Welcome Officer Luis M. Berdecia

Officer Berdecia was born and raised in New York City. He bounced around between Queens and The Bronx throughout his childhood. Officer Berdecia Graduated from Forest Hills High School in June 2002.

In March 2005, Officer Berdecia joined the U.S. Marine Corps, and served as an Aircraft Rescue and Firefighter from 2005 to 2013. Officer Berdecia separated from the Marine Corps as a Sergeant with an Honorable Discharge. While in the Marine Corps, Officer Berdecia met his lovely wife.

After separating from the Marine Corps, Officer Berdecia was a stay-at-home dad as he pursued his Bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice through Strayer University. In 2016, after receiving his Bachelor's degree, Officer Berdecia moved to NH, where his wife resided prior to her joining the Marine Corps.

Officer Berdecia began his career in law enforcement as a Dispatcher with the Concord Police Department in January 2017. After six months as a Dispatcher, Concord PD hired Officer Berdecia as a full-time Police Officer.

In November of 2018, Officer Berdecia was hired by the Henniker Police Department as a full-time Police Officer. Officer Berdecia and his family reside in Henniker.

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**2019 IMPORTANT DATES**

1/22/19: 7-7:30pm Supervisors of the voter checklist meet.

1/23/19: First day for candidates to file declarations of candidacy with Town Clerk

2/1/19: Last day for filing declarations of candidacy with the Town Clerk (5pm)

2/5/19: Last day to petition Board of Selectmen to include a warrant article on the warrant

2/12/19: 6:30pm Board of Selectmen - Public Budget Hearing at the Community Center

3/1/19: Last day to file for tax abatements/ deferrals

3/2/19: Last day to register to vote/ Supervisors of the checklist hold a 30 minute

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**JANUARY SCHOOL CALENDAR**

Jan. 21: NO SCHOOL, Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

HCS:

Jan 7-10: Artist in Residence. Focus–Latin America. Henniker 6th grade students learn to play the panpipes and with Jose Lezcano and Capoeira, a form of martial art and dance from Brazil, with Brandon Marger. There will be a public performance at 7:00pm Thursday, January 10 in the gym. This event is free and open to the public.

Jan. 8: Henniker School District Board Meeting, 6:15pm in the school library.

Jan. 8: Henniker School District Public Hearing: Budget, 7:00pm in the school library.

Jan. 31: Winter Concert, 6:30pm in the gym.

JSRHS

Jan. 11: Energy Project Open House, 6:00pm. Come see and hear about the completed biomass project (including wood boiler, silo for wood chips, and propane backup boiler). In the
Session.
3/11/19: Absentee ballots must be returned to Town Clerk's office by 5:00pm
3/12/19: 7:00am-7:00pm Town Meeting Part 1 Elections/voters may register to vote at the polls in the Henniker Community School Gym
3/16/19: Town Meeting 1:00pm in the Henniker Community School Cafetorium
4/30/19: All 2018-19 dog licenses expire. All dogs need to have 2019-2020 dog licenses.

SCHOOLS:
1/18/19: 7pm HCS Budget Public Hearing
2/4/19: 7pm HCS Deliberative Session
1/11/19: 7pm JSRHS Budget Public Hearing
2/8/19: 7pm JSRHS Deliberative Session

Expiring Terms of Elected Officials:
Board of Selectmen: (1) 3 year term
Cemetery Trustee: (2) 3 year terms
Town Treasurer: 1 year term
Cogswell Spring Water Works Commissioner: (1) 3 year term
Planning Board: (2) 3 year terms
Trustee of the Trust Funds: (2) 3 year terms
Tucker Free Library Trustee: (1) 3 year term

Lieutenant Christine Archibald has been an active member of Henniker Fire and Rescue since November 2016.
Lt Archibald started her Firefighter/EMT career in Gilford, NH and then more recently in Windsor, NH before joining the Henniker Fire and Rescue Department.
Lt Archibald was recently hired as a full-time level II Fire Fighter/EMT Daytime Lieutenant.

