial.

Smith's defense attorney, Michael Iacopino, filed a motion to dismiss. The motion argued that the new complaint was "constitutionally deficient" and failed to describe Smith's actions as

they pertained to the law he is accused of violating.

The Judge denied the motion, upholding the state's complaint, and ordered the state to provide a bill of particulars — a detailed statement regarding claims against a defendant.

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Yesteryear

Local history as reported in The Messenger

July 25, 2025

Warner committee charged to select new Town auditors
New Boston Select Board discusses bridge repair policies
Francestown Zoning Board rescinds Tory Pines ruling
Joint meeting reviews Hillsborough's "SWOT"

July 26, 2024

New London says Thank You, Bob Harrington
Hillsborough Planning Board continues Aroma Joe's hearing
Hopkinton Select Board grants maximum relief to Contoocook building
Andover Select Board agrees to build building for Concord Coach

July 28, 2023

Warner's Select Board saga continues
\$5.3 million renovation/expansion proposed for Weare Library
Weare man sentenced to 8 years for death of homeless man
Christina Keating is Associate Principal at Henniker Community School

July 29, 2022

Contoocook man faces multiple drug charges
Emerald Lake Commissioners hold hearing on fireworks
Henniker Road Management Committee rejects crosswalk proposal
Peterborough Police stop Texas runaway in stolen vehicle

July 30, 2021

Hancock & Greenfield Police adding officers
Weare Planning Board approves Dollar General
Peterborough raises \$8.5 million for library renovation
Bradford Select Board discusses noise and crosswalks

July 31, 2020

Hopkinton Rescue Squad disbanded
Warner Planning Board considers commercial ventures
Deering Church welcomes new Police Chief
ConVal considering three reopening options

July 26, 2019

Four people injured in Antrim accident
New London Solar Project coming soon
Three people killed in New London rollover
Crotched Mountain Ski Area acquired

July 27, 2018

Hit & run accident in Goffstown
Tragic fire claims life of Hopkinton woman
Hillsborough man convicted of taking \$300,000
Newport's Community Center project in high gear

July 28, 2017

Newport to study fees for extracurricular activities
Selectmen adopt policy on parking at Hopkinton Fair
Henniker rallies to aid fallen firefighter
New London Police officer justified in shooting

July 22, 2016

Franklin School Board considers Transgender Policy
Alternatives presented to repair Pleasant Lake Dam
Belmont accident leads to multiple drug charges
Peterborough Selectmen urge water restrictions

Henniker Board unable to resolve Riverfront Parking Area dispute

The Henniker Select Board conducted a continued 2nd Reading on proposed Amendments to Chapter 77, Article I - Riverfront Parking Areas.

In Clapp V. Jaffrey, the New Hampshire Supreme Court held that municipalities may not expend public funds for private purposes, even where the expenditure is small, convenient, or well-intentioned.

RSA 31:4 provides that towns may appropriate money only “for any purpose for which a municipality may act if such appropriation is not prohibited by the laws or by the constitution of this state.”

In a Legal Opinion regarding the current Riverfront Parking Easement, Attorneys Nathan Midolo and Anna Hagg advised the Select Board that under Henniker’s Site Plan Regulations Parking Requirements Reduction, the town could and should save an estimated \$5,000 to \$10,000 annually in town expenses for

labor, materials, and equipment, PD management and enforcement. Additionally, the amendment would mitigate unnecessary legal and administrative risks and expenses.

BACKGROUND:

Chapter 77, Article I of the Henniker Town Code was officially adopted on June 1, 1993, to govern parking, traffic circulation, maintenance, and related activities within the Riverfront Parking Area. Since adoption, the Town has provided parking enforcement, snow removal, lighting maintenance, and administrative support associated with this privately owned parking area.

Over time, questions have arisen regarding the appropriate scope of municipal involvement, the allocation of costs between taxpayers and private property owners, and the ongoing administrative and legal obligations associated with these activities.

The proposed amendments



The Riverfront Lot.

are intended to modernize Chapter 77 and de-intensify the Town’s role in parking management, maintenance, and enforcement while preserving the Town’s ease-

ment rights and ability to address public safety concerns.

The opinion states that the Town has authority to amend Chapter 77 without the consent

of underlying property owners. The attorneys noted that the Riverfront easement grants the

DISPUTE - cont. on page 4

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Henniker Area Rotary President Dr. Ed Carrigan (L) presents a check to George Mobley (R) to continue the Peter Flynn Project.

One person injured in Bennington one-car accident

At approximately 11:35 p.m. on July 18th, 2026 Bennington Fire-Rescue, Antrim Fire & Ambulance, an officer with Antrim NH Police Department and two troopers from NHSP Troop B responded to Fran-cestown Road (Rt. 47) between Old Coach Road and Onset Road for a single vehicle crash with reported

injuries. Upon arrival, the first fire officer confirmed that a single vehicle had veered off the road and struck a tree.

One person was transported for further evaluation. The roadway was down to one lane during the inci-dent. The incident is under investigation.

Driver and rider injured in Hancock motorcycle accident

Two people are suffering serious injuries after a motorcycle crash in Hancock on Sunday, according to officials. Police say multiple agencies responded to a call on Bonds Corner Road just after 2:20 p.m.

On the scene, first responders found a single motor-

cycle that had crashed.

