

The Messenger

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

Free ♦ Our 155th Year ♦ Issue 41 ♦ October 16, 2026

Weare Firefighter Promoted



Weare Fire and Rescue has promoted Cody Lemay to the rank of Lieutenant, effective Oct. 5. Lt. Lemay, who first joined the department in 2017, will now be in charge of

commanding C-shift operations.

Monadnock Hospital VP Honored



MCH President & CEO Rich Scheinblum presented Laura Gingras, Vice President of Philanthropy & Community Relations at Monadnock Community Hospital,

as the recipient of the 2026 Ken Jue Award, recognizing her outstanding commitment to community, collaboration, and inclusion, securing more than \$50 million in philanthropic support for the Hospital.

This week in history

OCTOBER 16, 1859

Abolitionist John Brown leads a raid on Harpers Ferry

OCTOBER 17, 1931

Al Capone found guilty of tax evasion

OCTOBER 18, 1924

Four horsemen aid in Notre Dame victory over Army

OCTOBER 19, 1917

Helen Purviance inspires national Doughnut Day

OCTOBER 20, 1962

President Kennedy's press secretary misleads press

OCTOBER 21, 2003

The dwarf planet Eris is discovered

OCTOBER 22, 1963

Chicago Public School boycott begins



Police converge on a suspect's vehicle outside the Hillsborough Shaw's Supermarket, leading to the arrest of 59-year-old Matthew Galya.

Man arrested at gunpoint at Hillsborough's Shaws



Matthew Galya

A Connecticut man faces multiple charges after refusing to pull over for a traffic violation in Hillsborough on Friday evening, Oct. 9. The incident led to a short police pursuit before the driver barricaded himself inside his vehicle in the Shaw's Supermarket parking lot.

Following the incident, Matthew Galya,

59, of Bridgeport, Connecticut, was arrested and charged with disobeying an officer and resisting arrest or detention. According to Hillsborough police, an officer initially attempted to pull over Galya's vehicle for a traffic violation at approximately 5:47 p.m. on West Main Street, near the Sampan Restaurant.

Galya refused to stop, continuing down West Main Street before finally pulling into the Shaw's Supermarket parking lot.

Once stopped, Galya refused to exit his vehicle and barricaded himself inside for several minutes while backup arrived, according to police. Although he eventually complied with repeated orders to step out of the car, authorities said he continued to ignore commands once outside and was taken into custody.

Galya was taken to Concord Hospital for an evaluation. He faces an upcoming arraignment scheduled for Nov. 17.

Hillsboro Lions Club to host its 50th Annual Senior Dinner

The tradition continues for the 50th year, as the Hillsboro Lions Club hosts its Annual Senior Citizens Dinner.

Project Chair Leigh Bosse reports that this year the event is scheduled for Saturday, November 14th, at the Hillsboro-Deering Middle School for a full sit-down service.

Seating will begin at 12:30 p.m. for a FREE full turkey dinner which will be served from 1:00-3:00 p.m.

Last year, attendees consumed ten 20 lb. turkeys, 36 lbs. of green beans, 75 lbs. of squash, 30 lbs. of onions and 16 dozen dinner rolls, not to mention the stuffing, gravy, pickles, olives and cranberry sauce,

along with 20 pumpkin pies, cider and coffee.

This year enough food for a crowd of 200 has been ordered.

If any food is available after those seated have finished, take-out dinners, while they last, may be picked up after 2:30 p.m.

NEC to host New Hampshire Congressional Candidates debates

New England College invites you to attend the Live Free or Die Congressional Debates October 19th & 20th.

The debates will include candidates vying for New Hampshire's 1st and 2nd Congressional Districts and will feature questions from student reporters from The New Englander and NEC-TV.

Members of the public who would

like to attend can register online at no cost: <https://app.arts-people.com/index.php?ticketing=nec>. Limit of six tickets per party.

The events will take place at the Rosamond Page Putnam Center for the Performing Arts.

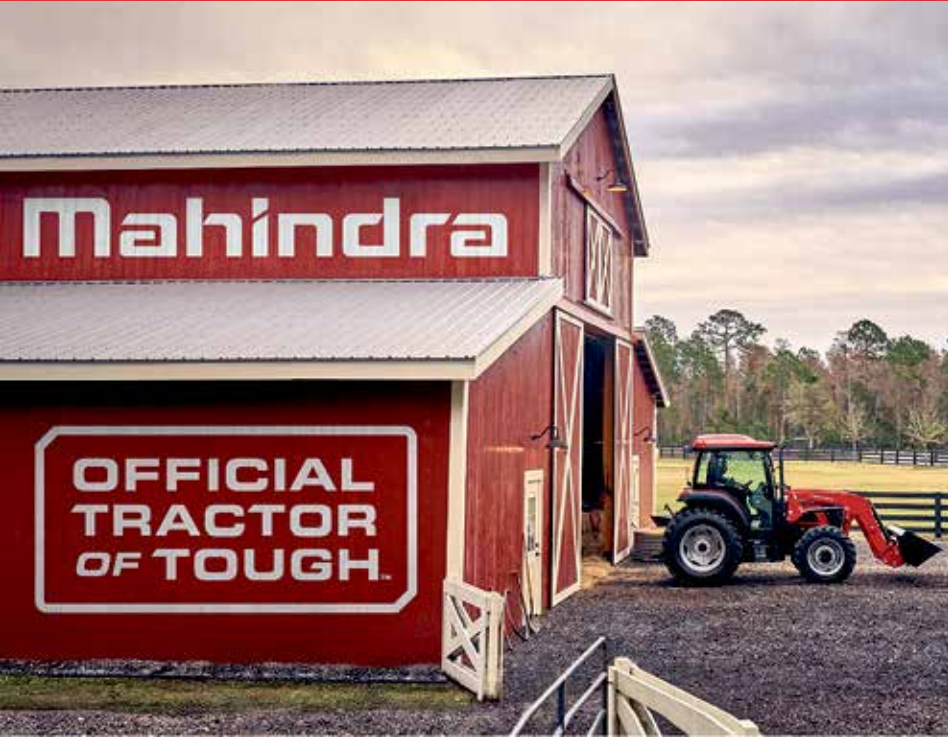
Can't make it in person? Watch the livestreams <https://team1sports.com/>

athleticsnec.com/?fbplayvid=1265080

Monday, October 19, at 7:00 p.m. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. 1st Congressional District Anthony DiLorenzo (R) and Stefany Shaheen (D).

Tuesday, October 20, at 7:00 p.m. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. 2nd Congressional District Maggie Goodlander (D) and Lily Tang Williams (R).

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Hometown Heroes



The Salisbury Fire Department hosted a multi-town training drill Monday evening. Participating departments included Andover, Wilnot, Webster, and Hopkinton.



