

The Messenger

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

Free ♦ Our 155th Year ♦ Issue 36 ♦ September 11, 2026

Paul Meyerhoefer Retires



As Proctor Academy prepares for the new school year, they celebrate and bid farewell to Facilities Technician Paul Meyerhoefer, who is retiring after 28 years of service!

Paul approached every task with patience, skill, and a great sense of humor. Not all heroes wear capes—some wear knee pads and keep campus running. Thank you for your many years of service, Paul!

9/11 Memorial Stair Climb



Antrim Firefighter Jack Auen was a member of one of the teams in the New Hampshire 9/11 Memorial Stair Climb held at the Northeast Delta Dental Stadium. Participants took on 2,200 steps—

representing the 110 stories of the World Trade Center towers—to honor and remember the 343 FDNY firefighters and all the brave first responders who made the ultimate sacrifice on September 11, 2001.

This week in history

SEPTEMBER 11, 2001

Terrorists attack the United States

SEPTEMBER 12, 1992

Mae C. Jemison 1st African American in space

SEPTEMBER 13, 1857

American entrepreneur Milton Hershey is born

SEPTEMBER 14, 1901

President William McKinley dies

SEPTEMBER 15, 1821

Central American states declare independence from Spain

SEPTEMBER 16, 1908

William Durant creates General Motors

SEPTEMBER 17, 2011

Occupy Wall Street movement begins



Hopkinton students, like others in the area, are happy to be back at school.

New London Select Board approves new Public Works facility

The New London Select Board discussed the Public Works Building Site Design Plans. The estimates for alternative options are rough, unlike the preferred alternative's detailed \$10 million estimate, which included inflation, soft costs, and a third-party cost estimator.

Alternative estimates are based on per-square-foot costs for public works buildings. The Board quickly eliminated

several options before agreeing on the preferred alternative.

The approved plan features a fully developed, detailed design with precise cost projections. To maximize construction efficiency, the building footprint matches existing elevations, which improves traffic flow for both public-facing areas and staff spaces. The layout includes updated breakrooms, separate locker rooms, and

repositions the public works foreman's office closer to the staff.

This design was unanimously approved, as it addresses previous facility deficiencies (e.g., humidity problem with new fans, air exchangers, ventilation), and represents a massive upgrade to the town's most expensive site, including storm water and infrastructure improvements.

FAA report outlines cause of Newport airplane crash

A final report from the Federal Aviation Administration is giving insight into July's plane crash in Newport, where a pilot overran the runway.

Investigators say the pilot was turning from the base leg of the traffic pattern

when he heard another pilot report that they were on final approach to an intersecting runway.

According to the report, the pilot immediately reduced his descent before resuming the landing attempt, which

caused the final approach to be steeper than normal, and the pilot touched down with insufficient remaining runway.

The plane crashed into nearby trees.

The pilot suffered serious injuries, but survived the crash.

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Yesteryear

Local history as reported in The Messenger

September 12, 2025

Charges filed after Hillsborough ATV accident
Serious injuries reported in Weare ATV accident
New Boston names Kathie Vieira as Interim Town Administrator
Andover Select Board concerned with supervision of the Transfer Station

September 13, 2024

\$7.3 million bond saves Franklin Opera House
Henniker couple loses everything in mobile home fire
Kearsarge Schools to ignore transgender ban
Weare woman seriously injured in Dunbarton ATV accident

September 15, 2023

Tom Copadis calls for resignation of Select Board Chair Jill Smith
Newbury Police Officer honored for his life-saving efforts
Francetown Police respond to three accidents
LGBTQ+ materials on Goffstown school bulletin board sparks debate

September 16, 2022

Deering Town Administrator resigns under pressure
Colby-Sawyer cuts tuition from \$46,000 to \$17,500
Multiple police and EMT units respond to Hopkinton rollover
Antrim seeks input on use of AARP Funds and other Grants

September 17, 2021

Developer purchasing Antrim mill buildings
Colby-Sawyer ranked #1 by US News & World Report
Weare Middle School named Gold Medal Winner
Henniker forming Citizen's Leadership Academy

September 18, 2020

Fatal accident in Henniker
Body found in Contoocook River identified
US News & World report ranks Colby-Sawyer Top 10
Elderly woman injured in Weare ATV rollover

September 20, 2019

Anonymous \$5 million donation to NEC complex
New Boston girl needs kidney transplant
Antrim Wind pays \$50,000 fine for delay
H-D Schools show mixed results on state-wide tests

September 21, 2018

Peterborough man arrested for indecent exposure
New London Select Board options for Buker Building
Weare man missing after being subpoenaed, found dead
Hillsborough man arrested after raping 16-year-old

September 22, 2017

Franklin City Manager Elizabeth Dragon departs
One man dies in New Boston house explosion
Three area towns coordinate life saving efforts
Goffstown grants tax incentives for mill apartments

September 16, 2016

Plans for new Bow Middle School unveiled
Long awaited New Boston footbridge nears completion
Fish & Game officers locate lost Bradford man
Weare Selectmen order removal of hazardous building

Democrat's State Senate qualification questioned - did she live in Virginia?



Rebecca Harned



The New Hampshire Republican Party released signed and notarized mortgage documents in which Democratic State Senate candidate Rebecca Harned identified herself as residing in Annandale, Virginia, as of October 2025.

Harned's campaign claims that she "returned home to New Hampshire" in 2017. She also swore in her candidate qualification affidavit that she had been domiciled in New Hampshire for the seven years immediately preceding the 2026 election.

But Harned's own documents tell a different story. On October 16, 2025, Harned signed a recorded and notarized mortgage document connected to her purchase of a \$1.7 million home in Vail, Colorado. It identifies Harned and her co-borrower as:

“currently residing at 4632 Willet Dr., Annandale, Virginia 22003.” The mortgage package identifies the Vail property as subject to a Second Home Rider. Harned represented that she was residing in Virginia while purchasing a second home in Colorado.

