

THE Hudson Times

April 2, 2026 ♦ Volume 4 – Issue 13

A FREE Weekly Publication



Staged Fable Adithi Gundagathi and Gavin Burke will play Beauty and the Beast in the Hudson Memorial School's upcoming performance. 85 members of the Drama Club will be taking part in the production and they were busy rehearsing last week. See more photos page 8 and 9. Photo by Chris Paul

NHDOT Formally Pulls Plug on Circumferential Highway

PAUL CONYERS
HUDSON TIMES

The long running saga of the Circumferential Highway may finally be coming to an end. After decades of debate, shifting plans, and stalled progress, the New Hampshire Department of Transportation (NHDOT) returned to Hudson last week to outline its intention to formally dissolve the project and begin disposing of the land it has held for years.

Special Projects Engineer Bill Oldenburg opened the discussion by acknowledging the project's complicated history and the confusion surrounding it. "What we're here for is to talk about dissolving the Circumferential Highway lay-

out," he said. "In recent years there have been a lot of different proposals called the Circumferential Highway."

The idea dates back to the 1950s, when regional planners first envisioned a 12 mile "inter-state style" connector looping through Hudson and surrounding communities. A detailed public hearing in 1985 marked the project's first major step forward, but momentum never fully materialized. Over the years, multiple redesigns attempted to address environmental concerns, wetlands impacts, and shifting development patterns. Still, the project repeatedly stalled due to a lack of local support and the enormous fund-

ing required to build it.

Oldenburg explained that dissolving the highway layout is more than a symbolic gesture. "When we say 'dissolving the highway,' what do we mean? It will officially end the project," he said. "It will also remove all of those commitments we might have made, and it will hopefully relieve abutter concerns. It also allows us to dispose of any property we acquired as part of these projects."

NHDOT currently owns 30 parcels in Hudson, seven of which contain homes. Under state law, unimproved parcels will be offered to the town first at fair market value, while improved par-

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Brewster Selected for HR Position, Town Clerk Needed

ALEX MALM
HUDSON TIMES

The Town of Hudson will begin searching for a new Town Clerk following the appointment of current Clerk Michelle Brewster to the newly created Human Resources Generalist position.

Hudson Selectmen approved the appointment during their most recent meeting, marking a significant step in the town's effort to strengthen its internal HR capacity.

Selectman Heidi Jakoby, who served on the interview committee, said Brewster excelled throughout the process. "She did extremely well on her interview in every way, shape, and form, so I am honored to make

this motion," Jakoby said.

Town Administrator Roy Sorenson echoed that confidence, noting that the interview process was extensive and included a practicum. "I think you'll be a great fit for this position," he told Brewster, adding that she "checked all the boxes." Sorenson said the HR Generalist role has been discussed for years as part of a long term plan to modernize and strengthen the town's personnel operations. "This has been a position talked about for quite a while," he said. "It's a stepping stone to get us to where we might want to go someday."

Brewster, who has lived in Hudson for four or five years, expressed gratitude

for the opportunity and pride in her service as Town Clerk. She recalled stepping into the role in 2024 "having absolutely no clue what I was stepping into," but said she quickly came to appreciate the importance of the position. "I loved every minute of it," she said. "It's a position that is misunderstood. It is my hope as the new HR person to promote and to find someone that takes as much pride in it as I do and to really let people know what that position is about."

She described the Town Clerk's Office as a meaningful way to serve the community. "This is a fantastic opportunity to give back to your town," she

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Hudson's Zoning and Land Use Regulations Getting Overhauled

PAUL CONYERS
HUDSON TIMES

The Hudson Planning Board signaled its intent to undertake one of the most comprehensive updates to the town's zoning and land use regulations in years, following a presentation on March 25 from Director of Development Services

Elvis Dhima. The effort would be funded through a \$200,000 contribution from the ongoing Target development project, money that Dhima said presents a rare opportunity to modernize and streamline the town's regulatory framework.

Dhima told the Board that Hudson's current ap-

proach to zoning changes has become a "whack-a-mole" process, with small fixes appearing on the ballot each March to address isolated issues rather than advancing a cohesive long term strategy. This piecemeal approach, he said, runs counter to the Planning

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BOS Delay Leadership Vote, Police Earn National Accreditation, Low Voter Count Discussed

ALEX MALM
HUDSON TIMES

The first Hudson Board of Selectmen meeting following the March Town Election became a wide ranging discussion about leadership, civic engagement, and professional standards in town government, beginning with a major recognition for the Hudson Police Department and ending with the Board postponing its own officer elections until all members could be present.

Town Administrator Roy Sorenson opened his report by announcing that the Hudson Police Department had earned its eighth accreditation from the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA), a distinction held by only about 4% of the roughly 18,000 public

safety agencies nationwide. Hudson first earned accreditation in 2003 and has maintained it continuously for more than two decades, placing it among CALEA's "meritorious" agencies—an elite group representing fewer than half a percent of accredited departments.

"I had the privilege of being with the Police Department when they received their eighth accreditation for CALEA," Sorenson said, noting that the achievement reflects years of consistent work. Agencies must meet 461 standards covering policies, procedures, budgeting, training, and accountability. "They don't all have to be," Sorenson said. "They choose to be. It's not easy to do."

He credited Lt. Roger Lamarche for leading this year's accreditation effort

under Chief David Cayot. "He did a fantastic job," Sorenson said. "This is one of the chief's priorities since becoming chief midway through last year. It takes a lot of work. A lot of municipalities can't do this because they can't get commitment from people." Some communities even hire civilian accreditation managers to keep up with the requirements, he added, making Hudson's internal success especially notable.

From there, the Board shifted to the annual reorganization of its own leadership. Traditionally, the Selectmen choose a chair and vice chair at the first meeting after the March election. However, Selectman Bob Guessferd was unable to attend, prompting Selectman Heidi Jakoby to

move to delay the vote until April 14 out of courtesy.

"Typically, there's a full board present," Chair Dillon Dumont said. "The bylaws state the election takes place after the March election, but it's really the will of the Board." Dumont supported the delay, noting that the Board has the authority to adjust its own procedures. "The bylaws are created by the Board of Selectmen, and the Board can make amendments at any point in time by formal motion," he said. "It would be a good courtesy to Selectman Guessferd, as he had emailed me requesting such." The Board unanimously agreed to postpone the officer elections.

With the delay, Dumont asked members to begin preparing their committee

liaison preferences so they can be finalized quickly once the new chair is selected. He also reminded the Board that the Planning Board ex officio appointment will need to be addressed soon, noting that last year the Selectmen approved the ex officio member and allowed the chair to appoint the alternate. He said he would work to ensure coverage for the Planning Board meetings formerly attended by retired Selectman Dave Morin.

The meeting also touched on voter participation in the March elections, where only 2,786 residents cast ballots—about 16% of registered voters. "Obviously, the national elections get more voters out," Sorenson said. "But it's probably the local elections that affect you the most."

Dumont, who also serves as a State Representative, said low turnout is a statewide concern and has prompted legislative discussions in Concord. "There are numerous bills that have gone through the House and the Senate to try to change or fix that issue," he said. "It's statewide. It's not just Hudson that has an issue with local elections in March." One idea under consideration is aligning local elections with state primary elections to boost participation. "There's been conversations over putting state primary elections and the local election together to try to increase turnout," Dumont said. "It hasn't gone anywhere yet. One of the bills last year was killed on the House floor. I would expect to see something again come up this year."

Under 16% of Voters Participate in 2026 School District Election

ALEX MALM
HUDSON TIMES

The School Board received a sobering update on voter participation during its most recent meeting, as School District Moderator Paul Inderbitzen reported that turnout for the 2026 School District Election reached only 15.9 percent. Inderbitzen did not soften his assessment, telling the

Board that the turnout was "disappointing" and noticeably lower than in previous years. "There didn't seem to be as much interest in this year's election as in the past," he said, noting that election workers processed an average of 214 voters per hour across both polling locations.