Officials say the 30-year-old operator and 36-year-old passenger were both transported by helicopter to a hospital with serious injuries.

The crash remains under investigation.

DISPUTE - cont. from page 3

town permissive authority rather than mandatory obliga-tions, allowing local officials to lawfully scale back parking regulation, enforcement, maintenance, and management activities. The opinion highlighted that continuing to provide extensive, taxpayer-funded services benefitting privately owned property raises both policy and legal concerns under the New Hampshire Supreme Court case *Clapp v. Jaffrey*.

The Police Department has expressed concern that the proposed agreement would create significant ongo-ing obligations that are not supported by current staffing levels or operational resources. The Highway Department expressed concerns over the difficulty inflowing the lot

with so many parked vehicles.

The proposed amendments are intended to preserve the Town's easement rights and ability to address public safety concerns while reducing ongoing operational, ad-ministrative, and financial obligations.

The amendments would eliminate police involvement and limit the Highway Department to a pass-through plowing to provide access for fire and emergency vehicles only. Property owners have asserted that the Riverfront Parking Area provides valuable public parking and that the existing arrangement has functioned successfully for many years.

After a lengthy hearing, the Board was unable to resolve the issue and tabled discussion until a future meeting.

Hearing scheduled in case of unconstitutional search by H-D School District

A hearing date has been scheduled next month on a motion for summary judgment in a suit against officials in the Hillsboro-Deering School District challenging what a gun-rights organization claims was an unconstitutional search of an 18-year-old high school senior's vehicle "based solely on the knowledge that he is a legal gun owner."

The Second Amendment Foundation (SAF) filed a motion for summary judgment in the case *Harrington v. Crawford*, involving a search in April 2025 of Hillsboro-Deering High School student Jack Harrington's vehicle, which was parked on school grounds.

The lawsuit names the school district and SAU 34 Superintendent Jennifer Crawford, Hillsboro-Deering High School Principal James O'Rourke, Vice Principal Brian McGinn and Hillsboro Police Department School Resource Officer Michael DeTurris.

Attorneys with Feeney Friedman Getman PLLC, representing Crawford and the other defendants, have filed their own motion seeking summary judgment. A hearing on the motions is scheduled for 10 a.m. on Aug. 20 in U.S. District Court in Concord before Judge Joseph N. Laplante.

The lawsuit claims school officials searched Harrington's vehicle without his consent following an "aggressive interrogation" by district employees "based only on an overheard conversation that Harrington lawfully owned a firearm." Harrington owns a Glock 43 handgun, court documents show.

"Entirely lawful and constitutionally protected conduct cannot be the grounds for a search," said SAF Senior Director of Legal Operations Bill Sack. "School officials, especially when accompanied by law enforcement as was the case here, need at minimum reasonable suspicion to search a student's vehicle. Here, those officials (claim) learning that our client was a gun owner gave them that suspicion."

"They are mistaken — if that were the case, student gun owners all over the country could be subject to repeated and endless harassment."

According to court documents, sometime in April 2025 Harrington had a conversation with another student about legally owning a gun while on a bus ride to a varsity baseball game. Harrington described an experience in which he had been pulled over by police while driving on a public road, during which he told the of-

ficer he had his handgun lawfully stored in the glove box of the vehicle he was driving.

"At no time during the bus conversation did Jack make any threats, violate any laws, or speak inappropriately," court documents state. Sometime prior to April 24, Crawford, O'Rourke and McGinn became aware of the bus conversation, "or at least became aware of fragments of the conversation," after one or more of the athletes on the bus reported to coaches what Harrington said, court documents state.

"Notably, at no time did Jack tell anyone, including teammates or coaches, that he intended to bring his handgun to the HDHS campus, that he had ever brought his handgun to the HDHS campus, that he intended to use his handgun in an unlawful manner, or that the interaction with the police officer occurred on the school campus or anywhere near the campus (it did not)," court paperwork reads.

On April 24, the lawsuit claims, the defendants removed Harrington from class based on their knowledge that he is a gun owner and "subjected Jack to a coercive interrogation without his parents or an attorney present, in which they demanded permission to search his truck, which was then parked in the HDHS campus parking

lot, for firearms."

As noted in the complaint, "... after the interrogation in which Jack repeatedly refused to consent to a search and after Jack's parents were contacted by phone and similarly refused to consent to a search, Defendants searched the Subject Vehicle anyway, finding no firearm."

"At no point during the interrogation, the search, or at any time since, have defendants brought forth a single shred of evidence of unlawful conduct by Jack," the motion states. "Moreover, defendants confirmed that they did not view Jack as a threat to school safety; they did not believe Jack had a weapon on his person during the interrogation; and Jack had no previous disciplinary issues."

In their competing motion, attorneys for school officials argue a search doesn't violate the Fourth Amendment if it is "reasonable" — defined as "justified at its inception" and conducted in a manner "reasonably related in scope to the circumstances which justified the interference in the first place."

The lawsuit seeks declaratory relief and judgment that the interrogation and the search were unconstitutional, along with nominal damages.



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TAKE YOUR MEDICINE



BY SARAH CHAPIN

One of the most common antidepressants, sertraline, contributes to a modest improvement in core depression and anxiety symptoms, including low mood, within two weeks, finds a new analysis of a major clinical trial published in *Nature Mental Health*. The analysis revealed an improvement in symptoms such as low mood and suicidal thinking within two weeks of taking sertraline, while side effects of the drug led to symptoms such as low libido, low appetite, and tiredness. These side effects can also be symptoms of depression.