The Sunapee Fire Department responded with mutual aid to New London for a brush fire in an area difficult to access by land, requiring firefighters to reach the scene by boat.

Two injured in rollover after pursuit thru Antrim & Hillsborough

Pursuit ends in rollover after driver accelerates toward officers

On October 9, 2026, at approximately 3:10 a.m., officers from the Hillsboro Police Department responded to Cumberland Farms on Henniker Street for a report of a suspicious vehicle. As an officer arrived, a vehicle was observed leaving the parking lot without its headlights on. The officer attempted to stop the vehicle, but the driver refused to pull over and fled at a high

rate of speed. Officers pursued the vehicle from Hillsboro into Antrim, where the driver turned off the headlights, causing officers to temporarily lose sight of it. Hillsboro officers subsequently located the vehicle on Thompsons Crossing in Antrim. While the officers were outside their cruiser, the driver suddenly accelerated toward them, forcing both officers to run for safety to avoid being struck by the vehicle. The driver continued fleeing at a high rate of speed before losing control of the vehicle on the

dirt roadway. The vehicle went off the road, traveled down an embankment, and rolled over. Officers immediately took the driver, identified as Christopher Johnson, age 32, of Sharon, NH, into custody. Johnson sustained serious but

non-life-threatening injuries. A passenger in the vehicle sustained minor injuries. Both were treated at the scene by Antrim Ambulance and transported to the hospital. Further investigation revealed that Johnson was out on bail fol-

lowing an arrest in Rhode Island on October 1, 2026, involving similar circumstances. As a result of this incident, Johnson faces numerous criminal charges filed by both the Hillsboro and Antrim Police Departments.



A multi-town police chase from Hillsborough into Antrim culminated in a rollover accident on a dirt stretch of Thompson's Crossing Road on Oct. 9. Photo courtesy: Hillsboro Police.

A government which robs Peter to pay Paul can always depend on the support of Paul.

~ George Bernard Shaw



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The Hillsboro Lions Club provided each student at HDES with a new book and bookmark through the RIF (Reading is Fundamental) program.



The Henniker Lions Club grows and donates fresh produce to Henniker and Hopkinton food pantries throughout the summer months.

New London Hospital held groundbreaking for new Surgical Center

New London Hospital, a member of Dartmouth Health, marked an important milestone in the construction of its new Surgical Care Center with a ceremonial groundbreaking Sept. 15, bringing together community stakeholders, hospital leaders, employees, project partners and supporters.

While construction is already under way, the ceremony provided an opportunity to recognize the years of planning and collaboration behind the project and to look ahead to the future of surgical care at the hospital.

“This is a very special moment in the life of New London Hospital,” said Dr. Lauren G. Wirth, president and chief executive officer of New London Hospital. “Our current surgical facilities have served us well for more than 30 years, but medicine has changed, our community has grown and the demand for surgical care has increased. This groundbreaking signifies

our commitment to building stronger surgical services and a stronger future for health care in our region.”

With the hospital’s current operating rooms routinely at or near 85% capacity, the new space will increase flexibility for emergency and add-on cases, and allow for an expansion of surgical services. The roughly 40,000-square-foot Surgical Care Center will span two levels and include four operating rooms, a 22-bed post-anesthesia care unit and expanded central sterile processing. The hospital’s two existing operating rooms will be converted into surgical procedure rooms.

The project also includes a dedicated Surgical Care Center entrance, improved patient and family waiting areas, and updated spaces designed to support privacy, navigation and the overall patient experience.

“What makes me especially proud is that the people who



The New London Hospital Board of Trustees stands with hospital and system leaders at a ceremonial groundbreaking for the Surgical Care Center in September. From left: Jane Rastallis; Shannon MacMichael; Christopher Martin; Jeff Hollinger, board chair; Casey Buiso, board secretary; Dr. Lauren G. Wirth, president and CEO of New London Hospital; Peter Nichols, board vice chair; Dr. Elizabeth Susan Hodgson; Karen Bone-wald, board treasurer; and Matthew P. Haag, chief development officer of Dartmouth Health. *Provided by Dartmouth Health.*

provide this care every day have had a meaningful voice in shaping this project,” said Karen L. Beinhour, chief nursing officer at New London Hospital. “Our front-line teams have been part of the planning process from the

very beginning, bringing their firsthand experience and helping ensure these spaces are designed to work for the patients and clinicians who will use them every day. This new center will provide our teams with an environment

that reflects the exceptional care they deliver to our patients every day and will allow us to continue providing that care well into the future.”

The project is intended to expand the surgical care that can be provided close to home while supporting Dartmouth Health’s broader regional care network.

“By expanding the surgical care that can appropriately be delivered here in our community, we strengthen Dartmouth Health as a whole,” Wirth said during the ceremony. “We allow more patients to receive care close to home while helping Dartmouth Hitchcock Medical Center focus its resources on the most complex cases.”

Construction is being coordinated with current hospital operations. Surgical and endoscopy services are expected to continue throughout construction without interruption to patient care.

The Surgical Care Center is expected to open in fall 2028.



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TAKE YOUR MEDICINE



BY
SARAH CHAPIN

Current medical guidelines discourage the use of combined oral contraceptives (COCs) among people who experience migraine with aura — a type of migraine accompanied by temporary neurological symptoms — due to a heightened risk for stroke. Despite these concerns, a notable percentage of people diagnosed with migraine with aura are still receiving prescriptions for these oral contraceptives, according to a new study published in the journal *Pharmacoepidemiology and Drug Safety*. Similarly, some clinical guidelines suggest that older women who experience migraine with aura exercise caution in taking hormone therapy to treat menopause, as older research has linked this form of therapy to varying risks for stroke, depending on certain risk factors, such as age. Despite this potential risk, the study also found that hormone therapy for menopause is still commonly used among post-reproductive age women with a history of migraine with aura, with about half of this population receiving a prescription for this treatment at some point after they were diagnosed with these migraines. At least 39 million people worldwide experience migraines, and up to 1 in 3 people who have this headache disorder experience migraine with aura, which can include a range of temporary visual and sensory symptoms such as vision loss, light sensitivity, numbness, nausea, speech issues, dizziness, and more. The headache disorder itself is also linked to an increase in stroke, possibly due to a combination of cardiovascular, behavioral, and genetic components.

A large cohort study found that statins significantly reduce the risk of death and major cardiovascular events in adults with type 2 diabetes, even among those with low predicted 10-year cardiovascular risk. The findings challenge long-standing uncertainty about whether patients at the lowest risk benefit from preventive statin therapy, suggesting that the drugs may have broader protective value than previously assumed. The findings are published in *Annals of Internal Medicine*.

