



## Seacoast Roundup: Defending state tennis champs win opener

SPORTS, 1B

# Portsmouth Herald

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## I-95 suicide barrier systems recommended

### Plan introduced to reduce deaths on Piscataqua River Bridge

**Ian Lenahan**  
Portsmouth Herald  
USA TODAY NETWORK

PORTSMOUTH — Wire net and rod fencing systems have been recom-

mended for potential installation on the Piscataqua River Bridge to reduce future deaths by suicide off the Interstate 95 span.

Stantec, an engineering consultant, completed a suicide barrier feasibility

study for the high-level structure connecting Maine and New Hampshire, one of three bridges between Portsmouth, New Hampshire and Kittery, Maine.

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A sign on the Piscataqua River Bridge reminds people that help is available for anyone experiencing a mental health crisis. DEB CRAM/SEACOASTONLINE



Jody Papandrew, middle, learned a letter written in 1962 by Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. to her father-in-law, late Portsmouth Rev. John Papandrew, is worth of tens of thousands of dollars through an appraisal on "Antiques Roadshow." To her left is appraiser Catherine Williamson, and to her right is her son, Jordan Papandrew. PROVIDED BY JODY PAPANDREW

## 'It's such an intense, powerful letter'

### MLK Jr. letter to late Portsmouth minister on 'Antiques Roadshow'

**Ian Lenahan**  
Portsmouth Herald  
USA TODAY NETWORK

PORTSMOUTH — A 1962 letter from Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. to a Portsmouth minister and civil rights activist received an appraisal of tens of thou-

sands of dollars on "Antiques Roadshow."

The late Rev. John Papandrew received King's letter that October, shortly after the end of the Albany Movement. King praised Papandrew's efforts in the widespread bid to desegregate all public facilities in Albany, Georgia, between

1961 and 1962, which served as a precursor to the spring 1963 Birmingham Campaign. Papandrew traveled to Albany alongside other clergymen from the north and was arrested during a prayer protest.

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## Hampton releases employee earnings of 2025

**Max Sullivan**  
Portsmouth Herald  
USA TODAY NETWORK

HAMPTON — Police and fire employees topped Hampton's earnings list in 2025, with overtime playing a major role in their total pay.

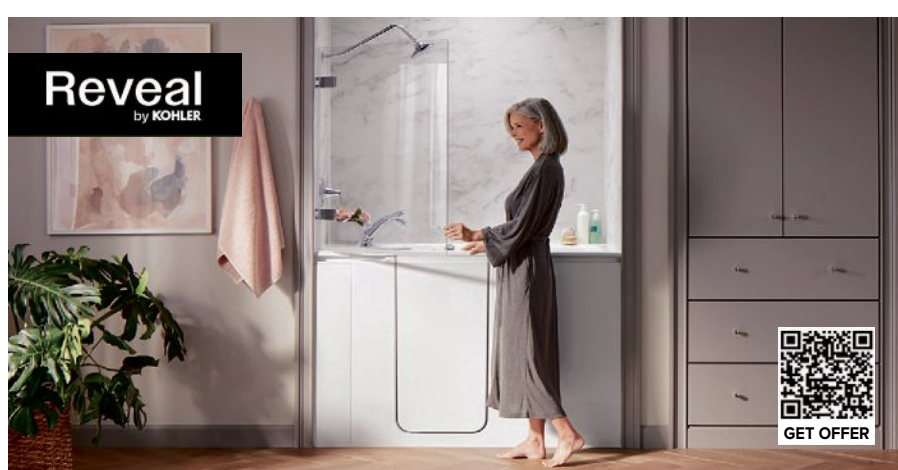
Sgt. Robert Kenyon was the town's highest earner at \$191,083.78, followed by Sgt. Christopher Keyser at \$190,419.03. Town Manager Jamie Sullivan ranked third at \$189,954.68. With the exception of Finance Director Kristi Pulliam, who earned \$143,320.69, the rest of the top 30 were members of the police and fire departments.

Town employees earned a combined \$16,585,328.36 in 2025, according to the town report. Of that total, \$13,474,516.04 was base pay and \$2,690,080.13 came from overtime. Employees logged 51,520.50 overtime hours that year.

Other forms of compensation included in employee wages — such as sick and vacation time buybacks, severance and health-insurance reimbursements — are listed as "other earnings" in the town report. The town paid a total of \$420,732.19 in these categories to certain employees.

In some cases, "other earnings" made up a significant share of an employee's total pay. Matt Newton, who retired last year as Hampton's fire prevention officer, earned \$27,524.84 in base pay but received \$46,828.82 in

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