A systematic review and meta-analysis published in *The Lancet* confirms that antidepressants can differ widely in how they physically affect the body, including around a 4 kg difference in weight change between certain drugs (approximately 2.5 kg weight loss from agomelatine and 2kg weight gain from maprotiline). The authors emphasize that these findings should not deter people from taking antidepressants, which remain vital and effective treatments for mental health conditions. Instead, they say the results highlight the importance of tailoring the treatment to each individual. This large-scale systematic review and network meta-analysis combined results from 151 clinical trials and 17 US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) reports involving over 58,000 participants to assess the effect of 30 different antidepressants on the body over an average of eight weeks course of treatment. The study found that antidepressants also differ in their effects on heart rate, with a difference of more than a 20 beats-per-minute difference in heart rate (approximately eight BPM decrease for fluvoxamine and a 14 BPM increase for nortriptyline); and blood pressure, with a difference of over 10 mmHg variation in blood pressure (approximately seven mmHg decrease for nortriptyline and a five mmHg increase for doxepin). The study estimates that some antidepressants (e.g., maprotiline and amitriptyline) were associated with weight gain in almost half of individuals prescribed them, while other antidepressants (agomelatine) were associated with weight loss in 55% of patients.

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DENTAL CARE SUPPORTS LONG-TERM BRAIN HEALTH: PART I



Dr. Esin Narli

Adults with gum disease may be more likely to have signs of damage to the brain's white matter, called white matter hyperintensities, than people without gum disease, according to a new study published on October 22, 2025, in *Neurology® Open Access*, an official journal of the American Academy of Neurology.

White matter refers to nerve fibers that help different parts of the brain communicate. Damage to this tissue can affect memory, thinking, balance and coordination and has been linked to higher stroke risk.

White matter hyperintensities are bright spots that appear on brain scans that are thought to reflect damaged white matter tissue. While the study found an association, it does not prove that gum disease causes white matter damage.

"This study shows a link between gum disease and white matter hyperintensities suggesting oral health may play a role in brain health that we are only beginning to understand," said study author Souvik Sen, MD, MS, MPH, of the University of South Carolina in Columbia. "While more research is needed to understand this relationship, these findings add to growing evidence that keeping your mouth healthy may support a healthier brain."

The study included 1,143 adults with an average age of 77. Each person had a dental exam to check for gum disease. Of participants, 800 had gum disease and 343 did not.

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Celebrate the Grand Reopening of the Henniker Historical Society Museum

Join the Henniker Historical Society for a special community celebration marking the Grand Reopening of the Henniker Historical Society Museum on Sunday, August 2, 2026, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Academy Hall, 51 Maple St., Henniker.

The celebration's centerpiece will be a special historical event commemorating America's 250th birthday: the ceremonial ringing of all five of Henniker's historic bells. This unique tribute will honor the nation's Semiquincentennial while celebrating Henniker's rich heritage, bringing together bells that have marked the town's history for generations.

Visitors will also enjoy presentations on the history of Academy Hall and Henniker's historic bells, guided tours of the newly reopened museum and its new exhibits, and light refreshments throughout the event.

This family-friendly event is free and open to everyone. Whether you're a longtime resident, history enthusiast, or first-time visitor, come celebrate Henniker's past, honor our nation's 250th birthday, and help usher in a new chapter for the Historical Society and the Henniker community.

Please visit hennikerhistoricalsociety.org for more information.

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Stephanie Payeur announced candidacy for NH House of Representatives

Representing Merrimack District 8 Henniker, Warner & Bradford



Stephanie Payeur

Stephanie Payeur of Henniker has announced her re-election bid for New Hampshire State Representative in Merrimack District 8, representing Henniker, Warner and Bradford. She has served in this role for the past four years.

Stephanie is a lifelong resident of NH and has lived in Henniker for 23 years. She is a graduate of UNH and works in Healthcare Management at a local hospital. She has two sons that graduated from John Stark Regional High School and UNH, and are now officers in the U.S. Space Force. She also volunteers for the Henniker Food Pantry and the Henniker Rotary Club. Stephanie

is a strong advocate for ensuring a healthy economy in NH. Property taxes are out of control, our kids can't afford to buy a home in the town they grew up in, our public schools are the heart of our community – but can't get the resources they need. Towns only have two sources of revenue- appropriations by the Legislature and property taxes. Over the past 10+ years our state budget and tax policy has been controlled by a Republican majority. Since 2015, Republicans repeatedly reduced the Business Profits Tax and Business Enterprise Tax rates. Those reductions are estimated to have cost the state between \$795 million and \$1.17 billion in revenue from 2016 through 2024. The bulk of those taxes are paid by large, out of state corporations. In addition, the GOP majority ended the Dividends & Interest tax, a source of revenue introduced by Republicans in 1923. It

provided revenue to the state for 101 years and now that revenue is gone. In 2024, its last year, it generated \$184 million in state revenue. In addition, removing income caps off the school voucher program has ballooned those costs to over \$50 million per year. Public money paying for private

school tuition for wealthy families should not be allowed. All of these cuts have reduced the amount of money the state distributes to our towns, forcing the raising of property taxes to keep schools, road maintenance, sewer & water facilities running. This is a shell game – we can't brag about the

'NH Advantage' when regular people are not getting any advantages at all. I will continue to fight for fair and equitable tax policy and appreciate your support in that fight,

You can learn more about Stephanie and her campaign at: Mink Hills Democrats.