“Rebecca Harned lied to New Hampshire voters about where she lived,” said NHGOP Chairman Scott Maltzie. “Less than one year ago, she signed a notarized mortgage document stating that she was residing in Virginia. Those are her words, her signature and her documents.”

Part Second, Article 29 of the New Hampshire Constitution and RSA 655:7 require a State Senator to have been an inhabitant of New Hampshire for the seven years immediately preceding the election. RSA 655:29 requires every State Senate candidate to swear or affirm that the candidate has been domiciled in New Hampshire throughout that period.

The evidence shows that

Harned does not meet that requirement and does not qualify to represent District 7.

“There are two possible explanations. Either Rebecca Harned does not meet the 7-year residency requirement to run for state Senate because she resided in Virginia in 2025, or she lied to her mortgage provider when she

purchased a nearly \$2 million ski vacation home in Colorado,” stated Maltzie. “In either case, Ms. Harned’s residency scandal leaves the voters with too many unanswered questions - where has she been actually residing for the past decade? How can she afford a \$2 million ski chalet on a bureaucrat’s salary? How many

more multi-million dollar homes does she own in other states? - Her story simply doesn't add up and she must come clean to the voters or drop out of the race. New Hampshire voters should not be asked to ignore Harned's own signed documents simply because the truth is politically inconvenient for her campaign."



It was a busy weekend at the Hopkinton State Fair, which started in 1915, and was also known as the Contoocook Valley Fair.

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Service to Others



Kiwanis Club members Kimberly Chamberlain, Mark Fernald, Louis York, and Jeff Valliant presented a check to Avenue A Program Coordinator Hannah Mattson and outgoing director Jacqueline Roland during the club's weekly meeting.



Hopkinton Rotarians were recently at The Friendly Kitchen, lending a hand where it might just make a difference.



Children's librarian Will Leathers joined Harmony Lodge's Leigh Bosse in presenting new bicycles and helmets to Willow Pinette and Ben Gardner, winners of the Mason's Bikes For Books promotion during Weare Public Library's Summer Reading Program. During the program, Weare children read to 113,649 minutes.

Henniker Select Board addresses a variety of different issues at its September 1st meeting

The Henniker Select Board held a public hearing on September 1st to gather public comment regarding the proposed renaming of Wood Hill Village Extension for E911 compliance purposes. This private road is located within the Liberty Ridge Mobile Home Park on Old Concord Road.

In June 2026, Liberty Rock Solutions, owner of Liberty Ridge Mobile Home Park (f/k/a Wood Hill Village Mobile Home Park), formally requested to rename the private way known as Wood Hill Village Extension.

The current similarity between Wood Hill Village and Wood Hill Village Extension causes ongoing confusion for emergency services and delivery services. The park owner's request proposing Veterans Way will completely differentiate between the two roadways and enhance public safety. The Board approved renaming Wood Hill Village Extension to Veterans Way, and to assign this new

road name to all affected mobile homes on said private way, effective September 30, 2026.

The Board also discussed a request to rescind local ordinance Chapter 28 "Buildings, Numbering of" and replace with Chapter 29 "Street Numbering, Addressing and Naming Ordinance." The proposed new ordinance expands beyond simple building numbering to establish clear, enforceable standards for naming and renaming both public and private roads. The acceptance of this new ordinance ensures long-term consistency in emergency response and mapping, reduces dispatch confusion, and protects public safety.

The Board agreed.

Pats Peak Ski Area requested to partner with the Town to rebuild and pave approximately 500-600 feet of Craney Pond Road, extending from Flanders to the main exit of Pat's Peak Parking lot.

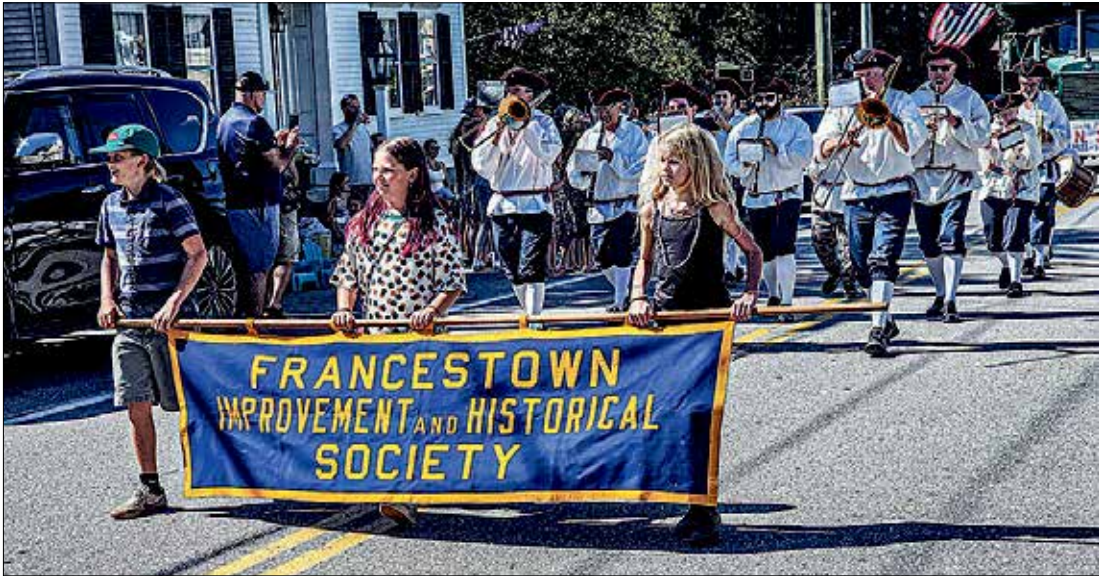
At the August 18th meeting

the board found:

- Total project funds are available
- Highway Department can prioritize for 2026
- Project has some public benefit
- Project is consistent with Master Plan and CIP and voted to direct the Town Administrator to draft a

cost share agreement for the project for review by legal counsel, Pats Peak and Henniker Board of Selectmen. Because the payment from Pat's Peak would be "unanticipated funds" from a private source, made available during the

fiscal year, the funds fall under RSA 31:95-b, and require a public hearing to accept and appropriate. The Board agreed to execute the cost share agreement after the public hearing to accept the funds.