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12 THINGS YOUR DENTIST KNOWS ABOUT YOU JUST BY LOOKING IN YOUR MOUTH: PART II



Dr. Esin Narli

You Used to Suck Your Thumb

Most children that suck their thumbs or a finger have no long-term effects from the habit. However, those who did so past the age of seven or eight may show significant changes to their bite or the position of their teeth. Much of that can be corrected through orthodontic treatment, but some telltale signs can remain. Dentists can sometimes see protruding front teeth, and this can impact how kids' jaws are coming together and growing and can also impact their speech.

You've Got a Health Condition

General bad breath can be categorized as halitosis. But dentists are also trained to identify "fruity" smells and "fishy" smells, which can mean numerous things. "Fruity" breath could indicate uncontrolled diabetes or a dietary fast that has gone too far, while "fishy" breath could be a sign of kidney or liver failure. If the smell is "very foul," it could be anything from gastroesophageal reflux (GERD) to an underlying lung abscess and bronchitis to a tonsil stone. The first thing the dentist should do is rule out the odor coming from the teeth and gums. After that, he should recommend that the patient see an ENT to rule out sinus issues, and a GI physician to rule out reflux issues.

You May Have Diabetes

Many times, imbalances in sugar will show a rapid change in the health of your gums, including increased swelling, bleeding, and sensitivity. In conjunction, the consistency of saliva may change, and there may be increased decay. These may all be signs of sugar levels that are out of control, so dentists can alert patients to see their doctor to check for diabetes.

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Rapid response saves elderly Antrim woman who fell down stairs

On Friday, October 9th, at 12:28 p.m., Antrim Ambulance, Antrim Fire, and Antrim Police responded to an incident involving an 84-year-old woman who had fallen down a flight of stairs.

Upon arrival, personnel found the patient, unconscious at the foot of the stairs, suffering from a traumatic head injury with significant bleeding.

EMS immediately applied trauma dressings to stem the bleeding and 2C1 requested the DHART helicopter to land at Shea Field as the designated landing zone.

The patient was moved onto a scoop stretcher, transferred onto a gurney, and transported to the landing zone by ambulance.

During transport, EMS personnel immobilized her cervical spine, established two IV lines, administered fluids to address blood loss, and secured her head with dressings and bandages to control bleeding. Her condition was stabilized en-route to the landing zone.

Once the DHART helicopter arrived, patient care was transferred to the flight crew, and the patient was airlifted to Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center in Lebanon for treatment.



Hopkinton man indicted as a Felon In Possession

A Hopkinton man was indicted by a federal grand jury on Wednesday on charges of being a felon in possession of firearms and ammunition, according to the U.S. Department of Justice.

In September, law enforcement officers searched the residence of Joshua Gragg, 39, and discovered multiple firearms in his bedroom, including at least three "ghost guns" manufactured using a 3D printer.

Investigators also seized nearly 3,000 rounds of ammunition, 20 firearm suppressors, and 46 3D-printed pistol frames.

Because Gragg has prior felony convictions, he faces a maximum federal prison term of 15 years and a fine of up to \$250,000.

His case will be presided over by a federal district court judge, according to a news release.

Franklin man arrested for Tampering with a Witness

Lelan Michael Leclerc, 35, of Hill Road in Franklin, faces a felony count of tampering with witnesses and informants.

He was accused of attempting to induce a woman to

inform or testify falsely, allegedly calling her 22 times to ask her to drop pending charges, or to convey to two other individuals to drop their charges, in Boscawen between June 26 and Aug. 17.

Dunbarton man arrested for Assault/Domestic Violence

Bruce N. MacDonald, 71, of Jewett Road in Dunbarton, faces a felony count of second-degree assault—domestic violence.

He was accused of shoving a family or household member into a microwave, causing a ruptured eardrum, on Feb. 4 in Dunbarton.

The Antrim Select Board begins its 2027 budget planning

The Antrim Select Board conducted a lengthy meeting on Tuesday, meeting with department heads to begin drafting next year's budget.

Fire Chief Marshal Gale is requesting a modest \$11,000, or a 1% increase in the Fire Department's budget. He reported 143 calls for service so far and expects to reach about 200 by year's end.

He also requested an additional \$13,500 or 5.9% increase for the Ambulance Service.

In his role as Emergency Management Director, Gale requested a flat budget with no increase. Conversely, Police Chief John Blake proposed a 21% budget increase, driven primarily by \$25,000 in salaries, \$10,000 for overtime, \$20,000 for prosecu-

tion services, and \$95,000 for a new police cruiser.

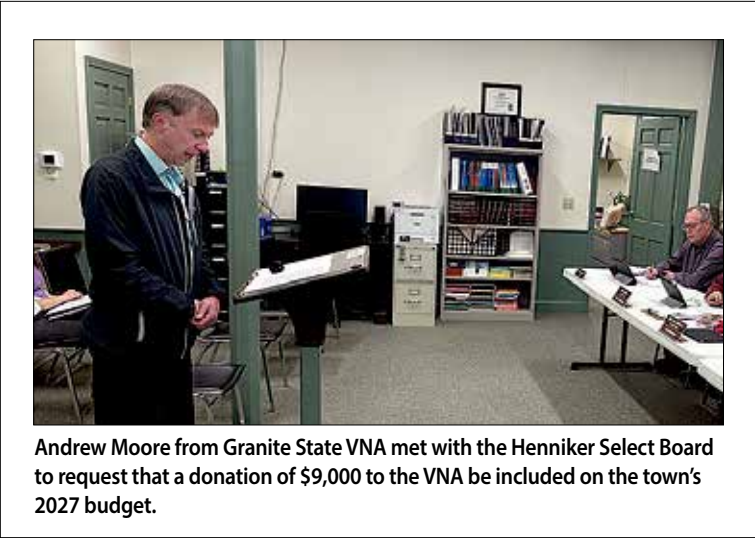
He reported that the department currently operates five

cruisers and plans to replace one vehicle each year.

Tax Collector Crystal O'Brien requested a modest \$1,850

increase.

Saving the best for last, Town Clerk Ann Gilbert reported a decrease of \$16,500.



Andrew Moore from Granite State VNA met with the Henniker Select Board to request that a donation of \$9,000 to the VNA be included on the town's 2027 budget.



Antrim Fire Chief Marshal Gale, Tax Collector Crystal O'Brien and Police Chief John Blake present their budget requests to the Select Board.

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NEW EVIDENCE SHOWS INDOOR PLANTS CAN QUIETLY RESHAPE THE HEALTH AND QUALITY OF OUR HOMES AND WORKPLACES



By: Joyce Bosse

Houseplants and more advanced plant systems, such as indoor living walls and hydroponic towers, have the potential to raise indoor humidity, boost thermal comfort and help create healthier, more climate-resilient buildings, according to new research led by the University of Surrey's Global Centre for Clean Air Research (GCARE).