Henniker Lions Club volunteers performed a roadside cleanup on Route 202 from Henniker towards Hillsborough.



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DOES YOUR HOME SALE QUALIFY FOR THE EXCLUSION OF GAIN? PART III



By: Joyce Bosse

The Eligibility Test determines whether you are eligible for the maximum exclusion of gain (\$250,000 or \$500,000 if married filing jointly).

Eligibility Step 1—Automatic Disqualification
Determine whether either of the automatic disqualifications apply. Your home sale isn't eligible for the exclusion if ANY of the following are true: you acquired the property through a like-kind exchange (1031 exchange) during the past 5 years (See Pub. 544, Sales and Other Dispositions of Assets); you are subject to expatriate tax (for more information about expatriate tax, see chapter 4 of Pub. 519, U.S. Tax Guide for Aliens);

Eligibility Step 2—Ownership
Determine whether you meet the ownership requirement. If you owned the home for at least 24 months (2 years) out of the last 5 years leading up to the date of sale (date of the closing), you meet the ownership requirement. For a married couple filing jointly, only one spouse has to meet the ownership requirement.

Eligibility Step 3—Residence
Determine whether you meet the residence requirement. If you owned the home and used it as your residence for at least 24 months of the previous 5 years, you meet the residence requirement. The 24 months of residence can fall anywhere within the 5-year period, and it doesn't have to be a single block of time. All that is required is a total of 24 months (730 days) of residence during the 5-year period. Unlike the ownership requirement, each spouse must meet the residence requirement individually for a married couple filing jointly to get the full exclusion.

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At 4:09 on Friday morning, Newbury Fire Rescue Engine 4 and Rescue 1 were dispatched to set up a landing zone for the DHART medical helicopter. The Newport Ambulance was transporting a patient from a serious motor vehicle crash in Goshen to the landing zone. DHART met the ambulance and took off flying the patient to Dartmouth Hitchcock.

Newbury Fire Rescue responds to numerous calls

Early Thursday afternoon, Newbury Fire Rescue crews responded to a mulch fire on High Point Road. Firefighters spent approximately two hours extinguishing flames across a 40-by-60-foot area. The incident occurred during a designated High Fire Danger Day.

When returning from the fire, units responded to a second emergency involving a tree down on power lines on Bay Point Road. The live wires ignited a utility pole, knocking out power to most of the neighborhood. Fire units closed the road until Eversource cut the power, allowing crews to safely douse the flames. Car 1 remained on scene controlling traffic until the pole could be replaced.

Shortly after returning to the station, Engine 4 was dispatched to a tree hanging low over the road on Cheney Road. The road was closed and, as no wires were involved, the Newbury Highway Department was called to remove the tree. Once the highway crew arrived Engine 4 was able to return to the station.

Pair injured in three car Greenfield accident

On Sunday July 12th, Greenfield, NH Volunteer Fire Department, Greenfield NH Police Department and Wilton EMS were dispatched to Forest Road and Old Bennington Road intersection for a reported three car accident. A medic and second ambulance was requested from Peterborough Fire & Rescue soon after two additional ambulances were requested; one from Antrim Fire & Ambulance and a second ambulance from Peterborough.

Antrim Ambulance was soon cancelled. Forest Road was closed during this incident. At least two patients were transported for further evaluation.

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Tony Caplan announces his candidacy for re-election to NH House of Representatives

Representing Merrimack District #8 Henniker, Bradford & Warner



Tony Caplan

State Representative Tony Caplan is running for a fourth term in the NH legislature to continue to advocate on behalf of the people, businesses, and public institutions of Merrimack District 8: Henniker, Bradford, and Warner.

Tony has lived in New Hampshire for 30 years and in Henniker for the last 27. His three children are all proud alumni of Henniker Community School and John Stark Regional High School. Tony and his wife Susan are former public school teachers and Tony has been and will be a strong advocate in the legislature for the vital role our public schools must play in a healthy

democracy. Without adequate, constitutionally mandated and legislatively backed, state funding for public schools, Tony believes that a disproportionate burden has been placed on our towns and on property taxpayers of all economic strata. In the State House, Tony will continue to be a strong proponent for lowering our property taxes through the state's shouldering of a fair and proportional share of school costs, including of the state retirement system for public employees.

A former chair of the Henniker Energy Committee, Tony has brought his passion for energy issues to the legislature and has served for two terms on the House Science, Technology and Energy Committee. Tony has sponsored and passed legislation to lower energy costs for households and businesses and bring accountability and transparency to the rate making process. He will continue

to lead in the fight to protect the climate and ensure a decent environment for generations to come. Tony is a strong advocate for market based programs to promote energy efficiency and diversify into clean energy, and he firmly believes that a strong economy in New Hampshire and a healthy environment go hand in hand.

In the current divisive and

toxic political environment, Tony will listen to all voices and points of view with respect, tolerance, and kindness.

His favorite political quote is Benjamin Franklin's response when asked what kind of a political entity had been created by the American Revolution.

"It's a Republic, if you can keep it," was his answer. After 250

years, American strength depends on Franklin's spirit of open-minded inquiry and devotion to reason, not ideological arguments or weak-minded scapegoating.