A tradition continued with Francestown's annual Labor Day Parade.

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TAKE YOUR MEDICINE



BY SARAH CHAPIN

Treating people who are at high risk of rheumatoid arthritis (RA) can delay the onset of the disease for several years, with benefits also continuing well after treatment has stopped. A new study trial showed that one year of treatment with the drug abatacept, a biologic therapy that targets immune cell activation, reduced progression to rheumatoid arthritis in people at high risk. The study was published in *The Lancet Rheumatology*. RA is a chronic autoimmune condition. It develops when the immune system mistakenly attacks the joints, causing pain, swelling, fatigue and long-term disability. The researchers found that the benefits of just 12 months of abatacept therapy persisted well beyond the treatment period. People who received the drug took significantly longer to develop RA than those given placebo, with disease onset delayed by up to four years beyond the treatment period.

The over-the-counter supplement lipoic acid may have a small beneficial effect in slowing the loss of gray matter in the brains of people with progressive forms of multiple sclerosis, according to new research published in the journal *Neurology*, the medical journal of the American Academy of Neurology. However, the randomized controlled trial found that it did not improve the primary clinical outcome measured by walking speed.

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has approved Addyi® (flibanserin 100 mg) for the treatment of Hypoactive Sexual Desire Disorder (HSDD) in women <65 years. This long-awaited decision closes a gap in care for millions of postmenopausal women experiencing frustrating low sexual desire and marks a historic first approval for the FDA. Addyi, the first and only FDA-approved pill clinically proven to treat frustrating low sexual desire in women, is now approved for use in women who have gone through menopause.

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WAYS TO STOP GUM DISEASE: PART III



Dr. Esin Narli

Use a gum stimulator: A rubber or specially designed triangular gum stimulator is better than a toothpick for massaging the gums. It also cleans the surfaces between the teeth. Rest the rubber point between two teeth. Point the tip in the direction of the biting surface until the stimulator is at a 45-degree angle to the gumline. Apply a circular motion for 10 seconds, then move on to the next tooth.

Stock up on Vitamin C: Vitamin C won't cure gingivitis, but it can help check bleeding gums, according to a study at the USDA Western Nutrition Research Center in San Francisco. The National Institute of Health recommends a daily dose of 100 to 200 milligrams.

Consider Vitamin D: A study published in the American Journal of Clinical Nutrition examined data from 6,700 people who took the third National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey. Those with the highest levels of vitamin D were 20% less likely to show signs of gingivitis. Although the results don't necessarily mean vitamin D is responsible for healthier gums, it has been shown to have possible anti-inflammatory benefits, which might explain its association with reduced inflammation and bleeding between the gums.

Drink tea: Black and green teas contain polyphenols, antioxidant compounds that prevent plaque from adhering to your teeth, which helps reduce your chances of developing gum disease.

Brandish a Proxa Brush: A proxa brush is a specially designed brush (available at most drugstores) that's shaped like a tiny bottle brush. It slides between your teeth or under your crown or bridge to get to those hard-to-reach places.

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Hometown Heroes



Congrats to the members of Weare Fire Rescue, Concord Fire Alarm, and NH 911! Last month, the team helped a woman give birth in her own home after it was clear there wasn't enough time to get her to the hospital. This was the first field delivery for every EMS provider on scene. For their work, the team earned their first stork pins.



Congratulations to the Newbury Firefighters of the Year for 2024 and 2025. Fire Chief Dave Smith received the 2024 award, and Firefighter/EMT Niko Cole-Johnson received the 2025 award. The honors, voted on by members of the Newbury Fire Department, were presented by Lt. Jennifer Parkhurst Smith during the September 1st training session.



Andover Firefighter Chris Laquidara has completed ICS 100, 200 and 700, in preparation for taking his Firefighter I class. Chris and Chief Barton have put aside several hours for this training. Part of being a volunteer firefighter is doing all of the training after putting in your full work day. Andover is grateful for all the volunteers!



Communications Specialist William "Buddy" Russell was presented with the Newport Police Department's Life Saving Award. The Life Saving Award is presented to a member of the department whose actions were performed through disregard of their own personal safety, resulting in the saving of a life.

N.H. Department of Education announces 2026 Student Assessment results

The New Hampshire Department of Education announced results from the 2026 New Hampshire Student Assessment System (NHSAS), showing student proficiency scores across mathematics, reading and writing, and science.

Statewide results show that mathematics proficiency increased from 42 percent in 2025 to 44 percent in 2026. Overall reading and writing proficiency remained steady at 55 percent. While the statewide percentage remained unchanged for reading and writing, several younger grade-level cohorts demonstrated encouraging gains as students

progressed through elementary school.

- Weare School District: About 10 percent improvement in reading and writing and 14 percent improvement in math.

- Bartlett Elementary School (Goffstown School District): Jumped 29 percent, from 34 to 63 percent proficient. (Bartlett Elementary School also increased its reading and writing scores by 28 percent during this same time frame).

- Reading and Writing Highlights:

- Simonds Elementary School (Kearsarge Regional School District): Improved 17

percent, from 57 to 74 percent proficient.

“These results give us important reasons to be encouraged, particularly when we see schools and districts making double-digit gains over a relatively short period of time,” said Nate

Greene, Director of NHED’s Division of Education Analytics and Resources.

“Improvement in proficiency is important, but we need to continue pushing toward substantially higher levels of achievement for students across

every grade and every subject area. The NHSAS results help educators see where students are succeeding and where they need additional support, making the assessments an important tool for improving teaching and learning.”



Owen Bober shared his recent experience at RYLA (Rotary Youth Leadership Awards) with the Henniker Area Rotary Club. Owen is working hard to establish an Interact Club at Hillsboro-Deering High School. Bringing Rotary’s mission of “Service Above Self” to the students at HDHS is a fantastic goal, and Henniker rotarians are thrilled to support him as he gets this off the ground.



