

THE Hooksett Banner

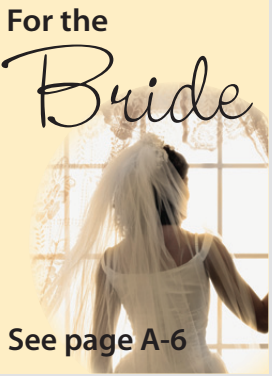
In Your Neighborhood

JANUARY 20, 2011

NEWS OF ALLENSTOWN, AUBURN, CANDIA, EPSOM, HOOKSETT & PEMBROKE

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16 PAGES



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This week in the NEW HAMPSHIRE SUNDAY NEWS

◆ Facebook battles – Find out what happens when the world of social networking collides with that of parenting.

◆ Got powder? – The slopes are covered, and so is the latest news on skiing in Paula Tracy's First Tracks column, only in the New Hampshire Sunday News.

Stars of the Week

Cameron J. Lencki

Cameron J. Lencki of Candia, daughter of Stan Lencki of Auburn and Donna Lencki of Candia, and a 2010 graduate of Derryfield School, has been named to the dean's list for outstanding academic achievement during the fall semester of the 2010-11 academic year.

A student must earn a grade-point average of 3.5 or higher on a scale of 4.0 to receive dean's list recognition.

Lindsay Christie and Jacob T. Persons

of Pembroke have been named to the dean's list at Clarkson University in Potsdam, N.Y.

Dean's list students must achieve a minimum 3.25 grade-point average and also carry at least 14 credit hours.

Christie is a sophomore majoring in computer engineering.

Persons is a freshman majoring in mechanical engineering.

Send us your stars!

Send your announcements to editor@hooksettbanner.com. Attach a photo of your star if possible.

What's Up

◆ Winter Festival – The Massabesic Audubon Center hosts a Winter Festival on Saturday, Jan. 22, from 1 to 4 p.m.

Try a variety of winter activities, like tracking or snowshoeing, meet some live animals, make some crafts and enjoy hot chocolate.

Bright future



Kathleen Bailey Photo

Melanie "Lanie" Yeames, left, goes over college materials with Corinne Foreman, her guidance counselor at Pembroke Academy. Yeames, a senior from Pembroke, has applied to Boston College, Boston University, Duke, the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and the University of New Hampshire.

► Pembroke

College choices

Now's the time to get applications in

BY KATHLEEN BAILEY
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Recent snowfall made Melanie "Lanie" Yeames year for Barbados, where the Pembroke Academy senior spent a good portion of her elementary and middle-school years. But her college selections are strongly weighted toward chillier climes – in addition to Duke University in North Carolina and the University

at of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, she's sent out applications to Boston College, Boston University and the University of New Hampshire.

Yeames is a bundle of contradictions, a country girl who loves Boston, a serious student who wants a college where she can have fun, a potential valedictorian who doesn't know what she wants to do. But she knows whatever she does

will include college, and she treated her college application process like another part-time job.

Yeames researched and visited her schools, finding something to like about each of them. While she thinks she'd enjoy the more campus-like Boston College, she was "blown away" by BU's urban setting and can easily see herself in Ken-

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Old Epsom Meeting House needs to meet code

BY KATHLEEN BAILEY
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Four years ago this February, Epsom's cherished old Meeting House safely made the journey from the Cumberland Farms site to its present location in a town-owned complex farther down Route 4. But the 1840s building has met a new bump in the road, as fire officials recently detailed the improvements needed to bring it up to code – and occupancy.

George Carlson, chairman of the Meeting House Stewardship Committee, and Epsom Fire Capt. Matt Moulton met recently before the Board of Selectmen to discuss the needs.

Moulton said he had gone over the architectural study commissioned by the Stewardship Committee. He said the



The old Epsom Meeting House before its move in 2006

study lacks a thorough explanation of where the building is not up to life safety and building codes, and that the state fire marshal had concerns.

"He thinks we are putting the cart before the horse," Moulton said. And according to the National Fire Protection Code, he said, "We have the

right to ask for an engineering plan."

For example, Moulton said, the architectural study has the main level front door listed as the "exit of discharge." That won't work, Moulton said, pointing out, "For an 'exit of discharge,' you have to be able to step out onto the street." The front doors open out to a set of stairs, he said. "There are seven steps to the street."

The building will also need an alarm system, Moulton said, and "depending on its use," a sprinkler system. He said the building has 2,300 square feet of usable space, and at the recommended 15 square feet per person, it has the capacity to hold 300 people. The engineering study will tell the town what's needed for safety protection, he said.

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► Hooksett

Time to pay the piper

No saving turns into tough choices

BY DAN O'BRIEN
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Hooksett town councilors are continuing to sift through at least \$856,000 worth of capital improvement requests for next fiscal year and debating how to lessen the blow to taxpayers.

They were expected to review the requests, and likely eliminate several of them, at their meeting on Wednesday, Jan. 26.

On Jan. 8, some town councilors conceded the town had not done enough in previous years to put aside money for things like snowplows and road and building repairs.

Department of Public Works Director Dale Hemeon said four of his dump trucks

that also function as snowplows are well past their life-spans.

"I'm afraid that in two years they won't get (inspection) stickers on them," he said. If that were to happen, the functioning trucks would take on double the work until new vehicles are purchased.

Two of the trucks are 13 years old, and the other two are 14. The trucks are supposed to be rotated out of service every seven years by industry standards, Hemeon said.

"The major issue here is long-term planning," said Council Chairman Bill Gahara, who has proposed paying for capital improvement items over three years instead of

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► Epsom

Changing course

Legislation may get action on river shift

BY KATHLEEN BAILEY
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The newly elected state representatives of Districts 7 and 8 are drafting an ambitious bill to finally correct the problems with the Suncook River, which changed course in May 2006 and has been affecting their constituents' quality of life ever since.

The change of course, also called an avulsion, has been the focus of four towns' concern as they determine how to correct a wayward river

that has brought property damage, property devaluation and headaches to Chichester, Epsom, Pembroke and Allenstown.

J. Brandon Giuda, a Chichester attorney and new House member, is the principal sponsor of a bill request for 2011. In addition to Giuda, sponsors of the bill include representatives Dan McGuire, Carol McGuire and Tony Soltani, all of Epsom; Rep. Jon Richardson of Allenstown; Rep. John

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► Allenstown

Sewer cost overrun will go before voters

BY DAN O'BRIEN
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It will be up to voters to decide if sewer officials can use \$360,108 in a reserve fund to pay for a 22.5 percent cost overrun of a sewer facility expansion project.

Selectmen were first told by sewer officials this month that an expansion of the Allenstown Wastewater Treatment Facility would actually cost the town \$1.98 million – not the \$1.625 million figure given to the public at a special town

meeting in 2009, when voters approved the project.

Officials said the \$360,108 needed has already been raised, so there will be no direct tax impact. They also said half of that money, about \$180,000, will likely be reimbursed by the federal stimulus package, saying Allenstown is high on the list of communi-

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