Tony graduated from Yale University with a BA in American Studies. He worked as a wire service journalist in Mexico, Venezuela and the UK before moving back to the USA.



The Andover Fire Department hosted another of its famous Chicken BBQs.

SUNUNU

SENATOR

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Republican for U.S. Senate

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To RSVP or for more information, please contact Leigh at leighb@tds.net

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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.

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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.

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

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We encourage individuals and groups to submit photos of their events or activities, either by mail or e-mail.

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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.



Opinion/Editorial

Property Tax Relief



By Senator Dan Innis (R-Bradford)

Every year when that property tax bill arrives in the mail, my neighbors do the same thing that I do. They open the envelope, squint at the number, and shake their heads. For many residents, property taxes have nearly doubled in the past fifteen years. People have not added additions to their homes and the land is the same. But the bill keeps climbing.

Across New Hampshire — from the North Country to the Merrimack Valley — Granite Staters are asking the same question: why?

The answer isn't complicated. Democrats keep raising your property taxes.

For decades, New Hampshire Democrats have pursued a simple strategy at the municipal level: grow budgets, grow staff, grow spending — and send the bill to property taxpayers. Town by town, school district by school district, they have built up layers of government that cost more every single year. Every dollar of local spending hikes lands directly on your tax bill.

Nowhere is that clearer than in the Kearsarge School district where a proposal to limit per pupil expenditures to \$27,000 per pupil was rejected in favor of spending \$33,000 per pupil. Just as troubling as this huge Democrat led local spending blitz -- is the demand that Republicans in Concord pay for it.

Rising property taxes are the result of Democrat's spending agenda. Higher property taxes have become the local backdoor to the big-government model Democrats have always wanted -- inflating municipal budgets year after year and let the property tax do the dirty work. That means higher and higher taxes for you.

At the state level, the pattern is the same. Every session, Democratic leadership proposes new spending programs. This session alone the Democrats offered up \$1.75 billion in new spending. That means money flowing out of your pocket, into government accounts and leads to an income tax.

I've spent my entire time in office fighting against higher taxes. I understand what it means when spending

rises faster than revenue. It's not sustainable. A family budget doesn't work that way. A small business doesn't work that way. And NH shouldn't work that way either.

Unfortunately, Democrats can't help themselves. They just love overspending and love higher taxes. They always have and they always will.

But even our current high property taxes aren't enough for New Hampshire Democrats. On March 3rd of this year, leading Democrats stood on the State-house steps and announced a plan to force through a 3% income tax. And if that's not bad enough, they also announced plans to create a new Homeowners Tax - an additional state-level property tax on top of your current property taxes - that will add between \$1800-\$2000 to tax bills of many families.

Yes, you read that right. Leading Democrats are proposing an additional \$1800 - \$2000 be added to every property tax bill in the Granite State! Can you afford to add an additional \$2000 to your property tax bill each year?

When Democrats claim they want to lower property taxes --- hold onto your wallet!

The Republican plan is the polar opposite. This year, we passed legislation that truly puts property taxes on the ballot. Every single Granite Stater will have the opportunity in November to vote on a ballot question to cap the Democrats' municipal spending. A YES vote from the voters of your town means Democrats won't be able to spend more than the rate of inflation.

A NO vote on the tax cap means the Democrats can continue spending recklessly.

Voters should make spending decisions — not well-organized special interests.

Imagine, no more property tax hikes year after year. We have the opportunity to put the common sense of New Hampshire taxpayers back into the equation. If local officials want to grow the budget beyond a reasonable threshold, they will have to make that case directly to the voters who pay the bills. That is not radical. That is democracy working the way it should.

My neighbors are not opposed to good schools or good roads. Neither am I--in fact, we all want those things. What we're opposed to — what every reasonable Granite Stater is opposed to — is a government that grows without limit, spends without accountability, and sends you the bill that says PAY HERE.

New Hampshire was built on something better than that. We were built on thrift, self-reliance, and the radical idea that government should justify itself to the people — not the other way around.

I will be voting YES on the ballot question to cap municipal overspending because Republican's priority is protecting taxpayers.

The Democrats --- well they voted against even putting the tax cap question on the ballot. Not even letting you decide. That tells you everything you need to know to protect your wallet.

Alma Mater

Plymouth State University President's List

Dylan Palmer of Newbury
Nicole Tardiff of Goffstown
Samantha Brown of Goffstown
Nathan Clifford of Newbury
Jada Goudreault of Hillsborough
Kathleen Segien of New Boston
Maggie Williams of New Boston
Olivia Bradfield of Hopkinton
Anna Gardner of Henniker
Eleanor Laroche of Goffstown
Devin McCullough of New London
Riley Meadows of Warner
Natalie Tremblay of Peterborough
Joseph Bellemore of Goffstown
Boden Cyr of New Boston
Alexis DeCain of Goffstown
Andrew Edmunds of Antrim
Ethan Hansen of Goffstown
Haley Serafine of Francestown
Trevor Spofford of New Boston

Maxx Telofski of Peterborough
Brynna Wright of Stoddard
Kieran Barnard of Stoddard
Annileah Coubrough of Henniker
Quinn Hamel of New Boston