Despite the low turnout, Inderbitzen emphasized that

Election Day operations ran smoothly. Checkin lines moved efficiently, and neither location experienced delays or backups. The new ballot tabulators performed well, with only a few minor jams, though the machines did slow slightly when processing multiple ballot pages. "There was a little backup at the ballot boxes due to a few seconds' delay

before a second ballot could be inserted and due to the number of pages," he explained, but added that the equipment functioned reliably throughout the day.

Voter identification requirements also posed no significant issues. At Alvirne High School, one voter had to retrieve an ID before being allowed to cast a ballot, and several new registrants initially lacked the necessary documents. "They all returned later and were able to register to vote," Inderbitzen said.

One area of concern involved ballot errors. A total of 171 ballots were spoiled, a number Inderbitzen attributed to confusion caused by the unusually large number of ballot pages for both Town and

School District questions. "I believe that the large number of Town and School ballot pages to be voted resulted in voter error in marking their choices and having to request replacement pages," he said.

Inderbitzen expressed appreciation for the staff and volunteers who supported the election, thanking Principal Beals, Ryan Leary, and the custodial team at Alvirne, as well as Principal Bowen, Angel Borrero, and the custodial staff at Memorial School. He also recognized the GFWC Hudson Women's Club for assisting with the counting of writein ballots at the end of the night.

During public input, former School Board member Mike Campbell reflect-

ed on the contrast between local election turnout and the heavy participation seen during the 2020 Presidential Election, when lines stretched long enough to prompt a citizen petition to establish a second polling location. Campbell noted that despite the improved infrastructure and favorable weather this year, turnout for local elections remains consistently low. He acknowledged that some residents point to uncontested seats as a reason for voter apathy, but argued that the ballot still contains many important warrant articles. "Your tax rate is a major thing that is decided in town elections," he said, urging the Board to continue encouraging residents to participate.



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Questions Grow Over Cost of SingleStream Recycling

PAUL CONYERS
HUDSON TIMES

The Sustainability Advisory Committee spent much of its March 23 meeting questioning how to maintain a recycling program that residents value while confronting the rising costs of single stream collection.

Director of Public Works Jay Twardosky opened his presentation with a blunt assessment. "As far as recycling goes, I know it's a hot topic and we're always trying to get people to recycle more," he said. "But the big topic is that the more we recycle, the more it costs the town." The problem, he explained, is not philosophical but economic. Glass has virtually no market value. Most plastics are unprof-

itable. Paper and cardboard "about pay for themselves," but not much more. Metals remain the only reliably profitable material.

Other communities are facing the same pressures. Twardosky pointed to Kingston, which recently shut down its recycling center and removed most plastics from curbside pickup to save money. Manchester, meanwhile, is piloting a source separated automated collection system in hopes of reducing contamination and lowering processing costs.

Committee member Deb Putnam suggested that Hudson's reliance on single stream recycling, where all materials are mixed together, may be part of the problem. "We had to sort, you

used to have different bins in front of the house," she said. "What about trying something driven more by those in town that want to recycle and are willing to bring in the physical effort if they want to bring it to the Transfer Station?"

Shifting back to a more labor intensive model would trigger regulatory and logistical hurdles. According to the DPW, any major change in how the Transfer Station operates would require new permits and likely a more advanced facility, including updated baling equipment, an expensive proposition.

Hudson's recycling rate hovers around 20 percent, but processing that material costs significantly more

than disposing of trash. Twardosky warned that the town has already spent \$56,415.30 more this fiscal year than it would have if all recyclables had simply gone to a landfill or incinerator. "It's always nice to try and get people to recycle more, but it's not an offset," he said. "Yes, it comes out of the trash, but now it's going to the recycling truck and it's going to take more recycling trucks along with the trash trucks. There's going to be other administrative costs."

Much of the expense comes from the need to manually sort materials after they arrive at the facility, a step that single stream systems rely on heavily. Twardosky said the depart-

ment is exploring "other avenues" to increase recycling in a cost effective way, including the possibility of volunteers helping with sorting or a partial retreat from single stream collection.

Committee member Kate Messner pressed for clarity on where Hudson's waste actually ends up. "Where does our trash go? What landfill? Where do our recyclables go? We don't have a material recovery facility," she said.

Twardosky explained that most Hudson trash is hauled to a landfill in Bethlehem, while recyclables are sent to various facilities depending on material type and market conditions. Hazardous waste, such as asbestos, may travel as far as

Ohio if local containment is not feasible. Hudson's contract with Casella runs through the 2027 fiscal year, but costs are expected to rise in the next contract due to inflation, fuel prices, and the declining value of many recyclable materials.

"If there's no market for an item, they're not making money, they're not even breaking even," Putnam said.

Twardosky agreed, noting that any future changes must be grounded in realistic cost estimates. "There's some costs in there that have to be known," he said. "If we want to change how we do things, we need to know how much it's going to cost to have the facilities we need to change things."

Donations Accepted to Support Benson Park Improvements, Restoration Efforts

ALEX MALM
HUDSON TIMES

A portion of the recent Board of Selectmen meeting was on two donations aimed at improving Benson Park, including a significant contribution for new historic marker posts and a monetary gift to support the restoration of the park's iconic Lions Pride statues.

Town Administrator Roy Sorenson informed the Board that Gate City Monument had offered to donate three granite marker posts for installation at Benson Park. The donation was brought forward by Susan Clement, Vice Chair of the Benson Park Advisory Committee (BPAC), who has been working with the committee to prepare for the installation of newly acquired state

historical plaques.

"I have been contacted by Susan Clement... regarding a donation by Gate City Monument for three granite marker posts to be erected on the Benson Park property," Sorenson wrote in a memo to the Board. The posts will hold plaques provided by the State Historical Society and will mark three of the park's historic structures: the Office/Kitchen Building, the Train Station, and the Hazelton Barn.

Sorenson said he has already coordinated with Public Works Director Jay Twardosky to ensure the installation is handled properly. "He will help with the logistics, remedial items, and ensure the work is done correctly," Sorenson noted.

Selectman Heidi Jako-

by, who serves as the Board's liaison to BPAC, emphasized the significance of the project. She explained that the three buildings receiving plaques are listed on the National Register of Historic Places, and that BPAC Chair Jack Madden worked extensively with the state to secure the plaques.

"The big question was always, how are they going to go up, and how are they going to stay up, and how is it going to look?" Jakoby said. She added that the donation provided an unexpected but ideal solution.

"Thankfully, we had the opportunity for the gentle-

man from Gate City who had these three pieces of beautiful pink granite that he had gotten over 30 years ago," Jakoby said. "He really believes in this town, has lived here for a long time, and thought this would be the perfect use for them."

The Board unanimously accepted the donation, valued at \$4,900, with gratitude.

In a separate matter, the Selectmen also accepted a \$200 donation from the Hudson Lions Club to support the ongoing restoration of the Lions Pride statues, which once stood at Benson's Wild Animal Farm and were returned to the park in 2024.

"The Hudson Lions Club has graciously donated a check for \$200.00 for the Lions Pride Restoration," Sorenson wrote in a memo. The funds will be deposited into the Benson Park Advisory Committee's donations account.

Jakoby thanked the Lions Club for their continued support. "Just want to point out and thank the Hudson Lions Club for their donation of \$200 towards the Benson Park Advisory

Committee for them to look at the lions that are there waiting to see if they can be healed," she said.

The two donations reflect the ongoing community investment in Benson Park, which continues to evolve through volunteer efforts, local partnerships, and preservation initiatives. With new historic markers on the way and restoration work progressing, the park remains a focal point of civic pride.

OBITUARY

Emily Harriett Morrison



Emily Harriett Morrison of Nashua, passed away on Friday March 27, 2026 surrounded by her loving family.

Beloved Mom to her 8 children, Grandmother to 13 grandchildren and 17 great grandchildren.

She was a devoted wife to Richard Morrison for 67 years, until his passing in 2021. Emily loved life, fashion, art, laughing and The Lord with all her heart.

Following cremation, a Service of Remembrance was held on Tuesday, March 31 in the Alvirne Chapel. To share an online message of condolence, please visit www.dumontsullivan.com. The Dumont-Sullivan Funeral Home in Hudson is in charge of arrangements.