NEWS FROM THE ASSESSING DEPARTMENT
With the mailing of the December tax bill, filing time has once again started for exemptions and credits, abatements and deferrals. If you are elderly, disabled, blind, a veteran, a veteran's widow/widower, have a solar system or a wood heating system, or are unable to pay taxes due to poverty or other good cause you may be eligible

Henniker Hazard Mitigation Plan Update 2019 Begins
The Town’s Hazard Mitigation Committee will soon be meeting to update the Henniker Hazard Mitigation Plan 2014. Every 5 years, the Plan must be updated and approved to current requirements to ensure the Town’s continued eligibility for federal disaster recovery and mitigation grant project funding. Recent past and potential natural disasters, severe weather events, and other hazard events will be assessed and critical facilities and vulnerable areas and populations will be identified. The Committee will review existing mitigation capabilities and develop long-term risk reduction mitigation actions to help alleviate the impact of these events to Henniker’s people, buildings, and property.
The Committee will hold its first meeting on Monday, January 14, 2019 at 9:00 AM at the Henniker Town Hall, 18 Depot Hill Road, Henniker. Additional meetings will be scheduled at this time. The draft Henniker Hazard Mitigation Plan Update 2019 document is anticipated to be completed in summer 2019.
All unique perspectives from stakeholders, engaged citizens, businesses, and organizations are invited to attend and participate in the Town’s hazard mitigation discussion and decision making. For more information, contact Stefanie Costello, Emergency Management Director via email at townofhennikeremd@gmail.com.

JANUARY EVENTS AT THE TUCKER FREE LIBRARY
Story Time with Miss Laura! Join us for Piggie & Gerald stories and activities throughout January. Wednesdays at 10:30 AM.
January 2 - Celebrate 2019
January 9 - We are in a Book!
January 16 - Winter Colds
January 23 - Awards
January 30 - Goodbye January

Sundays at the Library - January 13th @ 2 PM
Meet Henniker author Dana Biscotti Myskowski for a brief reading from her new novel, "I Cannot Play with You" and a question and answer session. "Sick with a disease that doesn’t officially exist, a state director for a U.S. Senator struggles to make sense of her boss’ suicide as she investigates the suspicious activities of the state’s other U.S. Senator.”

Sundays at the Library - January 27th @ 2 PM
Chapter 97:4 The Town of Henniker Highway Department/Board of Selectmen is not responsible for damage to, but not limited to, mailboxes, fences, stone walls, driveways or any other object(s) placed within the ‘right of way’ of any town road or street. The town’s Highway Department utilizes plowing equipment that is able to freely pass along or under a mailbox that conforms to a 44” (the average prescribed by the US Postal Dept. recommendations) height from ground to bottom of mailbox.

HCS Focuses on Latin America for Artist in Residency (AIR) Program 2018-19

The sixth graders in Henniker will begin their long awaited opportunity to experience the Artist in Residence (AIR) program at the Henniker Community School during December and January of the 2018-19 school year. The AIR program in Henniker is designed to enrich and expand the study of cultures from around the world. This year’s program will focus on the rich culture of Latin America with a focus on Mexico and Brazil.

Henniker sixth graders expanded classroom study of Latin America began in early December when teaching artist Shana Brautigam of Rooted in Clay in Rindge, NH, worked with students creating alebrijes sculpted in clay. Alebrijes are Mexican creatures of imaginary spirit gods. To add another dimension to the project, the students formed small balls of clay to insert inside the hollow alebrijes turning them into rattles. Students also formed ocarinas out of clay. Each student formed, decorated, and glazed their alebrijes and ocarinas in their own distinctive way.

In January, two other artists will come to the Henniker Community School and work with sixth graders for four days, January 7-10, 2019. Artists Jose Lezcano will teach the 6th graders how to play the panpipe while artist Brandon Marger will teach them Capoeira, a form of martial art and dance that originates from Brazil. There will be a public performance and at the school in the evening of January 10, 2019 at 7 PM in the gym.

"The AIR program at HCS provides such a rich learning opportunity for our students to gain a deeper understanding of another culture," said HCS Principal Karen Raymond. "Our world is only getting smaller and the AIR program provides our students with a more global education and a better understanding of their place in the world," continued Mrs. Raymond.

This is the 18th year sixth grade students at the Henniker Community School have experienced the Artist-in-Residency program. Following the sixth grade social studies curriculum, the areas of intensive study include Africa, South America, India, and Japan. The AIR program is supported by the taxpayers of Henniker and the Henniker PTA.
White Birch KnitWits

The White Birch KnitWits would like to thank everyone who shopped at the December 8th Holiday Sale at White Birch. Over $1,000 was raised to support the White Birch Active Living Program. Nothing can beat quality hand-made products - especially those of the White Birch KnitWits.

It was a very successful day and the KnitWits look forward to making this an annual event!

First Acoustic Café Concert and Open Mic Scheduled

Second Annual Acoustic Café which will take place in the NEC Pub once again. On January 27 the series kicks off with Decatur Creek, followed by Celtic Duo, Shindy on February 24 and concluding with State Street Combo on March 24. All the programs are from 5:00 - 7:00 PM on Sundays in the Torrington Arms Pub, Simon Center, New England College. In addition to the featured performers at each event, local musicians are invited to prepare 2-4 numbers and sign up for Open Mic slots. See the attached flyer for all dates and performers.