Henniker Firefighters participated in the NH 9/11 Memorial Stair Climb, climbing 2,200 steps (or 110 stories) to honor the first responders who died on September 11, 2001.

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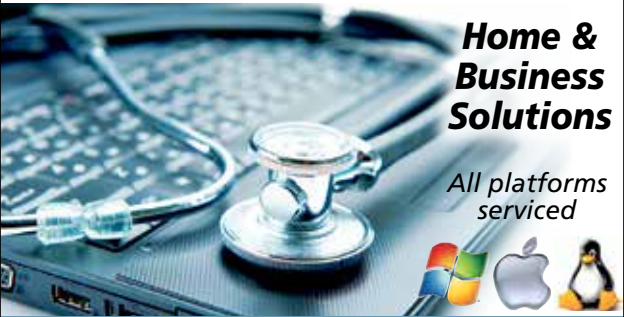
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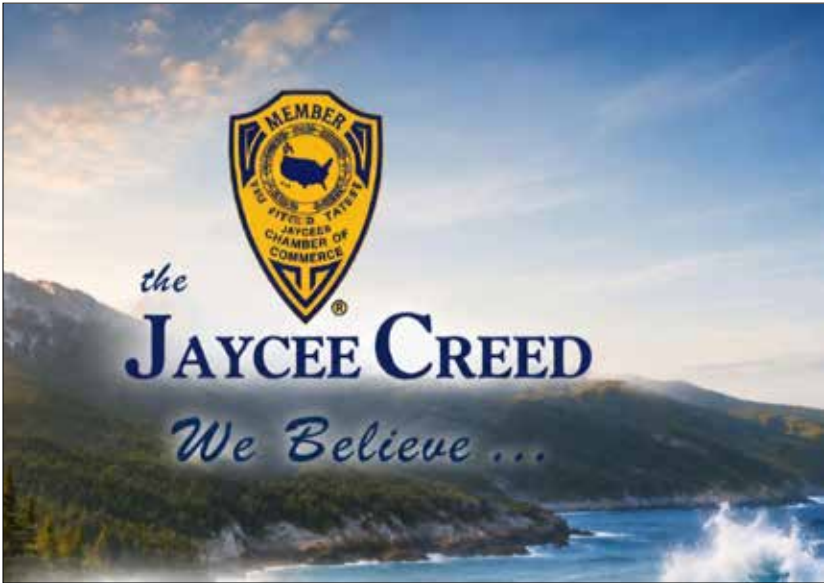
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Primary Election Results			
ANDOVER			
US SENATE (R)	US SENATE (D)	CONGRESS (1ST)	CONGRESS (2ND)
Sununu 133	Papas 174	Sullivan	Goodlander 284
Brown 60	Manzur 160	Shaheen	Beauchemin 63
ANTRIM			
US SENATE (R)	US SENATE (D)	CONGRESS (1ST)	CONGRESS (2ND)
Sununu 170	Papas 187	Sullivan	Goodlander 251
Brown 260	Manzur 123	Shaheen	Beauchemin 63
BENNINGTON			
US SENATE (R)	US SENATE (D)	CONGRESS (1ST)	CONGRESS (2ND)
Sununu 103	Papas 175	Sullivan	Goodlander 237
Brown 21	Manzur 96	Shaheen	Beauchemin 42
BRADFORD			
US SENATE (R)	US SENATE (D)	CONGRESS (1ST)	CONGRESS (2ND)
Sununu 138	Papas 175	Sullivan	Goodlander 237
Brown 32	Manzur 96	Shaheen	Beauchemin 42
DEERING			
US SENATE (R)	US SENATE (D)	CONGRESS (1ST)	CONGRESS (2ND)
Sununu 160	Papas 116	Sullivan	Goodlander 133
Brown 52	Manzur 51	Shaheen	Beauchemin 32
FRANCESTOWN			
US SENATE (R)	US SENATE (D)	CONGRESS (1ST)	CONGRESS (2ND)
Sununu 118	Papas 198	Sullivan	Goodlander 238
Brown 48	Manzur 64	Shaheen	Beauchemin 31
FRANKLIN			
US SENATE (R)	US SENATE (D)	CONGRESS (1ST)	CONGRESS (2ND)
Sununu 484	Papas 442	Sullivan	Goodlander 593
Brown 179	Manzur 281	Shaheen	Beauchemin 139
GREENFIELD			
US SENATE (R)	US SENATE (D)	CONGRESS (1ST)	CONGRESS (2ND)
Sununu 130	Papas 131	Sullivan	Goodlander 179
Brown 29	Manzur 66	Shaheen	Beauchemin 27
GOFFSTOWN			
US SENATE (R)	US SENATE (D)	CONGRESS (1ST)	CONGRESS (2ND)
Sununu 1154	Papas 1261	Sullivan 697	Goodlander
Brown 297	Manzur 539	Shaheen 641	Beauchemin
HANCOCK			
US SENATE (R)	US SENATE (D)	CONGRESS (1ST)	CONGRESS (2ND)
Sununu 138	Papas 295	Sullivan	Goodlander 371
Brown 42	Manzur 132	Shaheen	Beauchemin 67
HILLSBOROUGH			
US SENATE (R)	US SENATE (D)	CONGRESS (1ST)	CONGRESS (2ND)
Sununu 318	Papas 328	Sullivan	Goodlander 421
Brown 104	Manzur 186	Shaheen	Beauchemin 109
HENNIKER			
US SENATE (R)	US SENATE (D)	CONGRESS (1ST)	CONGRESS (2ND)
Sununu 232	Papas 346	Sullivan	Goodlander 481
Brown 41	Manzur 249	Shaheen	Beauchemin 115
HOPKINTON			
US SENATE (R)	US SENATE (D)	CONGRESS (1ST)	CONGRESS (2ND)
Sununu 306	Papas 680	Sullivan	Goodlander 977
Brown 122	Manzur 464	Shaheen	Beauchemin 168