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Editorial

April a Month of Lightness, Renewal, and Reflection

April brings a mix of traditions, and each one seems to carry its own message. We start the month with April Fools' Day, then moving into Easter, and Passover follows close behind finishing up with Earth Day. Different holidays, different histories, but together they say something about who we are and how we move through the world.

April Fools' comes first, and while it's known for jokes, there's a purpose to it. After a long winter, a little laughter isn't such a bad thing. It reminds us not to take ourselves too seriously and that a small moment of humor can break tension and lighten the load. In times like these, a hardy laugh can go a long way.

Then Easter arrives, bringing the first real signs of spring with it. Even without the religious meaning, Easter has always been about new beginnings. The days getting brighter and longer, families gather, and the world starts to wake up again. It's a reminder that no matter how long or cold the season has been something fresh is always waiting on the other side.

Passover follows, carrying a message that resonates with anyone who has ever had to push through a hard time. It's a story about endurance, courage, and the strength to move

forward. The traditions; the meal, the storytelling, the gathering of generations; remind us that resilience is built step by step, and that remembering where we've been helps guide where we're going.

And as the month winds down, we close April with Earth Day; a fitting end to a month built on reflection and fresh starts. Earth Day asks us to look beyond ourselves and think about the world we share. It's a reminder that renewal isn't just personal; it's something we owe to the planet and to each other. Small actions matter. They add up. They shape the kind of community, and world, we leave behind.

Put together, these observances offer a pretty balanced picture of what this season is all about. A little humor. A sense of renewal. A reminder of resilience. They encourage us to show up for one another, the plant, and appreciate what we have, and stay hopeful even when the path ahead isn't perfectly clear.

So as April unfolds, take a moment to breathe it all in. Hers to laughter, new beginnings, resilience, and responsibility. Let this season bring out the best in you, and let it remind us all that even in a big world, one person can still make a difference.

Selectmen Get PFAS Funding Update, OK Speedway License

ALEX MALM
HUDSON TIMES

The Hudson Board of Selectmen covered two significant issues during its most recent meeting, receiving an update on the state's PFAS settlement program and reviewing the annual operating license for the Hudson Speedway. Both items highlighted the town's ongoing efforts to manage long term environmental impacts while also overseeing local business operations.

Director of Development Services Elvis Dhima briefed the Board on the PFAS Compensation Fund for Public Water Systems, noting that the update was informational and required no immediate action. In a memo to the Selectmen, Dhima explained that the State of NH has reached settlement agreements with 3M, DuPont, Tyco, and BASF to resolve claims related to per and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) contamination in public drinking water systems.

"The New Hampshire Department of Justice is submitting claims on behalf of eligible water systems," Dhima said. Because communities are at different stages in addressing PFAS contamination, the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services has grouped systems to guide the strategic distribution of settlement funds.

Based on the state's criteria, the Hudson Water Department has been placed in Group 2, which includes systems with PFAS detections that may require mitigation projects in the future. As a result, Hudson is expected to receive \$1,006,228 in compensation.

Dhima said staff is now working with the state to determine which projects and expenditures will qualify for reimbursement. "Updates will be provided as additional information becomes available and as the Town continues to address the impacts of PFAS contamination," he wrote.

Board of Selectmen Chair Dillon Dumont, who also serves as a State Representative, said the state delegation will continue to stay engaged as the settlement process moves forward. "We'll continue those conversations and make sure that we follow right up that food chain," he said.

Following the PFAS briefing, the Board turned its attention to the annual operating license for the Hudson Speedway, a recurring item that often draws discussion due to traffic, safety, and neighborhood impacts.

Town Administrator Roy Sorenson reported that the premises had been inspected and that both the Inspection Services Division and the Police Chief submitted

conditions that must be met before the license is issued. "The application is only applicable for races May through Nov. 1, 2026," Sorenson noted.

In a memo to the Board, Police Chief David Cayot outlined several additional requirements for the 2026 racetrack license. They include:

1. **Parking Restrictions:** Speedway owners must ensure patrons are advised, through signs and announcements, of no parking on Old Derry Road, Robinson Road, Putnam Road, and Senter Farm Road. Patrons and race teams should be encouraged to exit via Robinson Road to Route 102 after events.

2. **Police Details:** A minimum of two police officers must be assigned to the racetrack and paid by the owners. Officers must arrive 30 minutes before the first race to address safety and parking issues and remain until the final race concludes. If Hudson officers are unavailable, the detail will be offered to mutual aid agencies.

3. **Alcohol Compliance:** All laws and ordinances regarding the proper and safe service of alcohol must be followed.

The Board reviewed the conditions and ultimately approved the Speedway's license for the May – November 2026 season.

Brewster

Continued from page 1

said. Brewster noted that she holds a human services degree from Southern New Hampshire University, is a mother, and takes pride in her work. "I treat my coworkers like family, and I feel like I have expressed that in my time here," she said.

With Brewster's transition underway, the town has officially posted the Town Clerk vacancy. According to the job description, the position oversees elections, maintains official town records, handles motor vehicle registrations and licensing, and manages the daily operations of the Clerk's Office in accordance with NH law. Applicants must be

Hudson residents.

Interested candidates are asked to submit a cover letter and résumé to:

Email: ContactClerk@Hudsonnh.gov Address: Michelle Brewster Human Resource Generalist Town of Hudson 12 School St., Hudson, NH 03051

The position will remain open until filled.

The Hudson Times welcomes letters of up to 500 words on topics of local interest, and prints as many letters as possible. Please e-mail your letters to the Hudson Times at hudsontimes@nutpub.net. All letters must include the writer's name, address and phone number for verification if needed; name and town of residence will be printed. The Hudson Times reserves the right to reject or edit letters for content, length, and frequency. Anonymous letters will not be printed.

THE Hudson Times

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Air Force Junior ROTC Students Tour Gettysburg



Twenty-nine juniors and seniors from the Air Force Junior ROTC program at the Palmer CTE Center traveled to Gettysburg and Philadelphia, PA, recently.

Cadets began their trip on a Thursday in Gettysburg with a ghost tour that evening, followed by next day visits to the Gettysburg National Park Museum and the national cemetery, plus a licensed battlefield tour. Saturday was spent in historic Philadelphia, where cadets visited the Museum of the American Revolution, Independence Hall, the Liberty Bell, and the National Constitution Center, along with enjoying an authentic Philly cheesesteak lunch. The trip was planned and organized entirely by the cadet lead-

ership team, with juniors and seniors working on the itinerary and fundraising throughout the school year.

“The AFJROTC fourth-year class focuses on managing the cadet corps, and this trip showcases their work,” said Senior Aerospace Science Instructor Chris Cole, Col., USAF (Ret.). “AFJROTC asks a great deal of these cadets, and this trip also serves as a culminating experience before graduation.” Cole added that the trip was made possible through the generous support of Hudson VFW Post 5791 and American Legion Post 48, and that the program aims to offer a similar experience every two years.

Courtesy photos

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Hudson Approves Addition of Four Firefighter AEMTs

ALEX MALM
HUDSON TIMES

Hudson voters approved a major public safety investment earlier this month, passing a warrant article that will allow the Fire Department to hire four additional firefighter/ AEMTs. The article passed by a margin of 1,661 to 1,050, reflecting strong community support for expanding emergency response capacity as the town continues to grow.

The proposal asked voters to raise and appropriate \$590,629 to cover the full cost of salaries, benefits, and equipment for the four new positions. During the Deliberative Session, Selectman David Morin explained that the funding request was designed to be comprehensive, ensuring the department could bring on the new hires without needing supplemental appropriations later in the

year. The Board of Selectmen recommended the article on a 3–1 vote, while the Budget Committee voted 4–6 not to recommend it.

Morin told voters that the request stemmed from a clear operational need. “The background for this is to maintain adequate staffing levels to ensure continued delivery of higher quality emergency services,” he said. “This addition would bring the daily minimum staffing to 13 members, enhancing operational efficiency, reducing response times, and improving firefighter safety through better crew coverage.”