Published in *Building and Environment*, the study brings together an international collaboration of experts to examine how plants genuinely influence indoor environmental quality. While the understanding of outdoor urban greening has advanced, the effects of indoor green infrastructure have remained poorly defined.

To address this knowledge gap, researchers developed a ten-question framework that examines the evidence across technical, microbiological, health, socio-economic and place dimensions — offering the clearest picture yet of how different types of indoor greening perform in real buildings. The study also introduces the first clear comparison of 26 different indoor greening systems and how they impact indoor-environmental quality parameters, giving designers and building managers clearer guidance than ever on what actually works and where evidence is still lacking.

The analysis shows that larger indoor greening systems can make spaces feel up to two degrees cooler and more comfortable, even when temperatures remain the same. Some engineered systems help reduce fine particulate matter and volatile organic compounds, although the strength of these effects depends on plant density, lighting and overall design. The study also points to early evidence that greenery may enrich the indoor microbiome by introducing more environmentally derived microbes.

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 **Warner Fall Foliage Festival 2026**



Golf Tournament raises \$102,000 for Monadnock Community Hospital

On September 11th, Monadnock Community Hospital held our 30th Annual Fall Foliage Golf Classic, raising more than \$102,000!

Proceeds from this year's tournament supports MCH's Patient Financial Assistance Program, helping MCH patients access needed medical care regardless of their ability to pay.

We are deeply grateful to every golfer, sponsor, volunteer, donor, staff member, and community partner who came together at Crotched Mountain Golf Club. We would like to extend a special thank you to our tournament sponsor, Hutter Construction and a congratulations to the Spaulding team for taking first place again this year with a score of 51! The generosity of all who participated turned a day on the course into meaningful support for neighbors throughout the Monadnock Region.

Learn more about giving to MCH at mchgiving.org.



First-place winners Team Spaulding pose with Tournament Director LeeAnn Moore (center) during the annual fall golf classic at Crotched Mountain Golf Club. The charity outing kicked off with a Mega Putt contest and drew dozens of local volunteers to support the fundraiser. Staff Photo.

The Messenger's Annual

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Guest Editorial

Goodlander grandstands: And it's not a good look

If the term political “grandstanding” needs a fresh dictionary photo, U.S. Rep. Maggie Goodlander’s would do nicely.

That must come as a disappointment to some Granite Staters who thought the freshman member of Congress from our 2nd District was not the same-old, same-old type of politician that occupies most of Washington today.

But her call for a federal investigation of the Sununu Youth Services Center is a political stunt of the first order. Even if the U.S. Attorney obliges Goodlander, which is highly unlikely, this would not serve the interests or needs of wards of the state housed at the center.

It would, however, devour even more time for the state officials who have been put in place to address the issues that Attorney General John Formella’s investigation has outlined.

Gov. Kelly Ayotte has just named Allen Aldenberg, the former Manchester chief of police, to temporarily oversee

the state Office of the Child Advocate. No doubt the youth center will be a priority for Aldenberg. As capable as he is, yet another investigation will cost him time better devoted to his job.

There have been enough political games played already regarding the youth center, whose scheduled permanent closure can’t come soon enough. Goodlander is a bit late to the party.

Goodlander has further eroded public trust with a recent mailing, at taxpayer expense, that reads like campaign propaganda. Credit WMUR’s Adam Sexton for his reporting on this.

The “franking” privilege grants members of Congress free postage to supposedly inform their constituents of public interest matters. It is often skirted or flouted.

Goodlander’s piece may set a new, low bar. It was mailed, conveniently, just before a campaign deadline for such stuff. But then again, she says it’s not what it clearly is. She knows better.



Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor:
Coffin’s Debate Lacked Practical Solutions

Finally, in the Francestown Candidate Debate (10/07/2026) we uncovered some of what each candidate will do if elected. Until that evening, candidate Tim Coffin had run a largely content-free campaign. His website offered no concrete solutions on how he would reduce property taxes or address other issues facing our state.

During the debate, Coffin revealed he would end Education Freedom Accounts (EFAs) and parental choice. He is willing to infringe on Second Amendment rights, emphasizing they are not “absolute.” Despite Deering and Francestown having a larger elderly population than most of New Hampshire, his narrow 40-year career in municipal debt left him with no solutions for New Hampshire’s growing healthcare accessibility crisis—an issue Representative Mary Murphy has rightly made a top priority and for which she has file legislation.

Most concerning is Coffin’s approach to revenue. To fund education, he proposed reinstituting the Interest and Dividends (I&D) tax, claiming past tax cuts only benefited the wealthy. Does anyone else see the extreme irony here? Coffin claims four decades of experience in the municipal bond market—a market that helps the wealthy legally avoid paying their fair share of state and federal income taxes. Let that sink in.

He claims he opposes an income tax, seemingly unaware the I&D tax is one. Furthermore, he remained silent on a newly proposed 2027 sales tax, a bill Representative Murphy has already pledged to vote against.

Representative Murphy has demonstrated competence in advocating for Deering and Francestown. Passing five bills as a first-term Representative is

extraordinary. Representative Murphy has a track record of working well with the opposition party in Concord and voting against her party on local control and zoning issues.

Vote to re-elect Representative Mary Murphy on November 3rd

Larry Savage, Francestown

Misunderstanding the Role of State Representative

As the former Hillsborough District 27 State Representative, I felt compelled to weigh in on the current race. Incumbent Representative Mary Murphy clearly understands this role and has been highly effective. By contrast, Independent candidate Tim Coffin’s campaign reveals a fundamental misunderstanding of the job.

Coffin’s website and ads focus on manufactured state problems (“polarizing politics”) or federal issues he cannot fix, like Citizens United. He unrealistically thinks he can please all voters. Rep. Murphy correctly assumes she was elected because a majority of voters agree with her platform and want her to keep her campaign promises, which she has.

Candidate Tim Coffin recently advertised that voters want “straight answers on local issues.” Frankly, that is a Selectman’s job, not the job of a State Representative whose focus must be on the intersection of local needs with state regulations.

State Representatives are lawmakers whose focus must be on state-level legislation, revenue, and budgeting. If you want straight answers on state issues, Rep. Murphy provides them. I have never met anyone with more integrity and intelligence.

Furthermore, Coffin emphasizes his “independence” from political parties, yet his campaign is largely ▶

Letters to the Editor continued

funded and powered by the Francestown Democrat Committee. In Concord, he will be forced to caucus with Democrats and face intense pressure to vote their party line just to survive the legislative session.

Meanwhile, Rep. Murphy has a proven track record of voting her platform to keep all her 2024 campaign promises—even when it means bucking her own party

on issues like local control which she supports. She is self-made, truly independent, and beholden to no special interests.