Primary Election Results

NEWBURY			
US SENATE (R)	US SENATE (D)	CONGRESS (1ST)	CONGRESS (2ND)
Sununu 199	Papas 255	Sullivan	Goodlander 317
Brown 54	Manzur 99	Shaheen	Beauchemin 38
NEW BOSTON			
US SENATE (R)	US SENATE (D)	CONGRESS (1ST)	CONGRESS (2ND)
Sununu 442	Papas 434	Sullivan	Goodlander 504
Brown 150	Manzur 18	Shaheen	Beauchemin 126
NEW LONDON			
US SENATE (R)	US SENATE (D)	CONGRESS (1ST)	CONGRESS (2ND)
Sununu 297	Papas 665	Sullivan	Goodlander 754
Brown 77	Manzur 162	Shaheen	Beauchemin 72
NEWPORT			
US SENATE (R)	US SENATE (D)	CONGRESS (1ST)	CONGRESS (2ND)
Sununu 298	Papas 256	Sullivan	Goodlander 323
Brown 96	Manzur 151	Shaheen	Beauchemi 90
PETERBOROUGH			
US SENATE (R)	US SENATE (D)	CONGRESS (1ST)	CONGRESS (2ND)
Sununu 268	Papas 1001	Sullivan	Goodlander 1337
Brown 71	Manzur 573	Shaheen	Beauchemin 244
SUNAPEE			
US SENATE (R)	US SENATE (D)	CONGRESS (1ST)	CONGRESS (2ND)
Sununu 281	Papas 394	Sullivan	Goodlander 453
Brown 69	Manzur 107	Shaheen	Beauchemin 51
WARNER			
US SENATE (R)	US SENATE (D)	CONGRESS (1ST)	CONGRESS (2ND)
Sununu	Papas	Sullivan	Goodlander
Brown	Manzur	Shaheen	Beauchemin
WASHINGTON			
US SENATE (R)	US SENATE (D)	CONGRESS (1ST)	CONGRESS (2ND)
Sununu 123	Papas 82	Sullivan	Goodlander 107
Brown 31	Manzur 3	Shaheen	Beauchemin 13
WEARE			
US SENATE (R)	US SENATE (D)	CONGRESS (1ST)	CONGRESS (2ND)
Sununu 599	Papas 445	Sullivan	Goodlander 604
Brown 217	Manzur 304	Shaheen	Beauchemin 162



That faith in God gives meaning and purpose to human life;

That the brotherhood of man transcends the sovereignty of nations;

That the economic justice can best be won by free men through free enterprise;

That government should be of laws rather than of men;

That earth's great treasure lies in human personality;

And that service to humanity is the best work of life.

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FIVE TIPS ON INSURANCE FOR HURRICANE DAMAGE: PART I



By: Joyce Bosse

Tip #1: Before the Storm, Review Your Policy

This might sound obvious, but many property owners go years without looking at their insurance — and some policyholders read their policies for the first time only after a loss event occurs and they need to make a claim. The “right coverage” is different for every business and property, but here are some general items to keep in mind:

Make sure the property is accurately described in the policy declarations, especially if there are multiple covered locations. Understand the difference between “replacement cost” and “cash value” coverage. Make sure the limits of coverage (the dollar amounts listed in the declarations for each coverage type) are sufficient, considering current values for each structure, deductibles, and any coinsurance requirements. Take note of any sublimits and additional coverages, such as coverage for business interruption, loss of income, and loss of rental value.

Check for hurricane/windstorm exclusions and limitations. Many property insurance policies cover direct damage caused by wind. However, some policies — particularly for properties located in high-risk areas — have special provisions that exclude or limit the coverage available for certain types of storms or storm-related damage. For example, some policies have “named storm” deductibles that increase the amount the policyholder must pay before the insurance company starts paying for damage from a storm that has been named by the National Weather Service or the National Hurricane Center. Some deductibles are triggered by a storm with a certain reported wind speed.

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Leigh Bosse: Publisher

Joyce Bosse: Editor

Christi Carlson:
Advertising Design

Gail Stratos: Publication Design & Layout,
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Opinion/Editorial

The Definition of Insanity

The definition of insanity is doing the same thing over and over again and expecting different results. Voting for a Democrat in New Hampshire is exactly that.

New Hampshire Democrats offer the same agenda that Democrats have imposed in Vermont, Massachusetts, New York, New Jersey, Connecticut, and Maine. New Hampshire has routinely rejected that agenda and chosen a different path, and the results speak for themselves. We are the best place to live in the world and it's not even close.

I am never quite sure how NH Dems complain about living in the best place in the world. Considering our excellence is the exclusion of their ideas. They have been trying to destroy our way of life for years. Democrats overwhelmingly control school boards/town voting across the state, and out-of-control school/town spending is the single largest driver of property-tax growth.

Here in Bradford, the voters who support Stephanie Payeur (and her piece last month in the Bradford bridge) reliably support nearly every warrant article placed before them. Coincidence? I think not. We have a police department that costs approximately \$650,000 a year in a town of 1,700 residents with a 0% violent-crime rate. State Police must patrol towns with fewer than 3,500 residents, giving Bradford an opportunity to "upshift" that expense to the state. Will the same voters complain about "downshifting" support that? I doubt it.

A few years ago, a Bradford Budget Committee member explained at Town Meeting that passing every warrant article would produce a 10% property-tax increase, and the committee did not recommend passing all of the items. Did any prominent local Democrat reconsider? The answer was a swift no. You cannot vote for every expenditure and then complain that somebody else is not covering the cost. Why should Grafton residents who choose dirt roads send money to Concord to pave Bradford's roads?

Payeur's argument also relies on half-truths about state business taxes. Her source calculates supposed "lost revenue" without acknowledging that some of the business activity being taxed likely would not exist in New Hampshire but for the lower rates.