He outlined the cost breakdown in detail: \$288,813 for salaries, including base wages, contractual overtime, and holiday/community event compensation; \$271,522 for benefits such as health, dental, pension, and insurance;

\$23,884 for personnel protective equipment; and \$6,410 for uniforms. Morin emphasized that the proposal was structured to fully support the new hires from day one. “These additions are critical to sustaining operational readiness, improving response time, and enhancing community safety,” he said.

Hudson Fire Chief Scott Tice also spoke during the Deliberative Session, addressing voters both as the department’s leader and as a taxpayer. “I don’t want my taxes to go up any more than anybody else does,” he said. “But as a fire chief, I have a responsibility to ensure public safety, your

safety. So it is my responsibility to come forward when I have a gap that prevents us from providing what I feel to be an adequate level of public safety.”

Tice said the department has made progress in recent years but still has work to do. “Last year, with the support of the Board of Selectmen, the Budget Committee, and the voters, we went from 11 on shift to 12 a shift, with the stated goal of getting to 14 a shift,” he said. “Emergencies get worse with time. They don’t get better until we have enough of the proper resources on the scene to complete all the important tasks that need to be done to

make it better.”

He stressed that staffing levels directly affect response times, safety, and the department’s ability to manage simultaneous calls, a growing challenge in a community experiencing steady residential and commercial development. Ultimately, he said, the decision rests with the voters. “Through your vote, you get to choose what level of safety you want and what level of safety you’re willing to pay for.”

Following the election, the Hudson Firefighters posted a public message thanking residents for their support. “We want to thank the voters of Hudson for

their trust and support,” the statement read. “Passage of the town budget and the addition of four firefighters will go a long way toward allowing us to keep up with our growing town and provide the highest level of service to you and your family. We are extremely humbled and grateful for your continued support, and we are proud to be a part of our great community.”

With voter approval secured, the Fire Department will now begin the process of recruiting and onboarding the four new firefighter/AEMTs, a move officials say will strengthen emergency response capabilities for years to come.

Planning

Continued from page 1

Board’s longstanding goal of maintaining a clear, comprehensive set of rules consistent with the Master Plan.

“Whenever the Planning Board is ready, one of the things that keeps coming up are plans related to improvements of your zoning and planning rules,” Dhima said. “Every time you fix something, something else comes up.” He recommended using a portion of the Target funds to “set up a good

foundation” ahead of the next Master Plan update by hiring outside experts to help reorganize, simplify, and reconcile the town’s zoning and land use ordinances.

Dhima proposed setting aside up to \$100,000 for the project, describing the figure as a ceiling rather than a firm cost estimate. The work would include public input, a full review of existing ordinances, and the creation of tools, such as an appendix sheet, to make it easier for residents, developers, and businesses to find relevant information. He also emphasized the

need to eliminate contradictory language that has accumulated over years of incremental changes.

Vice Chair Jordan Ulery asked Dhima to clarify what “cleaning things up” would entail. Dhima explained that the goal was to organize the regulations into a coherent, user friendly system. Board member Ed Van der Veen echoed the need for a comprehensive overhaul. “So far, every time we’ve made changes, we haven’t followed through,” he said. “We still have some contradictions between Zoning and Planning. I think we need to get this thing done.”

Dhima stressed that the funding would come entirely from the Target development agreement and not from taxpayers. The pro-

cess, he said, would likely take several months and include at least two public hearings. If the work stays on schedule, the Planning Board could have a unified zoning article ready for the March 2027 ballot.

“You’d have one article related to zoning that we’d do all at once, and then you’re in a good place,” Dhima said. “If this is done right, future changes should only be related to the state legislature changing things.”

Board members agreed with the proposal and voted to request the release of \$100,000 from the Target payout to begin the work.

The next Planning Board meeting is set for Wednesday, April 8, at 7 p.m. in the Buxton Community Development Conference Room

OBITUARY

Jean Ann (Porter) Malley



Jean Ann (Porter) Malley passed away peacefully surrounded by family after a brief illness. Jean was born on March 26, 1953, in Great Falls Montana to her parents Carl and Catherine Porter. She grew up in Pepperell, MA. She is preceded by her husband Thomas Malley and parents Carl and Catherine Porter.

Jean was known for her kind heart and her love of everyone she crossed paths with. She enjoyed the ocean, spending time with her family, laughter and deep conversations. She also enjoyed going out to eat with her favorite people, including her friend of 60 years, Julie Maher. In her younger years she enjoyed camping with her husband Tom and hosting family cookouts and holiday events. Jean could be found tending to her flower gardens in good weather or enjoying a gorgeous sunset on a clear night. As the years went by, Jean’s true love was her family. She could be seen at any school function for her 5 grandchildren who she adored. When you asked Jean about family, she lit up with pride!

Jean was employed at TJ Malley Electric from the start, as one of the founding members, dedicating 27 years to the company. She spent her days running the office, answering the phones and greeting all the customers with the utmost kindness and professionalism.

She is survived by her three siblings, Donna Peterman and her husband Brian, David Porter and his wife Liz, and Gail Porter and her husband Ed. Jean is also survived by her three children, Christopher Malley and his wife Nina, Timothy Malley and his wife Melissa, and Kimberly Buccarelli and her husband Nick. She was the devoted, proud and loving grandmother of 5 grandchildren Ava Malley, Timothy Malley, Nicholas Buccarelli, Nolan Buccarelli, and Kaylan Malley. She is also survived by 9 nieces and nephews, as well as many great nieces and nephews.

A time of visitation was held on Wednesday, March 18 in the Dumont-Sullivan Funeral Home. A Mass of Christian Burial was held on Thursday, March 19 in St. Kathryn Church, 4 Dracut Rd., Hudson. All are asked to please meet at church. Burial will be held in Holy Cross Cemetery in Hudson. In lieu of flowers, the family encourages donations be made in Jean’s loving memory to Home Health & Hospice Care, attention Community Hospice House in Merrimack at www.hhhc.org.

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Early Budget Numbers Raise Concerns as Food Service Costs Continue to Grow

PAUL CONYERS
HUDSON TIMES

The Hudson Budget Committee met on March 4 to address several ongoing financial concerns, including rising food service costs that are expected to remain a major issue heading into the next budget cycle. The discussion followed the School Board's recent decision to raise meal prices for the 2026-2027 school year.

"The breakfast prices for meals are being raised

by 50 cents at the elementary level, 75 cents at the middle school level, and about 25 cents at the high school level. That will go into effect July 1, 2026," explained School Board Liaison Dan Kilgour. "Lunch prices are also set to increase, 65 cents at the elementary level, 80 cents at the middle school, and 55 cents at the high school."

Kilgour said the changes were made after a presentation from the SAU 81

Food Services Director and were finalized before the March 10 town election.

"This was a decision we did not take lightly. I don't like raising prices, and the Board doesn't either," he said. "To address some of the shortfalls that were brought up during the last budget season regarding food service and being self sufficient, we are looking at other avenues to bridge some of those gaps."

Several Budget Com-

mittee members questioned whether raising prices alone would solve the problem.

"With those new numbers for the food service, are you still projecting a deficit?" asked Committee member Kevin Walsh.

Kilgour responded that the price increases were only one part of a broader effort to address projected shortfalls.

With both the school and town sides facing unresolved financial questions, the committee renewed its call for earlier access to preliminary budget numbers.

"I think we were all very upset with how late we got the budgets this last year," said Committee

member Shawn Jasper. "We may not have control over that, but I would hope that the school and the town would want to work with us a little more when things happen. Budgets can be done, and always were done, earlier. We used to get both budgets around the first week of October."

Jasper asked Town Administrator Roy Sorenson whether the town could provide at least a rough draft of the 2026-2027 budget by October.

"I'm not opposed to it. I'll look at the schedule this year," Sorenson said. "I'll be speaking with the Board of Selectmen. I think the Board is open to anything as

long as the schedule matches our meeting schedule, we'll just plug those things in."

Last year, the committee was unable to fully analyze and issue recommendations on both budgets before December, a timeline members hope to avoid repeating.