Decatur Creek Kicks Off Acoustic Café Series

Join us for the Second Annual Henniker Concert Acoustic Café Series on Sunday, January 27, 2019, 5:00 - 7:00 PM, The Torrington Arms Pub, Simon Center, New England College for a concert by featured performers Decatur Creek and an Open Mic session for local acoustic musicians.

The trio of Jack Henry, Steve Dionne, and Doug Farrell, all accomplished NH musicians, singer/songwriters, and performers, met as solo performers through local NH coffeehouses and Open Mics. Attracted by each other's songwriting and musicianship, they decided to team up and formed Decatur Creek early in 2012. From their very first practice and performance together they realized there was musical chemistry that compelled further exploration. The 2016 addition of Beth Eldridge (The Bradford Bog People and The Hardtacks) on fiddle, vocals, and guitar has taken the band to another level. Their diverse styles, backgrounds, and skills complement each other and the group's evolving original acoustic sound will bring a smile to your face, rhythm to your feet, and leave you wanting for more.

Doug and Steve handle most lead vocals, rhythm and lead guitar, with increasing forays on mandolin, harmonica, and percussion. Jack mans the bass, most harmony and some lead vocals, some rhythm and lead guitar, with ever-more dobro, and occasional lap steel. Beth Eldridge soars on fiddle and harmony vocals, and some lead vocals with solid turns on rhythm guitar.

Veteran songwriters Doug and Steve have created most of the band's primarily original repertoire with Jack and Beth contributing the rest. Their influences run from traditional roots to Americana - country, singer/songwriter, folk, blues, and rock - always with the focus on the songs, lyrics, and vocals. They perform throughout southern and central NH, VT, and northern MA at coffeehouses, listening rooms, farmers markets, restaurants, festivals, and community events, and have been featured on several NH radio stations including WSCS New...
In addition to completing the site-preparation work for the new entrance this fall, the replica of the entrance arch has arrived! It is being stored for the winter at Michie Corporation and will be installed this spring.

Martha and Ron Taylor, who donated the funds for the arch, had a chance to see it “in the flesh”. Yes, it is real and will be put in place in the new entrance along with the kiosk built by Dan Paul, stonework, boulders and plantings. Let’s all look forward to an early Spring and a safe way to enter the park!

In addition to the performance by Decatur Creek, local musicians are invited to prepare 2-4 songs and sign up for Open Mic slots at the Café. The Acoustic Café Series is sponsored by New England College, and the Town of Henniker’s Community Concert Committee. There is no cover to attend the concerts, but donations for the musicians will be graciously accepted. Refreshments and beverages will be available for purchase in the Pub, Simon Center, New England College. For more information, contact hennikerconcerts@henniker.org

John Broderick to Present R.E.A.C.T.
Mental Health Awareness Campaign at SAU 24 Schools in January & February

Dartmouth Hitchcock Senior Director of External Affairs and former NH Chief Justice to share personal experiences with mental illness to destigmatize and educate audiences

John Stark Regional High School and 7/8th Grade Students from the Henniker Community School & Weare Middle schools to Participate

John Stark Regional High School will host John Broderick, Senior Director of External Affairs at Dartmouth Hitchcock and former NH Chief Justice on January 8, 2019 at 9:30 AM in the Gym (snow date is Jan. 9) and at the Weare Middle School on February 6 at 9 AM in the Cafe (snow date is Feb. 7) as part of Dartmouth Hitchcock’s R.E.A.C.T. mental health awareness campaign, which provides individuals with tips on how to recognize signs of emotional suffering and how to seek support for themselves and others.

In preparation for these visits by John Broderick, 48 Peer Leaders and other student leaders from John Stark have been training in workshops to help normalize mental health—how to notice signs that someone might need help (but not to counsel) and how to reach out to others and get them the assistance they need. This group of John Stark students will facilitate conversations with small groups of students after Broderick speaks at the high school and again with Henniker and Weare 7th/8th graders following his visit to the Weare Middle School in February.

R.E.A.C.T. supplements the “5 Signs” campaign developed by Change Direction, which is based on the premise that, like knowing the five signs of a heart attack or stroke, we should all know the five signs of emotional distress—Recognize, Express, Act Now, Care, Text “signs” (to 741-741 or call 1-800-273-8255).