Here are the actual numbers: In 2013, business-tax revenue was \$551.8 million with an 8.5% rate. In 2019, it was \$805.6 million with a 7.5% rate. In 2025, it reached \$1.08 billion with a 7.5% rate. Lower rates produced substantially more revenue because New Hampshire attracted more business. The next reductions also take effect only when state revenue exceeds projections by \$100 million. That is a very tall order.

The Interest and Dividends Tax raised approximately \$184 million, and Democrats want it back. Eliminating it was especially important for seniors on fixed incomes who spent their lives saving and now depend on interest and dividend income. Democrats rarely mention those seniors; they interfere with the narrative that every tax cut is a giveaway to the wealthy. With the average cost of

an SAU at roughly \$40 million, reinstating the I&D Tax would pay for only about four and a half of New Hampshire's more than 100 SAUs. Some solution.

Then there are Education Freedom Accounts. EFAs are a roughly \$50 million statewide program serving approximately 10,000 children. Parents using EFAs still pay property taxes to support their local public schools. When a child uses an EFA, the local school keeps all the local property-tax revenue allocated to educate that child—but it does not have to educate that child. That is a financial benefit to the district, not a loss. If these families should receive no education funding because their children do not attend public schools, the logical conclusion is that only parents with children in public schools should finance them. Democrats certainly are not proposing that.

The silliness was especially clear at Bradford's 2025 Town Meeting, when Democrats supported a warrant article tying EFAs to higher local property taxes. EFAs do not cost a single dollar in local property taxes. The same people who support nearly every local spending article expect us to believe that a \$50 million statewide school-choice program is responsible for their tax bills. That is not a serious argument.

Even if we reinstated the I&D Tax and eliminated the \$50 million used for EFAs from the Education Trust Fund, that would produce only about \$230 million. New Hampshire Democrats in the Senate introduced approximately \$1.75 billion in new spending last session without identifying the revenue to pay for it. That leaves roughly \$1.5 billion that would have to come from new taxes.

It appears that the democrat strategy this cycle is going to be just to write article after article about school spending...which fools no one besides the people already voting for them. Their entire strategy is trying to say that the "state" doesn't pay enough. But if we come back to reality we realize that the people who fund the state are us! So your solution to school spending is to send our money to the state instead of to the locality to pay for the schools. How is this a solution? It is the same tax base. Except now you're giving the money to the state and you lose all of your local control. The national average for school spending is 17K and NH is 25K...which are significantly lower than the \$33K we pay at Kearsarge Regional School District. This is clearly a spending problem. The money is there year after year and despite that it is never enough. Kearsarge could spend 100K per year per kid and they still wouldn't make it work.

Maybe all of the democrats could take a note from Senator Innis who was the dean of Paul college during a 500,000 dollar budget cut and no tuition was raised. Instead the democrats would rather scream at him for not attending their events, due to their never ending spending problem, and act like that is a solution to the problem they have created.

The problem with politicians like Ms. Harned is ►

Opinion/Editorial continued

upon reading her website you realize she is not being honest. “Lower property taxes, no income tax, no sales tax.” It sounds great, and yet she has voted for every budget item to increase your property taxes every year at Kearsarge.

Further, her democratic colleagues already voted for an income tax in the state in 2018. Or the fact that her colleagues left us in an 800-million-dollar deficit last time they controlled Concord. Or the fact that her colleagues voted for 1.75 billion dollars in unaccounted for spending last budget cycle. The democrat politicians in NH are being very disingenuous about what their plans are.

As someone born in New Hampshire who has lived here my entire life, the democrat agenda directly threatens what makes this state exceptional. We must reject it—year after year—before New Hampshire becomes exactly what we have spent generations avoiding. Democrat politicians in NH are the antithesis of what makes NH the best place in the world. Their entire political ideology is based around raising revenue for the state and nothing more. They have no solutions and no unique ideas. They just want the state to be as financially irresponsible as our towns, schools, and every state around us.

Spencer Wyand, Bradford



Sunapee’s oldest resident, Hazel Nilson, celebrated her 111th birthday with a ride on Lake Sunapee aboard the Sunapee Police Department patrol boat. Born in 1908, Hazel has had the opportunity to witness countless years of change and progress through much of the 20th and 21st centuries. Her experience and wisdom are unparalleled. Hazel spent the day with Officer Brigham, Harbor Officer Levasseur, and members of her family. Before departing George’s Mills Harbor, she was greeted by Town Manager Donna Nashawaty and Police Sergeant Puchtler.



Members of Saint Theresa Church have been preparing for The Alpha Course, being offered Wednesdays from 6 to 8 p.m. at the Church Hall. Both the welcoming team and table leaders, along with a kitchen crew, flanked by Andrew Polmeroy and Danielle Bissonnette, invite people who are interested in exploring questions of faith, purpose and meaning this fall. The course is especially geared to young adults, college students, and couples. A meal, video, and small group discussions is being offered at no cost to participants. To register, email: parishcommunicationsnh@gmail.com or text 401-646-2837.



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8AM-12PM	Yard Sale at the Grapevine! Rain Date Saturday 9/19
10:30AM	Antrim Grange Apple Crisp Social: Maplehurst Inn
11:30AM	Parade: North Main Street to Tuttle Library (464-9915) followed by Pet Parade, ConVal Drum Line
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Noon	Tuttle Library Open House, Exhibits & More (588-6786)
12:30-12:45	K-9 Demo at Skate Park
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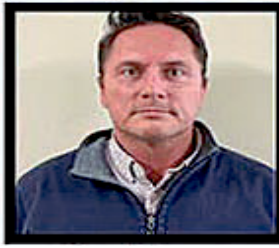
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FOOTBALL

Monadnock 18, Kearsarge 14: Chad Hemingway (137 pass yds, 1 pass TD, 63 rush yds, 1 rush TD), Maxx Butts (2 rec, 50 yds), Aidan Ruckman (4 rec, 49 yds), Jon Barselle (32-yd TD catch), Caleb Moyer and Darrian Lafrance (6 tackles each), Lafrance added a fumble recovery.