"We can get a little more detail and have more in-depth conversations around things as opposed to speed dating," Walsh added. "That's the value in having more time."

The next meeting of the Hudson Budget Committee is scheduled for Wednesday, April 1, at 7 p.m. in the Buxton Room at Town Hall.

Highway

Continued from page 1
cels will be offered to the current residents who live on them.

Residents at the meeting sought clarity on what the dissolution means for property boundaries and documentation. "Will surveyors mark these properties' boundaries? All the deeds are recorded, right?" asked resident Roger Hubert.

Officials confirmed that all deeds are properly recorded, though many parcels were never fully surveyed or marked because the project remained in limbo for so long.

For some residents, the announcement marked the end of a decades long fight. "I'm thrilled this is over," said resident Randy Brownrigg. "I've lived here since '95 and campaigned to stop this highway." Brownrigg

also pressed for details on the scale of the land holdings. "How many acres do you have in Hudson?"

Oldenburg did not have a precise figure but estimated that "several hundred" acres would be affected by the dissolution.

Eric Sargent, Administrator for NHDOT's Bureau of Right-of-Way, emphasized that the department intends to dispose of all the parcels once the highway layout is officially dissolved. "Once we get this dissolved, we're going to be diving into each parcel deeper," he said. "It is planned to dispose of them all, though we have to do more research."

The Hudson Conservation Commission signaled early interest in acquiring some of the undeveloped parcels for permanent preservation. Speaking as a commission officer, Ken Dickin-

son said the land could play a meaningful role in protecting open space and natural resources.

"We need time to discuss it in a public setting, and there's interest in talking to a land trust - maybe more than one," Dickinson said. He also asked how long it would take for NHDOT to complete the appraisals needed to prepare the land for sale.

Full appraisals are not expected for at least a year, according to Oldenburg. However, he assured town officials that NHDOT would be responsive if the town identifies priority parcels. "If you want a parcel, we will prioritize getting that work done," he said. "We can line all of our ducks up and get them ready for what you need with funding or closing or whatever. We're willing to work with you."



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Be Our Guest

There are 85 Hudson Middle School students taking part as cast and crew of the Drama Club's performance of Beauty and the Beast. Adithi Gundagathi will be playing Belle with Gavin Burke as the Beast. With performances scheduled for Friday, April 10 and Saturday April 11 at 6:30 p.m. on the Hudson Memorial School Gym stage.

Other characters include: Gaston - Eli Erickson; Lefou - Willow Stegall; Lumiere - Juliette Wade; Mrs. Potts - Joanna Beat-

tie; Maurice - Scarlet Adkins; Cogsworth - Genna Weaver; Silly Girls are played by Ivory Olson, Elyse Goulet, Audriana Gaudet; Babette - Evelyn Henderson; and Madame de la Grande Bouche - Julianna Martson.

The plays directors are: Becca Crivello - Director & Music Director; Olivia Gannon - Choreographer; Brianna Stevens - Art Director; Heather Fillmore - Tech Director; and Karen O'Brien is the Costume Designer. Ticket can be purchased at: hmsdramaclub.ludus.com. More photos on next page. *Photos by Chris Paul*

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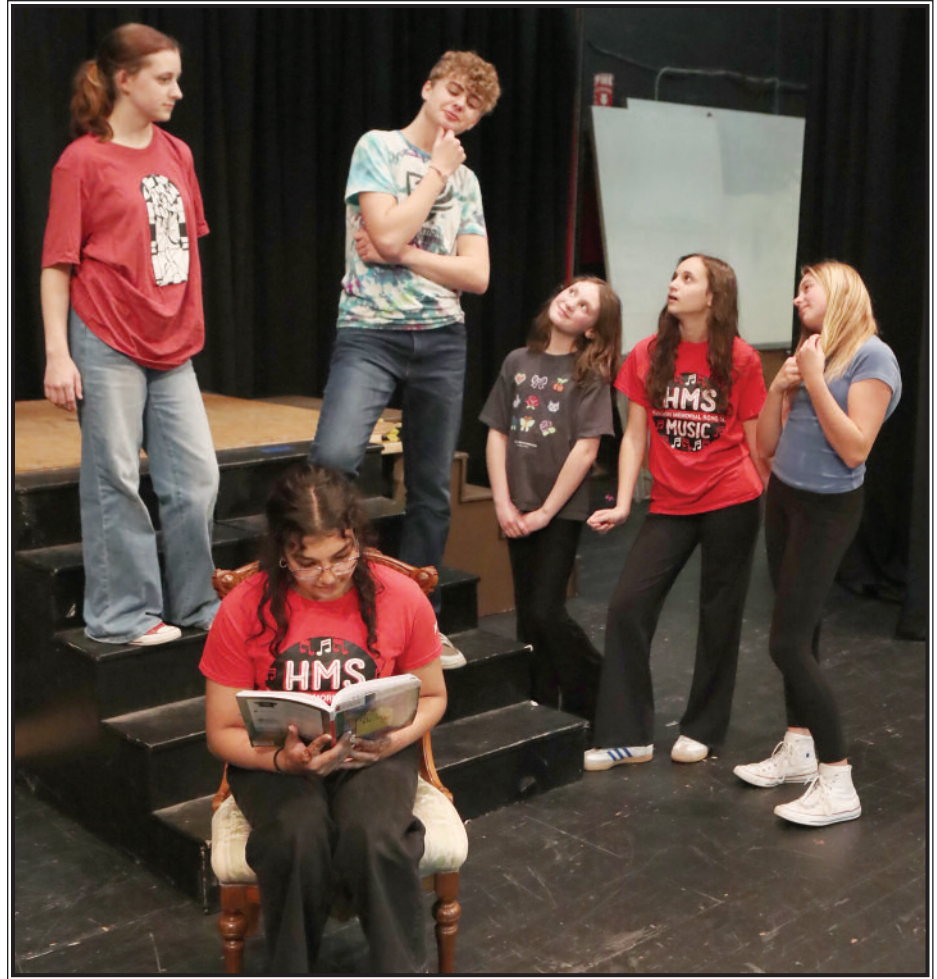
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Sustainability Committee Prepares for 2026 Opening of Transfer Station

PAUL CONYERS
HUDSON TIMES

The Hudson Sustainability Advisory Committee opened its March 23 meeting with a familiar goal, strengthening ties between the town and its students. This month's meeting welcomed Phoenix Adkins, a representative from the Alvirne High School Sustainability Club, continuing the Committee's effort to bring younger voices into its work.

"We welcome that club to have student representatives join us for our regular monthly meetings to share with us what they're doing

with their programs," Chair Karl Huber said. "We give Phoenix and the other students our packet, so they can see the agenda and the projects we're talking about."

Adkins said the club is eager to help with outreach, especially through posters and school based communication. "I do a lot of the posters for my club," Adkins said. "I can bring them to my principal, he signs it, photocopies it, and I can put posters basically wherever."

The Committee quickly turned to one of its biggest ongoing collaborations with the Department of Public Works: composting. Direc-

tor of Public Works Jay Twardosky reported that the town's first large scale composting effort is finally ready for residents. "We screened a bunch of compost at the Transfer Station, and that is going to be ready to start handing out to citizens April 4," he said. A soil analysis will be posted on a large sign at the compost pile, and residents will be allowed five gallon pails per visit. The pile contains "a couple thousand yards" of composted material, an early milestone in what the Committee hopes will become a broader residential composting program.

The timing aligns with the seasonal reopening of the Hudson Transfer Station, which will operate on Saturday, April 11, and Saturday, April 25. "It's all information stored on the Transfer Station website," Huber said. On those days, residents can dispose of household items, construction and demolition debris, and outdoor materials. A separate Household Hazardous Waste Collection will take place on April 18 at 25 Crowne Street in Nashua.

Twardosky noted that the Transfer Station's availability is especially important as the weather warms.

"The majority of the people in this town wouldn't do it, but occasionally we find stuff dumped on the side of the road," he said. "Almost every single bit of it is stuff we take at the Transfer Station. You can scratch your head as to why they would dump that instead of something that we don't take."