The R.E.A.C.T. campaign is presented by Dartmouth-Hitchcock in collaboration with the Children’s Hospital at Dartmouth-Hitchcock (CHaD), the New Hampshire Department of Education, the Vermont Agency of Education and other agencies and civic leaders.

Who: John T. Broderick, Senior Director of External Affairs at Dartmouth Hitchcock & former NH Chief Justice

Where & When: John Stark Regional School: 1/8/19 @ 9:30am in the Gym
Weare Middle School 2/6/19 @ 9:00am in the Cafe.
HCS students to join WMS.

Rotary News
A busy month for Rotarians which included hanging holiday wreaths in downtown Henniker, holding the annual in-house holiday auction, selling birdseed wreaths and the twelve month raffle tickets at the Henniker Historical Society’s Cookie Sale, culminated in members, plus a group of students from the John Stark Spanish Honor Society, spending a recent Saturday evening serenading seniors with seasonal holiday songs and carols. Old favorites like I’ll Be Home for Christmas, Jingle Bells, Hark the Herald Angels Sing as well as a rousing rendition of Feliz Navidad filled the air as club members and seniors joined together in song. The Rotary Club’s Dan DaCosta organizes this event every year which involves a festive visit with residents at Rush Square and a number of other residents’ homes around town. As much as the seniors and homebound folks enjoy their personal concerts, Rotarians are filled with joy as they are
SEEKING PHOTOS

Photos for the Town Website

*Photos for the Town Website need to be cropped to 720 pixels wide by 270 pixels high.

Photos for the 2018 Town Report

Please submit all photos for consideration to hennikeradmin@tds.net

TOWN WEBSITE

Stay informed daily!
www.henniker.org

Join Our Mailing List!

VOLUNTEERS

If you are interested in becoming a member of a town committee please call 428-3221 x1 or email hennikeradmin@tds.net to learn how.

DR. LORRAINE TACCONI-MOORE NAMED 2019 NEW HAMPSHIRE SUPERINTENDENT OF THE YEAR

The New Hampshire School Administrators Association, in coordination with the American Association of School Administrators, has announced that Dr. Lorraine Tacconi-Moore is the New Hampshire Superintendent of the Year for 2019. Dr. Tacconi-Moore, Superintendent of Schools for the Henniker, Weare, John Stark Regional and Stoddard School Districts (SAU #24) will receive a special award during the AASA National Conference on Education in Los Angeles, CA, in February 2019.

Lorraine was selected for this honor by a panel of her peers and from a distinguished group of nominees. Marjorie Burke, Chair of both the Weare and SAU 24 School Boards, and Jacqueline Coe, Assistant Superintendent of SAU 24, noted that Lorraine often takes limited resources and creative thinking in order to optimize the SAU and Districts’ budgets to improve all five schools that the SAU serves. Marjorie Burke said, “Lorraine has a strong focus on doing what is best for kids; their needs are first and foremost in all her efforts to provide optimum opportunities for learning.”

Lorraine’s educational background includes a Bachelors of Arts from Smith College; a Masters of Art Education from Rhode Island School of Design; and a Doctorate of Education from the University of Massachusetts-Lowell. Lorraine started her administrative career as Director of Fine Arts for the Groton-Dunstable Regional School District and then became Assistant Principal for Groton-Dunstable Regional High School. She then became Principal at Littleton Junior-Senior High School before becoming Assistant Superintendent of Schools in Westford, Massachusetts. Lorraine became Superintendent of Schools in SAU 24 in 2010, where she remains today.

Lorraine currently serves as an executive board member and president-elect of the New Hampshire School Administrators Association; is a past chairperson and current member of the
Southwest Superintendent Regional Committee; is a member of both the American Association of School Administrators (AASA) and Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development (ASCD). Lorraine is also a past member of the Massachusetts Art Education Association. She has also participated in many local committees, has received many honors and awards, and was most recently selected by Homeland Security and Emergency Management to be part of their interview panel, representing K-12 education.

Lorraine attributes her success to her family: her husband, Dennis, who has championed her throughout her career, her two children, Gina and Greg, her four Italian immigrant grandparents, and her parents. Lorraine believes that the many years she spent as a classroom teacher has made her a better superintendent, and values the positive working relationship she has with her four school boards. In her free-time, Lorraine enjoys designing jewelry, cooking for family and friends, antiquing, and spending time by the ocean.

Dr. Carl Ladd, executive director of the New Hampshire School Administrators Association, stated, “Lorraine is an outstanding representative of the many school superintendents in our state who work every day in support of public education. She is a strong and vigorous advocate for students and their families and is a true Champion for Children.”