BOYS SOCCER

Hopkinton 2, Hillsboro-Deering 1: Will Lee started the scoring with a confident finish from a nice ball down the line from Bouffard. Pratts increased the lead with a strong shot from the top of the box.

Hopkinton 6, Reymond 2: AJ Pratts (2 goal, 2 assists), Jack Bennett (2 goals, assist), Riley Riendeau (5 saves).

John Stark 2, Milford 2: Desmond Bogle ties the game at 7:29 in the first half. Caz Ferenc scores the go-ahead goal at 34:16.

Bow 2, Oyster River 2: Milo Cocola (goal), Blake Crowell (goal), Carter Hall (assist).

Bow 1, Plymouth 0: In the 28th minute, João Coutinho tapped home a Milo Cocola corner kick.

GIRLS SOCCER

Hopkinton 7, Hillsboro 0: Ruby Emerson 3 goals; Gemma Guadagno 2 goals; Jacey Marchand shutout in goal.

Raymond 5, Hopkinton 1: Zoey Frietas goal; Brylee Chase assist; Jacey Marchand 13 saves.

John Stark 7, ConVal 0: Freshman midfielder Ruby Emerson first career hat-trick.

ConVal 4, John Stark 2: Madi Lamothe (goal, assist), Jaycee St. Denis (goal), Amelia Fredette (assist), Kylee Asinof (8 saves).

Bow 3, Oyster River 1: Cara Van jumped on a bad touch and took the ball into the box for a composed finish.

Bow 4, Plymouth 0: Jaeden Kennedy getting the scoring started at the 17:40 mark with some skilled footwork and a long shot.

Sunapee 5, Colebrook 1: Kaitlyn Andersen, 3 goals, 2 assists; Zoe McClelland, Elsa Mauser-Rowe, goal each; Avery Miller, 1 save.

GIRLS CROSS COUNTRY

Merrimack Valley 27, John Stark 58: Isabel Geddes 2nd, 22:15; Emily Baca 3rd, 22:41; Leeann Perkins 5th, 24:25.

FIELD HOCKEY

Kearsarge 3, Berlin 2: Adella Monnatt with two goals, Stella Syversten controlled the middle of the field, and Reagan Billado and Ava Nolan on the back field.

Keene 2, John Stark 1: Addie DeCew scored off a corner assisted by Karrington Telgen.

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Obituaries: Friends & Neighbors Remembered

Dee Junior Bramley

Bennington - Dee Junior Bramley, 80, of Bennington, passed away on August 27, 2026, in Eucha, Oklahoma. Born on March 14, 1946, in Claremore, Oklahoma, he was a devoted father, a talented artist, and a proud Air Force veteran. He was preceded in death by his parents, Deloss and Virginia Bramley, and his beloved wife, Janet Bramley. Dee is survived by his three sons, Bruce Bramley of Bennington, and Peter and John Bramley of Hillsboro,



Anne Yates

Andover - Anne E. Yates, 69, passed away unexpectedly at her home on August 24. She was born on September 29, 1956 to the late Henry and Elizabeth "Betty" (Richard) Shea. Besides her husband and parents, Anne was predeceased by her brother, Michael Shea, in 1994. Surviving family members include her daughter, Jennifer Richardson; son-in-law, Alan Richardson; granddaughter, E. Paige Richardson; nephew, Matthew Shea and his partner, Lexi Quinn; grandnephew, River Shea; and many cousins, extended family members, and friends.



Eleanor "Ellie" F. Blanco

Contoocook - Eleanor F. Blanco, formerly of Contoocook, passed away peacefully on August 21, 2026. Born in Boston as Ellie O'Brien, she is survived by her son, John Blanco, and his fiancé Patty Sweeney; her daughter Judie Blanco; her grandson Mikael Blanco



and his husband Howie LeBlanco; and several nieces and nephews. She was predeceased by her parents, Joseph and Helen O'Brien, and siblings Thomas O'Brien, Bernice Melanson, Lawrence O'Brien, Robert O'Brien, and Carol McDonough. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to a charity of your choice in her memory.

Carol Edith Bezanson Bose

New Boston - Carol Edith Bezanson Bose, 83, passed away peacefully on August 27, 2026. Born on January 11, 1943, Carol is survived by her daughter Tami Silvernail and husband Mike; her son Kevin Bose; and her daughter Sharon Silvernail and husband Mark; her brother Bruce Bezanson and his wife Pat. She also leaves behind her beloved grandchildren, Shane Roosa, Zac Curran and his wife Caroleanna, Kayley Bentley and her husband Jeremiah, Nick Silvernail, Izzy Silvernail, Cian Bose, and Coll Bose; and her cherished great-grandchildren Noah Bentley and Ellie Bentley.



Loren George Hill

Contoocook - Loren George Hill passed away October 19th, 2025 and will be laid to rest within a family plot in Iowa. A Celebration of Life will be held in Iowa and locally at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Concord, NH on September 19th, 2026 at 2:00 p.m. Loren was born March 31st, 1948 in Lake Preston, SD to Raymond Leslie Hill and Marilyn June (Hay) Hill. Loren is survived by brother, Leslie (Audrey) Hill [OR], and sister, Cindy Hill [IA]; Nieces: Jennifer Schrank [WA], Mary Lou Anderson [TN]; Nephews: Paul Hill [OR], Stephen (Kelly) Hill [OR], James Chitty [IA];



Great Nieces: Vivia Schrank [WA], Tiffany Nguyen [MN]; Great Nephews: Blair Schrank [WA], Torin Schrank [WA], Quinn (Naomi) Schrank [MT], Logan Grimes [OR], Tim Nguyen [IA]; Aunt: Grace Stucke [SD]. He was preceded in death by his parents and stepfather, Bill Geiser [OR], sister, Carol Chitty [IA], and nephew, Aaron Hill [OR]. Contributions in Loren's name can be made to the UU Church of Concord, NH's Memorial Garden or the SDSU Geography Scholarship.