Beginning April 4 and continuing through next winter, residents will also be able to drop off metal, cardboard, and yard waste every Saturday without using one of their three annual Transfer Station passes. Committee member Chris Thatcher asked how much

material the town typically processes. Twardosky said the Transfer Station handles metal and cardboard "whenever we can spring through fall," and while he didn't offer exact numbers, he said the containers are routinely full after Saturday collections.

The Transfer Station is open from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m., and the Committee expects activity to increase as residents take advantage of the expanded services.

The next meeting of the Sustainability Advisory Committee is set for Monday, April 27, at 7 p.m. in the Buxton Room of Town Hall.

Selectmen Approve Lease Agreement for Hudson Dog Park

ALEX MALM
HUDSON TIMES

The Hudson Board of Selectmen has formally approved the lease agreement that will govern operations at the Hudson Dog Park, marking the final step in transitioning the facility to management by the newly formed Friends of Hudson Dog Park, Inc. The vote came during the Board's most recent meeting, following months of work to establish a longterm structure for oversight, maintenance, and insurance.

Town Administrator Roy Sorenson reminded the Board that the town had already entered into a mem-

orandum of understanding with the nonprofit group, which has since completed all requirements set by the town. "As the Board's well aware, we entered into an MOU with the group, which is a fully legal nonprofit," Sorenson said. "The dog park, as we all know, is open."

Sorenson explained that the lease had been reviewed and revised by legal counsel and includes a threeyear term with the possibility of an additional three years. However, only the first year is guaranteed unless voters approve a warrant article to extend the full term. "What the Board's approving tonight is the agreement in

principle with the understanding there's only one year guaranteed," Sorenson said. He added that the nonprofit is fully aware of the requirement. "If it fails, the Board of Selectmen can have the authority to extend it one year, every year, as much as you need to or as much as you feel that they're following the agreement."

A key component of the lease is the requirement that the Friends of Hudson Dog Park provide annual proof of insurance. Sorenson emphasized that this is non-negotiable. "They will be responsible to provide their insurance coverage every year. That's a nonstarter. If

they can't provide that, then the dog park is closed immediately," he said. "I know their group's worked hard, so kudos to them. And they're in a good place right now."

Selectman Heidi Jakoboy praised the work that went into the agreement. "I just want to say that I really appreciate all the hard work," she said. "I think this lease really speaks to all the concerns that this Board had, and it's very well done. And I've heard nothing but good things."

Board Chair Dillon

Dumont acknowledged that the temporary closure of the dog park earlier this year had frustrated some residents, but said the new agreement puts the facility on a stronger footing. "Hopefully everybody's a little optimistic with how things move forward, getting the dog park open, and then getting this agreement, which I think will ultimately benefit both parties versus what was in place over there, which was virtually nothing," he said.

Dumont also noted the

unusually quick turnaround for a municipal process of this scale. "Government actually moved relatively fast this time around," he said. "Normally you don't see that. It's normally a couple years as you watch things kind of play out. But over a couple months, we were able to get this all in place. And I commend all sides, staff and Friends of Hudson Dog Park."

The Board of Selectmen voted unanimously to approve the lease agreement

Free Compost at Transfer Station

Hudson residents can now get free compost at the town's Transfer Station this spring.

Starting on Saturday, April 4, from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m., residents will be allowed to fill a five-gallon container with compost.

The Hudson Transfer

Station is open from April through the end of November every Saturday from 8 a.m. until noon for leaf and yard waste, cardboard and metal disposal only. Passes are not required for yard waste, cardboard or metal.

The Hudson Transfer Station is located off West

Road on Old Landfill Road, Hudson.

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Benson Park Concert Proposed for Park and National Anniversary

PAUL CONYERS
HUDSON TIMES

The March meeting of the Benson Park Advisory Committee saw members plan for several events as the weather continues to warm with the start of spring, including a possible concert following a proposal from Hudson resident Michael Seckla.

"I'm the Band Director at Hudson Memorial School, and I'm also a member of a band called the Yankee Brass. I've been talking a little bit about a concert for our middle school groups in June. We have, for years, been doing performance at H.O. Smith and the Senior Center. It's kind of an end-of-the-year thing for some of our school groups," said Seckla.

Seckla added, "With the anniversary of Benson Park, it was mentioned that there could be the possibility of having some students perform. We typically have our kids eat lunch in the park on days we perform anyways."

According to Selectman Liaison Heidi Jakoby, initial concerts with the school have already been approved.

He floated Tuesday, June 9, as a potential date sometime in the afternoon for the performance. Seckla also outlines the role of Yankee Brass.

"Our mission is preserving the heritage of the United States of America. In particular, we perform 19th Century concern on 19th century antique instruments. We perform as authentic arrangements as we can

get," he explained. "We have membership from all over the country, mostly on the eastern half, and we come together for a week every summer in a different part of the Northeast."

The Yankee Brass was scheduled to be in New Hampshire in 2026, possibly in Benson Park.

"With the 250th Anniversary of the country and the 100th Anniversary of Benson, it just seems like a great confluence to maybe host a concert here," said Seckla. "What we'll do at least once or twice in a tour is the history of manufacturing or some of the instruments. Bring some of the older stuff."

There were a few questions about the details of a possible concert.

"You previously said you'd be talking to the Historical Society as well. Have you spoken with them too?" asked Committee member Sue Clement. "I think it sounds great."

Seckla indicated that the Historical Society also expressed interest in a concert, adding that Yankee Brass probably would not do two concerts in Hudson, raising the possibility of a separate presentation for the Historical Society and their concert at Benson Park.

The exact date for the events remained undetermined, although it seemed likely the concert would happen on a Thursday or Friday.

"I know you talked about there was a fee that was required, is that cor-

rect?" asked Clement.

Seckla that the band had a \$1,200 fee for performances.

"As a nonprofit, none of that goes to the performers, all of that goes to the association for the preservation of the instruments and the music," he said. "It's basically what we usually asked for."

Alternate Harry Schibanoff noted that the Benson Park Committee did not have \$1,200 to spare in their limited budget.

"If this is to go forward, then it's up to this committee to make a recommendation and brainstorm where that money might come from," said Jakoby.

Friends of Benson Park Chair Natalie Newell stated that a concert from the Yan-

kee Brass would be "a fantastic add to our calendar." She proposed a sponsorship program to raise the money.

"I would really love to say that's something we want to work with you on," said Newell.

She promised to ask the Friends board if they were interested in funding the event.

"I think it's a cleaner transition to do it through the Friends than through this committee," said Schibanoff.

Seckla promised to stay in touch with the Friends and the Advisory Committee in the coming weeks.

The next Benson Park Advisory Committee meeting is set for Thursday, April 16, at 7 p.m. in the Hudson Cable Access Center.

Friends of the Library and Trustees Prepare for Redcoats & Rebels Event

PAUL CONYERS
HUDSON TIMES

The Rodgers Memorial Library Board of Trustees met on March 18 to review its collaboration with the Friends of the Library. Trustee Margaret St. Onge attended the latest Friends meeting.

"It was lovely to see a few people that came out, and they even had one person come who might be interested in joining," said St. Onge. "They're talking about doing a fundraiser already, going to different restaurants to see if they'll help support us and talking about a sale with baked goods for the staff and tweens."

The Friends was also in contact with New Hampshire Humanities, a group scheduled to hold an event called Redcoats & Rebels: New Hampshire and the American Revolution on Wednesday, April 8, at 6:30 p.m.

"New Hampshire often gets overlooked in the narrative of the American Revolution, overshadowed by its noisy neighbor to the south," wrote Mary Adams, who will serve as presenter for the Redcoats & Rebels event. "Most people are also unaware that New Hampshire's Provincial Congress adopted the first state constitution in January 1776, making no mention of royal

authority and essentially declaring independence from Great Britain six months before anyone else."

According to Library Director Linda Pilla, Redcoats & Rebels was also part of a broader slate of library programming set aside for the 250th Anniversary of the United States.

"We're going to have all kinds of memorabilia-type stuff going on this summer, and we're super excited to partner with New Hampshire Humanities and the Friends of the Library to provide this program in April," said Pilla.