Plymouth State University Dean's List

Ryan Edgar of Goffstown
Aida Gage of Newbury
Owen Hannah of Peterborough
Courtney Leclair of New Boston
Kaitlyn Stone of Peterborough
Jacob Garside of Henniker
Lucas Ouellette of Goffstown
Norah Place of Goffstown
Elena Ellia of Sharon
Avery Geaumont of Henniker
Terra LeBlanc of Warner
Kathryn Thyng of Hillsborough
Patrick Wheatley of Goffstown
Xavier Bibaud of Goffstown
Camden Dezotell of Newbury

Robert LeFevre of Deering Saint Michael's College Dean's List

Ronia Foecking of Antrim
Maya Clough of Bow
Laela Moran of Warner

University of Tampa Dean's List

Nicole Keyes of New Boston is a member of the Class of 2028 majoring in Biology BS. Lauren Anzalone of New London is a member of the Class of 2027 majoring in History BA.

Bates College Dean's List

Robert Amundson of Dublin
Anna Kozikowski of New Boston

Salve Regina University Dean's List

Emma Cate of Henniker
Carlie Tomsick of Contoocook

Other Colleges & Universities

Congratulations Maura Araldi of Dunbarton on earning a spot on the Dean's List at Northern Essex Community College; Joshua Duval of Hopkinton received a Master Business Administration in Management Science from Quinnipiac University; Kendall Larson of Peterborough made the Dean's List at the Georgia Institute of Technology. Kalamazoo College graduates include Kelley Akerley of Hancock, who will pursue global opportunities during the 2026-27 academic year after earning a Fulbright award. Akerley will participate in the U.S. Teaching Assistantship (USTA) Program in Austria. Akerley will be teaching English at an agricultural school in Upper Austria. Lauren Riley of Goffstown, NH is among more than 3,500 students graduating from Mississippi State University. Riley received the Bachelor of Science Cum Laude from MSU's Bagley College of Engineering.

Area Dining Guide



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Obituaries: Friends & Neighbors Remembered

Doris Evelyn Glendinning

Hillsboro - Doris Evelyn Glendinning, 95, of Hillsboro, passed peacefully, surrounded by her family on Tuesday, July 14, 2026 at Concord Hospital. She was born on February 24, 1931, in Peabody, MA to the late Perley D. Lovelace and Phyllis (Mason). Doris is survived by her loving sons, Scott and his wife, Judy, and Peter and his wife, Angie. She also leaves behind her grandson and three great-grandchildren. She leaves behind a loving family and friends who will forever hold her memory close. She is predeceased by her beloved husband, John as well as her parents, Perley and Phyllis. A funeral service will be held on Saturday, July 25, 2026 at 11:00 a.m. at the Hillsboro Methodist Church, 16 Henniker St, Hillsboro, NH. Burial will take place immediately follow church at Harvey Memorial Cemetery, Shedd Rd., Hillsboro, NH. A collation to follow at the Masonic Temple, 16 Gay Ave, Hillsboro, NH. If you would like to make donations in Doris's name, please make them to the Hillsboro Rescue Squad, PO Box 7, Hillsboro, NH.



Margaret Ann Moran

Bennington - Longtime Bennington resident Margaret A. Moran passed away peacefully at home on 13 July 2026 after a brief illness. Born on 23 April 1948, to John H. and Elizabeth Verdonk. She is survived by her husband of 52 years, Bruce H. Moran; their daughter, Heather M. Bird, son-in-law, John D. Bird, granddaughter, Emma F. Bird, grandson, John H.



Bird, and numerous cousins, nephews, and nieces. It is requested that donations be made to Shriners Children's Hospital and St Jude Children's Hospital, two of her favorite charities.

Denise Hopkins

Franklin - Denise Louise (Trudeau) Hopkins, age 59, of Franklin, NH, passed away on May 30, 2026. She was born on May 23, 1967, in Manchester, NH, to Lucien Paul Trudeau Sr. and Joyce M. (Boynton) Trudeau. She is survived by her husband, Tim Hopkins; their son, Colby Hopkins and his girlfriend, Ivy; her stepson, Justin Hopkins, his wife, Kirsten, and their children, Iris and Cullen; her mother, Joyce Trudeau; her father, Lucien Trudeau Sr. and his wife/her stepmother, Anne; her brother, Lucien Trudeau and his wife, Cindy, and their daughter, Aleacia, and her spouse, Matt, and their four children; her sister, Pauline Archambault and her spouse, Randall and their children, Kathryn and Nathan; her stepsister, Susan Cady and her spouse, Michael; her stepsister, Marcia Trudeau; and her stepbrother, Arthur Cady. There will be no services.



James Craig Morin

Goffstown - James Craig Morin passed peacefully July 14, 2026, surrounded by his loving family. Born July 17, 1945 in Manchester, NH, to Henry Sr. and Elizabeth Morin, who preceded him in death. In addition to his parents, Jim was predeceased by his brother, Hank Morin and sister, Mary Philips. Jim is survived by his beloved wife of 60 years, Janice (Cody) Morin; their son, Shawn Morin, wife, Lynn, their daughter, Dawn Jalbert, husband, Marc;



Jim's grandchildren, Quinn Morin, wife, Alicia, Kyle Jalbert, wife, Rachel, Ethan Jalbert, partner, David, Avery Morin and Austin Morin. Jim is also survived by his sister, Robyn Clarke, sister-in-law, Joyce Morin and several nieces and nephews who adored him.