I hope Deering and Francestown voters will re-elect Representative Mary Murphy on November 3

Hon. Karen Reid, Fuqua-Varina, NC



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The Henniker Area Rotary Club, with help from both Hillsboro-Deering and John Stark DEC students conducted a successful Stuff-A-Truck food collection at Shaws Supermarket in Hillsboro to support the Hillsboro and Henniker Food Pantries.

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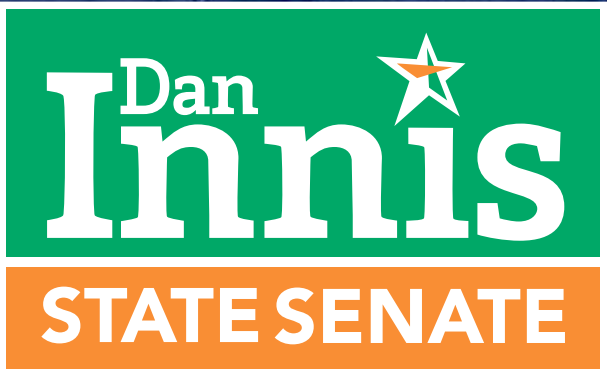
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Single motor vehicle crash results in serious injuries and road closure on Rte 13

On Friday, October 9th 2026 the Dunbarton Police Department and Dunbarton, NH Fire Department (DFD) were dispatched to the area of Stark Highway North (Route 13) and Burnham Lane for a report of a single motor vehicle crash with the vehicle actively smoking.

Responding officers located the operator and only occupant of the vehicle, an adult female, initially trapped inside the vehicle. She was successfully

extricated by DFD. Preliminary investigation suggests that the operator was traveling north-bound on Stark Highway North when they experienced a medical emergency and crashed. The driver sustained several serious injuries and was transported to a local hospital by DFD. Route 13 was closed for approximately one hour while the crash scene was documented and a significant amount of debris was cleared from the roadway.

All circumstances surrounding the crash remain under investigation. Anyone with information is asked to please contact Officer Soucy at (603) 774-5500.

*Timid men prefer the calm
of despotism to the
tempestuous sea of liberty.*

~ Thomas Jefferson



In the upper floor of Washington's Town Hall, the presenter from Wildlife Encounters held everyone's rapt interest with a snake, a toad, a centipede, and two mammals – none of which exist here. Bob Hofstetter photo

RE-ELECT
REPRESENTATIVE



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MURPHY

Paid for by MaryMurphyNH.com, P.O. Box 120, Frankestown, NH 03043.
M. Murphy, Treasurer

- ★ Kept ALL 2024 campaign promises and will keep new ones.
- ★ Passed 5 bills. (only 28% of ALL bills ever pass)
- ★ Worked across political party lines to improve the supply of childcare in NH.
- ★ Passed bill to expedite withdrawal from Cooperative School Districts which benefited Frankestown and Deering.
- ★ Developed NH Advantage 2.0 blueprint strategy to reduce property taxes without new taxes or overdeveloping New Hampshire.

SAU #19 finds that costly repairs are needed at New Boston Central School

SAU 19 and the New Boston School District presented a comprehensive capital project to the New Boston School Board outlining facility conditions findings at New Boston Central School and options for paying for needed repairs.

The presentation, based on the EMC Capital Report from November 2025, say core systems at the school are past their service life.

The septic system was also a Priority 1 item; it failed in April and was replaced over the summer using contingency funds.

The district outlined two financing paths for the roughly \$3,000,000 in Priority 1 measures.

Option A, a 15-year municipal lease purchase at 5.0% interest, would carry an annual payment of \$288,005, with total payments of \$4,320,080 and interest costs of \$1,320,080; the

option would allow work to begin before systems fail and lock in current scope and pricing.

Option B, paying as the district goes, assumes 5% inflation and estimates the project would cost \$4.6 million in six years, drawing \$1 million from the existing capital reserve fund plus six years of \$600,000 annual deposits; this approach carries the risk of failures, emergency repairs and school closures, and may require the project's scope to shrink if deposits fall behind.

The presentation also notes that under a proposed tax cap in effect for 2027 and 2028, school building appropriations might require a 60% voting threshold if a warrant article pushes the total appropriation over the cap.

The district says decisions are needed now to plan the project, order equipment with long lead times, and secure contractors for the summer of 2027.



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Belletetes donates 27,791 pounds of food to help fight hunger in NH

Annual month-long drive at nine NH locations generates enough food to provide approximately 23,159 meals for Granite Staters experiencing hunger

The New Hampshire Food Bank, a program of Catholic Charities New Hampshire, is proud to recognize Belletetes for donating 27,791 pounds of food through its annual month-long food drive held at its nine New Hampshire locations. The donation will help provide approximately 23,159 meals to New Hampshire residents experiencing hunger.

The family-owned lumber and building supply company encouraged customers, employees, suppliers, and community members to donate nonperishable food items throughout the month-long campaign in support of the New Hampshire Food Bank's mission to end hunger in the Granite State.

"This remarkable donation comes at a time when many individuals and families across New Hampshire continue to face difficult choices between purchasing food and paying for other necessities," said Elsy Cipriani, Executive Director of the New Hampshire Food Bank. "We are deeply grateful to Belletetes and everyone who contributed. Their generosity will help provide nutritious meals to thousands of our neighbors in need."

Since the food drive's inception in 2023, Belletetes, its customers, employees, suppliers, and local communities have donated more than 155,071 pounds of food, enough to provide approximately 129,225 meals to New Hampshire residents experiencing hunger.

This year's contribution of 27,791 pounds adds to a legacy of community support that continues to make a meaningful



difference in the lives of thousands of Granite Staters.