Not all library activities were set to be as dramatic

as Redcoats & Rebels, popular, as the Trustees continued outreach efforts in support of more obscure options like museum passes and what Pilla called "passive programming," something many residents were unaware of, including new Board member Susan Jones, who wanted to know more about.

"Passive programming is where you come into the library, you pick up a kit, and then you go home, and you do something yourself," explained Pilla. "Typically, it's something where we're not going to actively have a

staff member involved; it's something people are going to do themselves."

"I got one of the museum passes and brought my two grandsons, who had a day off in their town, and went to the SEE Museum in Manchester," added St. Onge. "We pretty much had the whole museum to ourselves, and it was incredible. What a wonderful memory."

As it was their first meeting after the March town election, it was Jones's first Trustee meeting.

"Susan, thank you very much for stepping up and to

the voters for electing you," said Chair Mimi Guessferd. "We're really excited to be working with you for the next two years."

Jones stated she was "excited" to attend her first Board meeting following an earlier tour of Rodgers Memorial Library.

"I look forward to working with all of you," she said.

The next Library Board of Trustees meeting is set for Wednesday, April 15, at 6 p.m. in the Hudson Cable Access Center.

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Ovation Theatre Company to Present Addams Family Musical

Get ready for a wild and spooky time, as Ovation Theatre Company presents The Addams Family at the Derry Opera House starting April 3.

The Addams Family, a comical feast that embraces the wackiness in every family, features an original story and a dilemma that's every father's nightmare: Wednesday Addams, the ultimate princess of darkness, has grown up and fallen in love with a sweet, smart young man from a respectable family—a man her parents have never met. And if that wasn't upsetting enough, Wednesday confides in her father and begs him not to tell her mother. Now, Gomez Addams must do something he's never done before—keep a secret from his beloved wife, Morticia. Everything will change for the whole family on the fateful night they host a dinner for Wednesday's "normal" boyfriend and his parents.

Thanks to the success of the show Wednesday, the young cast members are very familiar with the Addams clan, while of course older audience members may fondly remember the movies and of course the original TV show.

Evie Roach, who plays



Wednesday Addams, has enjoyed learning more. "Since getting the role, I've done some research into some of the older stuff. It's definitely different. Wednesday is more dark, because of her family. I get to explore her being introduced to the world. I like that I get to do that. Vocally, I like exploring her darkness - how she should sing in her 'dark roots' and wouldn't be all bright and happy. Even though she leans towards that with Lucas, she doesn't forget. I like having the contradiction of the lyrics and who she is as a person."

Adam Mungia and

Elyse Holmes are having fun bringing Gomez and Morticia to life. Mungia did his homework. "I ended up watching both the movies, with Raul Julia as Gomez, and a few episodes of the original TV show with John Astin. I really love the material; I think it's really well written; and I enjoy a lot of the adaptations of it. The campy style of humor is hilarious to me."

Holmes agrees, playing the ever-serious Morticia. "She never laughs, never smiles. She's the complete opposite of me, which is what makes it fun!" Mungia admits he might be a little closer to his character. "I'm

a pretty eccentric person. I'm very loud and very energetic a lot of the time.

Carter Blanco describes his character, Lucas Beinecke, as "easy going, a median between the Addams family and the Beinecke family. There's this tension throughout the show between the two families and he acts like the connection between them. I have a lot of fun with Evie, playing Wednesday. She's very funny and we connect really well."

Hailey Domaigne, playing Alice Beinecke, enjoys the comedy of the show. "I think it's really funny. I love how all of the characters get their own sense of humor. It's got a little something for everyone." Her favorite scene includes the song

'Full Disclosure.'

The Addams Family features a talented youth cast drawn from all over southern New Hampshire and northern Massachusetts. This production's creative team includes Directors Meg Gore and Ryan Kaplan, Music Director Ella Burroughs, Choreographer Miranda Winward, Assistant Music Director Kevin Fisher and Production Assistant Connor Burns. The cast includes Avenley Allen, Carter Blanco, Lylah Chaffee, Bri Federico, Bella Foster, Charlotte Latour and Julia Lewis, of Londonderry; Sarina Anderson, Emma Burgos, Leo Denu, Christina Donlon, Kaeden Scheibert, Rosabella Ward and Allison Zenga of Derry; Ava Chaloux and Evelinn Roach

of Windham; Jenna Bailey and Mayra Gillis of Pelham; Levi Freilich of Hampstead; Kierstynn Donovan of Chester; Caleigh Fields of Manchester; Charlotte Blanchfield and Hailey Domain-gue of Bedford; Nicholas Metz II of Exeter; Crosby Curtis of Brentwood; Adam Munguia of Epping; and Elyse Holmes of Westford, Mass.

The Addams Family Musical will be presented on Friday, April 3, at 7 p.m. and Saturday, April 4 at 1 and 7 p.m. at the Derry Opera House (29 W. Broadway, Derry, NH). Tickets are \$22 for adults and \$20 for students and seniors through March 26 and \$25 and \$23 beginning March 27 and are on sale at ova-tiontntc.com.

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AROUND TOWN

Around Town Policy: This section is meant to be used to announce free events to the communities. All Around Town/Calendar Items will be held to 100 words maximum. All free announcements in the Around Town/Calendar section can run a maximum of three weeks. The deadline for a submission is each Monday at 5 p.m. Please send items to hudsontimes@nutpub.net.

Psychic & Craft Fair

On Saturday, April 25, from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m., at the Hudson Community Center, 12 Lions Ave., Hudson, there will be a Psychic & Craft Fair. There will be personalized Readings, Crafters & Artisans, Food & Refreshments. Sponsored by the Hudson Lions Club. All Proceeds benefit Lions Club Charities. For further information visit us at: www.hudsonlions.org/psychicfair

Redcoats & Rebels: NH and the American Revolution

New Hampshire often gets overlooked in the narrative of the American Revolution, so come learn about its part at Rodgers Library on Wednesday, April 8 at 6:30 p.m.

Dungeons & Donuts

Come play Dungeons & Dragons and grab a donut at the Rodgers Library on Saturday, April 4 and 19 at 9:30 a.m. All skill levels are welcome.

Bunny Chalk Art

Create your own bunny masterpieces using chalk at the Rodgers Library on Saturday, April 4 at 10 a.m. This event is for families with children.

CollabLab Science Storytime: Slime Time

Come to the Rodgers Library on Wednesday, April 8 at 4:30 p.m., to read some slimy stories, then make slime to take home. This event is for ages 5-9.

Neurotrophic Art-Inspired Zentangle Class

Please join Diane at Rodgers Library on Wednesday, April 8 at 6:30 p.m. & Monday, April 13 at noon, for a two-hour class where we will use the basics of neurotrophic art to create a 5" square Zentangle tile.

Beyblades Ultimate Showdown

Bring your own Beyblade to battle in a tournament at Rodgers library on Thursday, April 9 at 5 p.m. This is for Ages 7+.

Genealogy Club

This Rodgers Library group will meet on Friday, April 10 at 1:30 p.m., this month's topic is "Artificial

Intelligence for Genealogists: The Best of What's Available Today."

Author Visit: Patricia Zube

Join Author Patricia Zube for a reading from her middle-grade novel "Gift of the Bear," at the Rodgers Library on Tuesday, April 7 at 5 p.m.

Hudson Safe: Part 1

Join the Rodgers Library for this five-part series covering first aid, fire safety, disaster preparedness, trauma medicine and more. Part one will cover situational awareness and scene safety and will be held on Saturday, April 11 at 9:30 a.m. In Part two you'll learn how to deal with an active attack on your life and understand the 3 D's - Denial, Deliberation, Decision, on Saturday, April 25 at 10 a.m.

Planning Your Disney Vacation

Avid Disney fan and visitor Katie Midgley will be at the Rodgers Library on Tuesday, April 14 at 6:30 p.m., to provide the Disney basics as well as some tips and tricks to help you navigate your Disney vacation!

ney vacation!