Paul E. Sullivan

Peterborough - Paul Edward Sullivan, 72, of Peterborough passed away unexpectedly on August 31, 2026. He was born on November 3, 1953, in Lynn, MA to Edward and Gloria Sullivan. In addition to his wife Kathy and three younger siblings, Phil, Jeanne, and Jenifer, Paul is survived by Elizabeth Sullivan-Zager and her husband Russell of Redwood City, CA; Emily Sullivan West and her husband Ian of Concord, NH; and Robert Sullivan and his wife Brooke of Dublin, NH; and his beloved grandchildren: Cooper and Callaway Zager, and Violet and Robbianne West. Visiting hours will be held on Friday September 11, 2026, from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at Jellison Funeral Home, 25 Concord Street, Peterborough, NH. A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated on Saturday September 12 at 11:00 a.m. at Divine Mercy Parish, 12 Church Street, Peterborough, NH. In lieu of flowers, please honor Paul by doing something generous for someone in need, as he did in life, or donate to the Peterborough Fire and Rescue Association.



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

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Events: Community Bulletin Board

FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 11

9/11: The Town of Deering will hold a 9/11 Remembrance Ceremony at 8:30am at the Veterans Memorial. Please join us as we gather to remember and honor the lives lost on September 11, 2001, and to recognize the courage and sacrifice of the first responders, military members, and all those who served our nation in the aftermath. All are welcome.

FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 12

WARNER CONCERT: The Dobros 6-8pm at the Main Street Stage. Free but donations accepted.

SUMMERT FEST 2026: at Stonefalls Gardens. 184 Stonewalls Road, Henniker. A family friendly event supporting local charities. Food vendors, live entertainment.

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 13

SHIZUE SANO: World-acclaimed classical pianist with numerous recordings and National and International awards is going to delight and astound us at the Deering Community Church on at 2pm with pieces from Bach, Schumann, Chopin and Shubert. Come and join us for this free concert! There will be refreshments with a chance to meet Shizue after the performance.

THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 17

NATIONAL GUARD RETIREE DAY: Retirees of the New Hampshire Army National Guard are cordially invited to attend the annual NHARNG Retiree Day Luncheon, which will be held at Joint Force Headquarters, Building 1, Concord, NH. The luncheon fee is \$5, and as customary, a Retiree group photo will be taken. Retirees who plan on attending the luncheon for the first time are asked to register in advance with Chief Warrant Officer 5 (Retired) Rick Plante at 603-657-0345.

AMY BEACH COLLECTION: of portraits and more in the Music Room where she taught piano lessons, 10am-7pm at Fuller Public Library.

COME JOIN US: Elementary school-aged youth group beginning for the year 3:30-5pm. Downstairs at Smith Memorial Congregational Church Grades 1-5. No charge to participate. Contact Barbara Daley 606-660-6424 or barbara@daleyduet.com to register or for more information.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 19

ESTATE SALE: Deering Library Benefit - Estate Sale at 99 Peter Wood Hill Road in Deering. From 9am-2pm. Antiques and collectibles, china, glass, silver, Christmas items, housewares, and more. All proceeds will benefit the Deering

Library. Cash or check only please.

MONDAY SEPTEMBER 21

SING! MOVE! DANCE!: Every other Monday from 10-10:30am. Downstairs at Smith Memorial Congregational Church. Ages 3-5+ No charge to participate. Contact Barbara Daley 603-660-6424 or barbara@daleyduet.com to register or for more information. "Make a Joyful Noise."

TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 22

REDCOATS & REBELS: 6pm - sponsored by NH Humanities, Fuller Public Library, and Hillsborough Historical Society. New Hampshire in the American Revolution.

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 26

AUCTION: Hillsboro Methodist Church will be having their annual Talent, Goods, and Services Auction. Doors will open at 5pm for viewing, and the auction will begin at 6pm. Gift baskets, gift cards, various other items, as well as talent-associated items, will be auctioned off. For more info, contact Gene Gould, 603-464-4007.

FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 28

WARNER CONCERT: Jon Nolan & Good Co. 6-8pm at the Main Street Stage. Free but donations accepted.

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TOWN OF HENNIKER PUBLIC HEARING

RSA 31:95-b Acceptance of Unanticipated Revenue

The Henniker Board of Selectmen will hold a public hearing pursuant to RSA 31:95-b to consider the acceptance and appropriation of unanticipated revenue for the purpose of paving a portion of Craney Pond Road.

Date: September 15, 2026
Time: 6:30 PM
Location: Henniker Community Center 57 Main Street Henniker, NH 03242

At the hearing, the Board of Selectmen will receive public comment and consider whether to accept and expend these funds for the stated purpose.

Additional information is available at the Henniker Town Office, 18 Depot Hill Road, Henniker, NH, or by calling (603) 428-3221 during regular business hours.

By Order of the Henniker Board of Selectmen

TOWN OF HENNIKER ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

September 23, 2026 — 6:00 PM

- Rehearing:** ZBA Case 2026:03: Variance request from the driveway setback required of Article VIII COMMERCIAL DISTRICT REGULATIONS, 133-28 Regulations for all commercial districts D, no parking space or access driveway shall be located within 10 feet of a side or back lot boundaries. Applicant/owner David Tassie, Map 8 Lot 540-X2B, 41 Elm St, Zoned CR.

Copies of all materials are available for review at Henniker Town Hall during normal business hours, as well as on the Town's website. Members of the public are welcome to attend the public hearings.



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PUBLIC NOTICE HILLSBORO-DEERING SCHOOL BOARD

The Hillsboro-Deering School Board will hold a **Public Hearing** on **Monday, September 21, 2026 at 6:00 pm** in the **Hillsboro-Deering Elementary School-Room 202** (Enter through Door 7)

The purpose of the hearing is to accept unanticipated revenue received from Department of Education Security Action for Education (SAFE) Grants. Said funds are being accepted under the provisions of RSA 198:20-b, and will total up to not more than \$79,342.00 for Hillsboro-Deering Elementary School, \$54,516.00 for Hillsboro-Deering Middle School, and \$43,817.00 for Hillsboro-Deering High School.



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