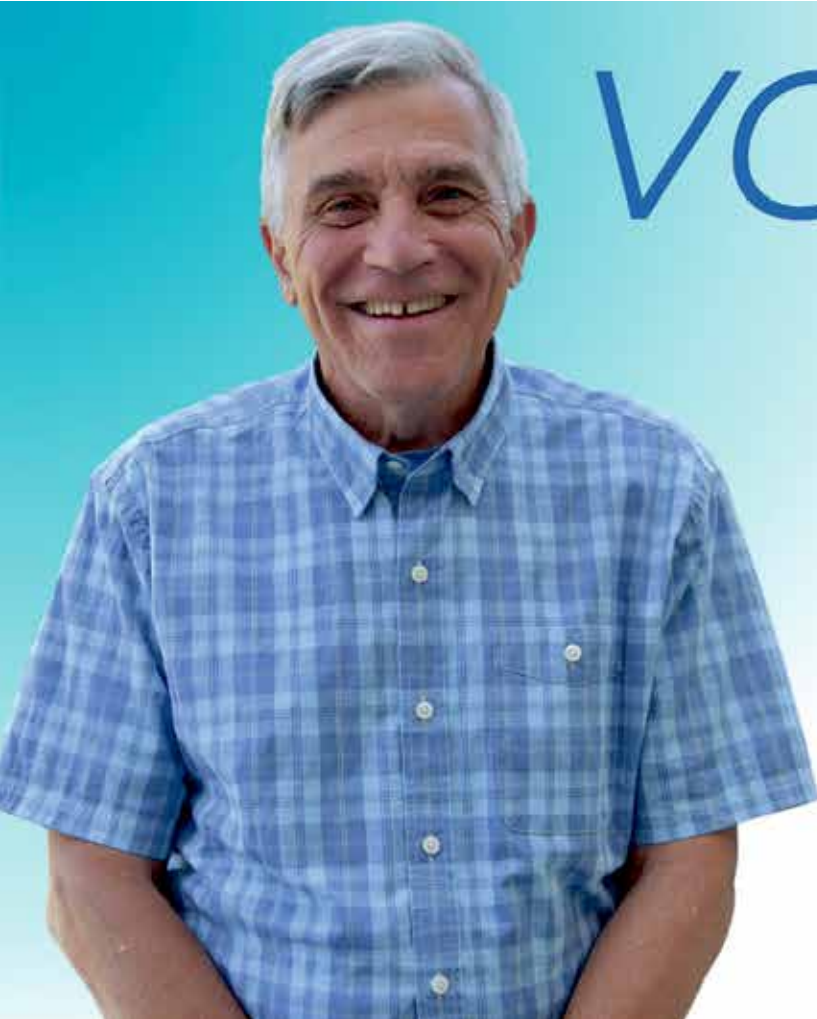
"This amazing accomplishment would not have been possible without the generosity and support of our customers, employees, suppliers, and local communities," said Mike Shea, President of Belletetes. "Every donation, large or small, helped make a meaningful difference for individuals and families experiencing hunger across New

Hampshire. We are proud to partner with the New Hampshire Food Bank and grateful to everyone who helped make this year's food drive such a success."

Food collected during the drive will be distributed through the New Hampshire Food Bank's statewide network of more than 400 partner agencies, including food pantries, soup kitchens, shelters, senior

centers, and other community-based organizations serving people experiencing hunger.

"Belletetes continues to show what can be accomplished when businesses and communities come together for a common cause," added Cipriani. "Their support, year after year, helps strengthen our ability to provide food and hope to neighbors throughout New Hampshire."



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Goffstown Select Board asked to support an 8% budget increase for 2027

Department heads in Goffstown proposed an 8% increase to the municipal general fund operating budget during their meeting on Monday night.

Coming off a default budget year, department heads are looking for moderate increases across numerous budget lines. The moderate increases result in a proposed 8.8% overall increase.

The 2026 default budget was \$26,648,427 and the 2027 proposed budget is \$28,997,676.

It's only the beginning of the budget process. Figures are likely to change ahead of Town Meeting in March, when voters will have the final say on the town's expenditures.

"Town department heads prepared the proposed 2027 general fund operating budget using the direction provided by the Select Board," Town Administrator Derek Horne said.

"In terms of personnel, you have all the funded positions

from the 2026 operating budget, you have wage adjustments for voter-approved CBAs for DPW, Teamsters and firefighters. Those are multi-year collective bargaining agreements," Horne said.

Non-union wage adjustments include step advancements for eligible employees. Those wage increases are budgeted for Jan. 1.

"Overall, the operational portion of the budget is up 3.7% and that includes all the departments as well as debt service. CIP is up significantly but again, I think that mostly reflects that the capital projects have been cut significantly in the last three budget cycles or they've been put out to separate warrant articles and funded from fund balance," Horne said.

Proposed capital expenditures are increased from \$1.3 million to \$2.7 million. Total debt service remains constant at \$194,307.

Proposed budgets by depart-

ment vary in their difference over previous years. The proposed Town Hall budget is up 5.2%, from \$3.3 million in 2026 to \$3.5 million for 2027. The police department budget is up 1.2%, from \$6 million to \$6.1 million. It's a 5% increase at the fire department, from \$4.1 million in the default year to \$4.3 million in 2027.

The Department of Public Works' proposed budget

includes a 6.4% increase, from \$6.3 million to \$6.7 million.

At the Goffstown Public Library, Teresa Curtis, Chair of the Library Board of Trustees, said the 2027 proposed budget represents a 2% increase over the default budget.

"A little less than \$20,000 over the course of the year," Curtis said.

Areas of increase include furniture, to purchase "easy to

clean, wipeable" items.

"Our furniture is quite old. We're actually hoping that we will be able to continue to fund this line in future years," she said. "If you look you'll see some odd numbers because, at the request of IT for the town, we've taken our computer and communications lines and what was our telecommunications line and broken that across multiple lines," Curtis said.

Rightful liberty is unobstructed action according to our will within limits drawn around us by the equal rights of others. I do not add 'within the limits of the law' because law is often but the tyrant's will, and always so when it violates the rights of the individual.

~ Thomas Jefferson

Tim Coffin, Independent Candidate for State Representative

No Party Script. Just Answering to Deering and Francestown.

- **Time to Move On from Polarizing Politics**
Deering and Francestown are ready to put partisanship aside and focus on what strengthens our communities and economy.
- **Accessible & Accountable**
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- ☑ **I'm asking for your vote on Tuesday, November 3rd .**
Thank you!



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Sports



Newport takes the win over Newfound 22-0 at Saturday's Homecoming game!

FOOTBALL

Somersworth 40, Kearsarge 0: Somersworth defeated Kearsarge 40-0. Cameron Brand rushed for 48 yards and recovered a fumble. Aidan Ruckman had 3 catches for 60 yards. Chad Hemingway passed for 61 yards. Kearsarge also blocked a field goal.
Kennett 34, Bow 6: Colby Cloutier scored a touchdown for Bow.

BOYS SOCCER

Coe-Brown 3, ConVal 1: Tommy Maskwa 3 goals; assists from Lucas Riley and Abel Szatko; 7 saves by Nick Cimino.
Milford 3, ConVal 2: Visiting ConVal the top team in NHIAA Division II entering Tuesday, led 2-1 after a penalty-kick goal from Paxton Lathrop in the 43rd minute. The Spartans (4-2-4) struck twice in the final 15 minutes.
Kearsarge 2, Hopkinton 0: Sophomore Aden Sasi and junior Bryce Selby set the table for a 2-0 victory. Cougar junior goalkeeper Grady Burch made seven saves, including a crucial diving free-kick denial to his right on a shot by Hopkinton senior Rowan Boyle, to earn his clean sheet.
Hopkinton 5, Monadnock 2: Cooper Loew (2 goals), AJ Pratts (goal, assist), Ollie Zachn (goal), Wyatt Bouffard (assist), Jack Ashton (assist), Riley Riendeau (4 saves). Bouffard made a nice run at goal before laying the ball off for Loew to confidently finish.
Hopkinton 5, Sanborn 0: Rowan Boyle (2 goals), AJ Pratts

Public Town Hall
Saturday, October 17, 2026
at 10:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.
Deering Fish and Game Club
117 - 140 Fish and Game Road
Deering, NH

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Rep. Brian Cole, Hillsborough, District 26
House Ways & Means Committee Member
Rep. Mary Ford, Rockingham, District 3
House Ways & Means Committee Member
Rep. Mary Murphy, Hillsborough, District 27
House Ways & Means Committee Member

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State Rep.