CollabLab Science Storytime: Insect Makerspace

On Wednesday, April 15 at 4:30 p.m., ages 5-10 are welcomed to come to the Rodgers Library to read some insect stories, learn about the parts of an insect, then create our own insects to take home.

Nonfiction Book Group

This Rodgers Library group will meet on Thursday, April 9 at 7 p.m., to discuss this month's book: "Gateway to Freedom" by Eric Foner.

Curious Kids: Bugs/Springs

On April 17 & 18 at 10 a.m., come to the Rodgers Library to explore learning centers with your preschooler.

Cookbook Club

This Rodgers Library club will meet on Monday, April 20 at 11:30 a.m., this month's cookbook is "The Roasted Vegetable: How to Roast Everything from Artichokes to Zucchini..." by Andrea Chesman.

Mystery Lovers' Book Club

This Rodgers Library club will meet on Monday, April 13 at 12:30 p.m., to discuss this month's book pick is "Finlay Donovan is Killing It" by Elle Cosimano.

Afternoon Book Group

This Rodgers Library club will meet on Tuesday, April 21 at 1:30 p.m., to discuss this month's book pick is "The Road to Tender Hearts" by Annie Hartnett.

Crime & Cookies

Wednesday, April 15 at 7 p.m., will be the Monthly meeting of the true crime podcast club at Rodgers Library.

LEGO Party with C3Brix

On Monday, April 27 at 1:30 p.m., Grades K-6 ONLY are invited to the Rodgers library where Cody from C3Brix brings us thousands of LEGO pieces and will lead party-goers through games, challenges, and other LEGO fun.

continued on page 14

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Around Town

Continued from page 13

Read 'Em & Eat @ Friendly Red's

The book group will meet on Monday, April 27 at 7 p.m., to discuss April's book is "The Very Secret Society of Irregular Witches" by Sangu Mandanna.

Lorax: Interactive Movie

Come celebrate the Earth and join the Rodgers Library on Thursday, April 30 at 5 p.m., for the Lorax interactive movie.

Live Free and Hike

Join Linda Magoon at the Rodgers library on Thursday, April 23 at 6:30 p.m., as she shares her story of courage and self-discovery from her book "Live Free and Hike: Finding Grace on 48 Summits - A Journey of Healing and Self-Discovery Atop New Hampshire's White Mountains."

Electronics Recycling

Come to the Alvirne High School Parking Lot on Saturday May 16, from 8 a.m. - noon and drop off unused or broken electronics. Open to residents of NH, MA, or ME. Items vary in price. Cash, Venmo, or checks payable to: "HUDSON-LITCHFIELD Rotary Club" Proceeds support: College and Vocational Scholarships; Local Service Needs; Housing, and Food Pantry Agencies; as well as Other Community Service Projects. For more information 603-882-5289, visit the groups Facebook page or website <https://portal.clubrunner.ca/2931>.

Sunday Family Camp

On Sunday, April 12, from 10 a.m. - Noon the Etz Hayim Synagogue will hold its monthly Sunday Family Camp for ages 4-6. This month's theme is Passover! April's class will focus on the holiday of Passover, including learning the story and customs surrounding this holiday. There will also be some Passover foods to try. RSVP to sarahjohnplate-r@aol.com by April 10 to

ensure we have enough food. This program is free and no membership is required. To learn more, visit www.etzhayim.org/learn/grades-0-1.

Mah Jongg Tournament

On Sunday, April 26, from 9:30 a.m. - 4 p.m., join the Etz Hayim Synagogue for a fun-filled day of tiles, prizes and friendship! Entry fee is \$30. There will be 4 rounds of game play, 4 games per 1-hour round. There will be prizes for placement, a 50/50 raffle and additional raffles, and sandwiches, desserts and refreshments. Sign up by April 12. Doors open and check-in 9:30 - 10 a.m. Pre-register and pay at www.etzhayim.org/mah-jongg-tournament. Rules and scoring provided after payment receipt. Questions? Contact Jean Lisien at jbortz@comcast.net or Deb Eisner at rlc800@aol.com.

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2026 Hudson Lions Club Scholarships

The Hudson Lions Club will award multiple scholarships consisting of four individual \$1,500 scholarships, two \$1,500 memorial scholarships, honoring Lion Al

Rodgers and Lion George Philip Rodgers, a \$2,000 memorial scholarship in memory of Lion Joe Kasper, and a single \$1,500 scholarship for an Alvirne Leo's Club Member. Applicants must be a Hudson resident, graduating from any high school and have been accepted at a school of higher learning. Applications are available at Alvirne High School Guidance Department or email: scholarships@hudson-lions.org. Application deadline April 10, 2026

Legion Meat Raffle

American Legion Hudson Post 48's Meat Raffle will be held at Post 48, located at 37 Central St. On Saturday, April 18, beginning at 2 p.m. This event is open to the public. You must be 16+ to play. The proceeds from this event are to benefit the Alvirne HS CTE Honor Society. Pre-buys are available in the Foxhole. For more information please call 603-889-9777.

Explorers Storytime

On Fridays at 1:30 p.m., the Rodgers Library will have songs, stories, bubbles and a craft or activity for children ages 3-5 and their caregivers.

Adventurers Storytime

Come to the Rodgers Library for songs, stories, bubbles and a craft or activity for

children ages 3-5 and their caregivers at 10 a.m. on Tuesdays.

Teen Hangout

Middle and high school students ages 13+ are invited to enjoy the Rodgers Library's teen space after school, most Weekdays at 2:30 p.m. Snacks, charging stations, video games, and crafts provided. Connect the Library with any questions.

BINGO!

Bingo is back at the Senior Center, 19 Kimball Hill Rd., Hudson, every Tuesday afternoon. Slider cards will start being sold at 1:15 p.m., \$1.25 each. You must be registered at the Senior Center to play.

Legion Karaoke

American Legion Hudson Post 48 will be hosting DJ Mike on Friday, April 17, from 6 - 10 p.m. In the Foxhole located at 1 Fulton St for Karaoke and Dancing. This event is open to members and bona fide guests 21+. For more information please call 603-889-9777.

A Good Yarn

On Tuesdays at 5 p.m., come to the Rodgers Memorial Library to Share tips, tricks, and stories while you work on your latest project and connect with fellow fiber enthusiasts.

Bring your own supplies and stitch the evening away.

Buy-a-Brick and Show Gratitude

Preserve a memory and help the Friends of the Library support programs, events, museum and entertainment venue passes, and scholarships. FOL will engrave your purchased bricks with two lines (\$55) or three lines (\$80) with your special message. The order form is on Rodgers Memorial Library website click on the Friends page. The bricks are placed in the RML Walkway twice a year and will become an enduring legacy. For an inanimate object, each brick can speak volumes.

Baby Lapsit and Playtime

On Thursdays come to the Rogers Library at 10 a.m., for interactive stories and songs for babies and their caregivers followed by playtime.

Inhouse Secondhand Prose Book Sale

Check out the Secondhand Prose sale area in the Children's Room of Rogers Memorial Library, running during normal library Hours. The book selection offers something for everyone, is restocked frequently and offered at the same bargain price as the big sale. Stationary featuring work of local

artists, adorable tote bags, and handmade gifts are also available. The prices are extremely reasonable.

Movers & Shakers

Come to Rodgers Memorial Library on Wednesdays at 10 a.m. and 10:30 a.m., for a Toddler storytime for kids that don't sit still for long. Movement, songs, bubbles, and stories for ages 1-3.

Laptop Donation Program

United Way of Greater Nashua is reintroducing their Tech Connect United Laptop Donation Program. Donate your working laptops, tablets, and smartphones, and they will in turn refurbish them for use by low-income individuals and families. The client recipients are low-income, and living in our Greater Nashua area. Devices can be dropped off at the United Way office located at 20 Broad St., Nashua between 9:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. on weekdays or by appointment email info@unitedwaynashua.org if you have any questions.

Drop In Stitchers

If you love to craft, whether it be quilting, knitting, crocheting, rug making or plastic canvas, you will LOVE this Rogers Library group! This group will meet on Fridays at 9:15 a.m.

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