Private services will be held at a later date.

Violet Mae (Moore) Chainey

Goffstown - Violet Mae (Moore) Chainey, 84, of Goffstown, passed away peacefully on June 26, 2026 at the Hillsborough County Nursing Home, with family by her side. Born in Chelsea, MA on July 29, 1941, she is the daughter of the late Reta E. (Anderson) and Harold R. Moore, Sr. Violet is survived by her five children, Kathy Mae Talbot of Raymond, NH, Lorna Mae Bissonnette and husband Richard of Easley, SC, Ernest Joseph Chainey of Plymouth, PA, Harold Patrick Chainey of Manchester, NH, and Christen Reta Hurd and husband Scott of Morganton, NC; her sister, Barbara Thacker of Manchester, NH; fourteen grandchildren; six great grandchildren; three great great grandchildren; several nieces, nephews, and extended family and friends. In addition to her parents, Violet was predeceased by her brother, Harold R. Moore, Jr., and sister, Rita "Betty" E. Moore. Violet's Committal Service will be held on Wednesday, July 29, at 11 a.m. at Pine Grove Cemetery, 765 Brown Ave., Manchester.



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

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Events: Community Bulletin Board

FRIDAY JULY 24

NEW LONDON CONCERT: Studio Two, 6:30-8pm at the Mary Haddad Bandstand.

SATURDAY JULY 25

The Fifth Kingdom: Fungi and the World, with Gary Samuels, starting at 10:30 am at the Deering Library. All ages welcome.

TUESDAY JULY 28

HENNIKER CONCERT: Not Fade Away will be performing at the gazebo in Henniker from 6 to 8pm. Celebrate Jerry Garcia's birthday with N.H.'s premier Grateful Dead tribute band. Co-sponsors: Edmunds Ace Hardware and Country Spirit Restaurant. In case of rain, the concert will be held at the Community Center.

SATURDAY AUGUST 1

OWL PELLET DISSECTION: with biologist Mike Thomas. Back by popular demand! See what bones you can find and identify. Starting at 10:30am at the Deering Library, and fun for all ages.

TUESDAY AUGUST 4

HENNIKER CONCERT: Ferns Family Band will perform a

mix of covers and original pop, folk, blues, soul and country music at the gazebo in Henniker from 6 to 8pm. Sponsor: Ayer and Goss. In case of rain, the concert will be held at the Community Center.

FRIDAY AUGUST 7

NEW LONDON CONCERT: Fish and the Folk Five, 6:30-8pm at the Mary Haddad Bandstand.

FRIDAY AUGUST 14

NEW LONDON CONCERT: Bright Cloud Mountain, 6:30-8pm at the Mary Haddad Bandstand.

SATURDAY AUGUST 15

THE AREA CHOIR: announces a return of their Summer Sing from 9:30-11:30am at South Congregational Church, 20 Church St., Newport NH. There is no fee, no audition, no performance and the Summer Sing is open to everyone. Walk-ins are also fine on the morning of the 15th. For more information contact Karen Little at 603-863-4007 or Susan Cancio-Bello at 603-848-8898.

FRIDAY AUGUST 21

NEW LONDON CONCERT: Kearsarge Community Band, 6:30-8pm at the Mary Haddad Bandstand.

SUNDAY AUGUST 23

THE FLAMES: 6-9pm, Newport Town Common. Bring your lawn chairs, blankets, family, and friends - these nights are all about great music and great community. Free & open to the public - weather permitting.

SATURDAY AUGUST 29

ZENFLOWER: 6-9pm. Newport Town Common. Bring your lawn chairs, blankets, family, and friends - these nights are all about great music and great community. Free & open to the public - weather permitting.

WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 9

SKYWATCH: with the NH Astronomical Society, 7:30-9pm. Join us at the Cassey Brook Preserve in Wilmot for a new moon sky watch. All equipment provided. Registration kheath@ausbonsargent.org

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 29

LOONS: Presentation by the Loon Preservation Committee 5:30-7pm. Join the folks from Tracy Library as we welcome representatives from the Loon Preservation Committee to learn more about loons in our region. Visit the Ausbon Sargent events page to sign up through the link provided.

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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.

Send your classifieds to: Granite Quill Publishers
246 W. Main St., Hillsboro, NH 03244 or email: leighb@tds.net

DEERING PLANNING BOARD NOTICE OF APPLICATION SUBMISSION AND PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given in accordance with RSA 676:4 that the Deering Planning Board will review the following submitted application(s) for completeness on **August 12, 2026, at a meeting beginning at 7:00 PM at the Deering Town Hall, 762 Deering Center Road, Deering, NH.** If the application(s) are accepted as complete by the Board, a public hearing will follow immediately after. Applications continued to a subsequent meeting will not be re-noticed.

The following application(s) have been submitted for review and public hearing by the Planning Board:

Two-Lot Subdivision Application. Donald J. Johnson and Jean Johnson Revocable Trust. Map 216, Lot 11, at 695 Clement Hill Road, in the Agricultural/Residential District. The applicant seeks to subdivide one lot into two.

The agenda for the meeting will be posted per RSA 91-A:2. Refer to the agenda for a listing of other items before the Board, including applications and public hearings that were continued from previous meetings which may be heard prior to the above applications.