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 Sports

(goal, 2 assists), Will Lee (goal), Ollie Zahn (assist), Henry Tomlinson-Dymont (goal), Cooper Loew (assist), Riley Riendeau (2 saves). Hopkinton carried the day at Sanborn, scoring in the 1st minute and dominating the play thereafter.
John Stark 2, West 0: Hunter Philibotte, first varsity shutout in goal. Ben Gosselin and Blake Maxwell led the defense. Owen Gitchell scored on a free kick to make it 1-0 in the 2nd half. Desmond Bogle scored a header from a Tanner Bell throw-in to make it 2-0. Tyler Gitchell stepped it up in mid-field. Gitchell's goal helped snap a 2-game scoreless streak for the Generals.

GIRLS SOCCER

Sunapee 3, Newport 0: Kaitlyn Andersen, goal, assist; Honey Miller, goal; Rayelle Nester, goal; Avery Miller, 1 save. Newport Sophie Runnels, 17 saves.
Hopkinton 3, Monadnock 0: Avery Chase (2 goals), Kaelyn Blagriff (goal), Brylee Chase, Tessa Barton, Emma Jenkins (assists), Jacey Marchand (shutout in goal), Tatum Zipke and Brooke Pickering strong defense. Freshman Kaelyn Blagriff's second career varsity goal in two games.
Hopkinton 4, Kearsarge 0: Jacey Marchand 2 saves, shut-out; Tessa Barton goal and assist; Avery chase goal and assist; Lily Sproles goal; Kaelyn Blagriff goal; Natalie Nichols assist; Brooke Pickering assist. Freshman Kaelyn Blagriff recorded her first varsity goal.
Bow 2, Kennett 0: Cara Van Dyke (goal), Anna Zerba (assist), Kyleigh Duval (assist), Gwen Barrieau (shutout). Midfield:

Brylie Gelinass, Jolee Trudel, Celia Roberge. Defense: Zoey Lupien, Reanne Hubbard, Madison Pfister, Autumn Betteridge, Abby Rae, Mily Jacobson. Forwards: Jaeden Kennedy, Hannah Couture, Ava Popielarz, Ava Adams. Kyleigh and Anna combined to find Cara, who hit a one-time shot in the upper corner for a 2-0 lead.
Bow 3, Oyster River 0: Zoey Lupien 2 goals (both Pks), Reanne Hubbard goal (first varsity), Jolee Trudel assist, Sierra Scull Shutout. Midfield: Kyleigh, Brylie and Abby; forwards: Cara, Jaeden, Anna and Hannah. Our defenders were also solid. Zoe hit two perfect penalty kicks 11 minutes apart in the first half to give the team a 2-0 lead.
Bow 1, Lebanon 1: Addison Young (goal), Kyleigh Duval (assist), Gwen Barrieau in net, Brylie Gelinass, Jolee Trudel and Abby Rae (midfield). Kyleigh made a nice short pass of a corner kick to Addison who hit a nice one touch past the keeper
John Stark 2, Memorial 0: John Stark: Avery Pellerin (2 goals), Amelia Fredette (1 assist), Brenna Crean (1 assist), Raegan Dennis (3 saves, shutout).
FIELD HOCKEY
Kearsarge 2, Newfound 1: Charlotte Knox (goal), Adella Monnatt (goal). Charlotte Knox with a goal, early in the 4th to ignite the spark we needed.
GIRLS VOLLEYBALL
ConVal 3, Coe-Brown 1: Josie McCutcheon (7 kills, 1 ace, 1 block), Aubry Heald (4 kills, 3 digs).

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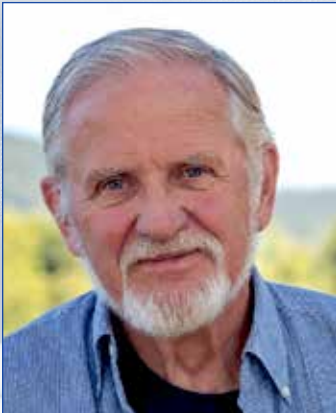


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Obituaries: Friends & Neighbors Remembered

Stephen Bryant Griffin

Francestown - Stephen Bryant Griffin, age 84, of Francestown, NH died on July 29, 2026 in his library, surrounded by his wife of 59 years, Janet English Griffin, his son, Chad Winthrop Griffin of New York City, NY, and his daughter, Lark Evangeline Preyapongpisan of Carnation, WA. Stephen Griffin was born July 1, 1942, the second of three boys, to his parents Frieda Mignon Griffin (nee Bryant) and Hobart Winthrop Griffin of New Albany, Indiana, both of whom predeceased him. He was also predeceased by his older brother, John Hobart Griffin of Chevy Chase, MD. He is survived by his younger brother, Peter Bourne Griffin of Harpswell, ME, and his two grandchildren, Kayleigh Blodwyn Griffin, and Angus Griffin Preyapongpisan.



Marilyn Barselle

New London - Marilyn Alice Barselle died peacefully on September 6, 2026, in New London at the age of 80. She was born on October 22, 1945, in Lynn, Massachusetts, to Alsis and Jean Hurd. She is survived by her sons, Mark and Brett Barselle; her daughters-in-law, Ellen and Kim Barselle; her brother, Fred Hurd; five grandchildren; and many nieces, nephews, and close friends. A graveside service and celebration of life honoring Marilyn and Jon will be held in the spring. Details will be announced later. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions can be made to Lake Sunapee Region VNA and Hospice.



Meaghan S. Sullivan

Hancock - Meaghan Siobhan Sullivan, who celebrated the beauty of the world around her, passed away on October 2, 2026, at the age of 44. Born on May 10, 1982, in Peterborough. She is survived by her beloved dog, Rumi; her mother, Maribeth; her brother, Sean, and his wife, Cheryl; her cherished niece, Josie; her many aunts, uncles cousins and her devoted friends. She was predeceased by her father, John P. Sullivan, who taught for many years at ConVal. A service for Meaghan will be held at the First Congregational Church of Hancock on Saturday, October 17 at 11:00 a.m. A reception will follow at the Vestry next door. In lieu of flowers, please consider donating to Live Free Animal Rescue.



Judith A. Kidder

Contoocook - Judith A. Kidder (née Flood) passed peacefully on September 25 at The Birches in Concord. She was born December 13, 1941. Judy is survived by her daughter and son-in-law, Laura M. Kidder and Denis T. Kingston; her son and daughter-in-law, Andrew C. and Kristina (Brierre) Kidder; and her two grandchildren, Dean (20) and Paige (18) Kidder. A celebration of life service and a reception will take place at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church in Hopkinton at 1 p.m. on Saturday, October 31.



Shirley Hewlett

Henniker - Born on November 27, 1946, in Jeffersonville, Indiana, to William and Stella Butski. She is sur-



vived by her husband Ron (Henniker, NH) children Lisa and Al Fuller (Arizona), Holly and Pete Ophardt (Arizona), Brett and Michelle Hewitt (Texas). Grandchildren: Kendra, Allison, Lauren, Callen, Aubrey, Olivia, Rylee, Weston and Kate. Mother: Stella Callen, Siblings: Bob Butski, Marlene Patterson, Paul Butski and Bill Butski. Celebration of Life will be held on October 24, 2026 at 1:00 p.m. at the Henniker Congregational Church. In lieu of followers a donation can be made in her name to the Henniker Congregational Church.

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Residential & Commercial

Events: Community Bulletin Board

OCTOBER 1-21

SCARECROW CONTEST: Create a scarecrow to sit on a bench in one of Henniker's beautiful public spaces. Register and choose your location at Henniker House B&B front porch. Contact Susan Adams 774-644-1239 for more information.

SATURDAY OCTOBER 17

FULLER LIBRARY: Learn How to play Mahjong at Fuller Public Library 11am-12pm, helping to teach us will be staff and patrons from the Shedd Free Library in Washington. Please call to register, 603-464-3595.

SATURDAY OCTOBER 17

HARVEST SUPPER: Dine-in at 5 or 6:30pm, pre-order a takeout on pickup at 4pm. \$12 per plate, children 10 & under free. Smith Memorial Congregational Church. Reservations recommended. Call 603-831-3624.

SUNDAY OCTOBER 18

THE AREA CHOIR: Do you love Christmas music? Do you enjoy making music with others? We are inviting singers to bring in the season in song! Whether you have sung with a choir before or have any church affiliation, The Area Choir is for all who love music. No previous experience needed.

The Choir rehearses Sundays from 4-6:30pm, beginning October 18. Rehearsals are held at South Congregational Church, 20 Church Street in Newport, NH. For questions or online registration email TheAreaChoir@gmail.com, visit The Area Choir Facebook page or call 603-848-8848.

WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 21

CANDIDATES NIGHT: The Antrim-Bennington Lions Club will be hosting a New Hampshire State Senate Candidates Night. Present will be candidates Jim Creighton and David Trumble. This session will take place on the second floor of the Antrim Town Hall and will begin with a "meet and greet" between 6:30pm and 7pm. The two candidates will then have the opportunity of making three-minute opening statements. Then, between 7:07 and 8pm, attendees will pose questions which they have written on 3"x5" cards. At 8pm the candidates will make three-minute closing statements. We look forward to seeing you at this important gathering.

FRIDAY OCTOBER 23

FULLER LIBRARY: Managing Stress at Any Age, 1-2pm at Fuller Public Library, sponsored by Granite Visiting Nurse Association. Please call to register, 603-464-3595.

TUESDAY OCTOBER 27

FULLER LIBRARY: Author Ken Sheldon returns to Fuller Public Library to talk about his new book Captain John Manley: Patriot, Privateer, and America's Forgotten First Hero. After years of research Ken has written the first comprehensive biography of this Revolutionary hero. Join us at 6pm, books will be for sale as well.

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

AA MEETINGS

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

Looking for help?
Have something to sell?

Send Classifieds to:
Granite Quill Publishers
246 West Main St., Hillsboro, NH
or email: leighb@tds.net



WE ARE IN NEED OF AUCTION DONATIONS

Our Annual Online Auction will start November 1st
THIS IS ONE OF OUR BIGGEST FUNDRAISING EVENTS!!!
Items needed by Friday, October 16, 2026



MOST NEEDED ITEMS:

- Homemade items • Services
- Gift Baskets • New items
- Gift Cards/Certificates (Restaurants, Activities, Variety Stores, Gift cards for children)



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PUBLIC NOTICE

TOWN OF HILLSBOROUGH SUPERVISORS OF THE CHECKLIST

The Supervisors of the Checklist will be in session **Friday, October 23, 2026 1:00-1:30 p.m.**, at the Hillsborough Town Offices at 27 School St., Hillsborough for the purpose of corrections, party changes or new registrations. New voters should bring a photo ID, proof of citizenship (birth certificate, passport or Naturalization papers) and proof of residency. Please go to www.sos.nh.gov if you have any questions, or attend any session of the Supervisors.

This will be your last opportunity to change your registration or register for the upcoming election on November 3.

TOWN OF HENNIKER

SUPERVISORS OF THE CHECKLIST NOTICE

October 28, 2026 Supervisor of the Checklist Meeting, 6:00 at the Henniker Town Hall.

The Supervisors of the Checklist registering new voters. Please bring a photo id, a birth certificate or passport, and proof of domicile. (ie: vehicle registration, utility bill, deed or lease agreement). These requirements are mandatory, if you do not have all required document you cannot register to vote. We will also be accepting party affiliation changes, address changes, and name changes. Please bring documentation of any changes.



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OCT 17
10AM-1PM**



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SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 2026 • 11AM-5PM
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LIVE MUSIC

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GERMAN FOOD FEST



ACTIVITIES 11AM-3PM

Woodsmen Show
Axe Throwing
Kids' Activities
Inflatables
Chairlift Rides



BOTH EVENTS ON THE SAME DAY!

55TH ANNUAL PATS PEAK SKI TEAM 11AM-3PM

SKI & SNOWBOARD SALE

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With Level II Refresher from 10:00 - 12:00 noon*

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Your instructor: JoAnn Wentworth is a retired medical/surgical nurse, health educator, present day yoga instructor and Usui Reiki Master Teacher who has been offering her gift for over 10 years to many including animals.

PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED BY NOVEMBER 7, 2026

Non-refundable registration fee: \$25.00

Reiki II course fee of \$125.00 includes training materials

Reiki II refresher fee: \$50.00

*Official Usui Holy Fire certification upon completion of Level II

CONTACT: JoAnn Wentworth, ART - Reiki Master Teacher

www.sweetshalayoga.com

manipurahealing@gmail.com or text 508-735-5661

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†MUST BUY 2 OR MORE



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