Copies of the Planning Board applications and associated materials are available for review at Deering Town Hall, 762 Deering Center Road, during normal **business hours: Monday through Thursday 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM.** Material is also available online at <https://www.deering.nh.us/planning-board>. Phone (603) 464-3248.



Town of Hillsborough NH LEGAL/PUBLIC NOTICE

Case No 2026-10
Notice is hereby given in accordance with RSA 676:4 & 675:7 that the Hillsborough Planning Board will hold a public hearing for a Major Subdivision at 25 Sawmill Road (Map 11G Lot 244) owned by the Allan Borey Revocable Trust. The application is for a six-lot subdivision on 12.7 acres of land. The property is located in the Village Residential Zone. The public hearing will be held on Wednesday, **August 5, 2026**, at 6:00 p.m. at the Hillsborough Town Offices, 27 School Street, Hillsborough, New Hampshire.

Upon a finding by the Board that the application meets the submission requirements, the Board will vote to accept the application as complete and the Public Hearing on the merits of the proposal may follow immediately. Copies of the application may be viewed at the Office of Community Planning, 27 School Street, Hillsborough, New Hampshire. Anyone with questions about this application should contact Robyn Payson, Planning Director at 603-464-7971 or by e-mail at robyn@hillsboroughnh.net

Hillsborough Centre Congregational Church

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SUMMER 2026 — All are cordially invited

July 26 Rev. David Keller from Concord, NH
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August 2 Priscilla B. Hoffman-Stowe from Falls Church, VA
music: Michael Annicchiaro

August 9 Marian Baker, RM, from Religious Society of Friends, Hillsborough, NH

August 16 Rev. Charles & Elizabeth Hambrick-Stowe from Deering, NH
music: Linda Bassonette

TOWN OF WINDSOR ANNUAL CHECKLIST PUBLIC NOTICE

Under RSA 654:39, 654:27 and 669:5, supervisors of the checklist/registrars, who are responsible for adding and removing names from their city or town's voter checklist, must hold public sessions between July 6 and August 10 and at least once between August 26 and September 2 of 2026 to determine which voters on the checklist have not voted in any elections in the past five years and who have not registered since the 2024 State General Election. These voters are required to re-register if they want to remain on the voter checklist and vote in future elections.

Supervisors of the checklist must inform any voter eligible for removal, at least 30 days before removing their name from the voter checklist, that they will be removed from the checklist and need to re-register following the instructions in the letter/postcard. Supervisors of the checklist/registrars are required by law to remove these voters from the voter checklist, no earlier than June 1, even if they know a voter still lives in town.

Individuals who have permanently moved out of town do not need to respond to the letter as they will be removed from the checklist.

Voters can visit app.sos.nh.gov to find their local clerk's contact information and check their voter registration information, if they are active voters.

The State Primary Election will take place on September 8, 2026. Visit www.sos.nh.gov/elections for more information on registering to vote.

Windsor Supervisors of the Checklist will meet on Saturday, August 8th, 9:00-9:30 a.m. and Saturday, August 29th, 9:00-9:30 a.m. for the purpose of registration or party changes.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING TOWN OF HENNIKER NEW HAMPSHIRE

The Henniker Select Board, acting as the Town's Franchising Authority pursuant to RSA Chapter 53-C:3-a, will hold a public hearing on a proposed renewal Cable Television Franchise Agreement between the Town of Henniker and Comcast of Maine/New Hampshire, Inc. State law requires a municipality to hold a duly noticed public hearing before granting or renewing a cable television franchise.

Date: Tuesday, August 4, 2026
Time: 6:30 p.m.
Location: Henniker Town Hall 18 Depot Hill Road
Henniker, NH 03242

The purpose of the hearing is to receive public comments and consider approval of a proposed renewal Cable Television Franchise Agreement authorizing Comcast of Maine/New Hampshire, Inc. to construct, operate, and maintain a cable television system within the Town of Henniker and its public rights-of-way. The proposed franchise term is August 5, 2026 through August 4, 2036.

Copies of the proposed Franchise Agreement are available for public inspection at the Henniker Town Administrator's Office during normal business hours and on the Town's website.

For additional information, please contact the Town Administrator's Office at (603) 428-3221.

Henniker Board of Selectmen

TOWN OF WARNER Notice of Public Hearing PLANNING BOARD MEETING

Warner Town Hall
5 East Main Street, Warner, NH 03278
Monday, August 3, 2026, 7 PM

Join Zoom Meeting:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87061407427>
Meeting ID: 870 6140 7427 Passcode: 1234

The Town of Warner Planning Board will hold a public hearing on Monday August 3, 2026, 7 PM for review of the site plan application submitted by applicant Adam Quinn, Comet LLC, for the development of map 35, lot 4-1, 9 Route 103 West, 1.484 acres, in the C1 Interval zone. The proposed use is a 9,187 s.f. commercial building to be occupied by a Dollar General store. Property owner Comet LLC, Adam Quinn.

Application viewable online at warnernh.gov, Warner Land Use Office Town Hall, 5 E Main St. and at the hearing.

Written comments will be made part of the record of the meeting and must be received by 12 PM noon, Monday, August 3, 2026, mailed, email or delivered to: Town of Warner, PO Box 265, 5 E Main St., Warner, NH 03278; landuse@warnernh.gov.

Note: Planning Board meetings will end no later than 10 PM. Items remaining on the agenda will be heard at the next monthly meeting scheduled.

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