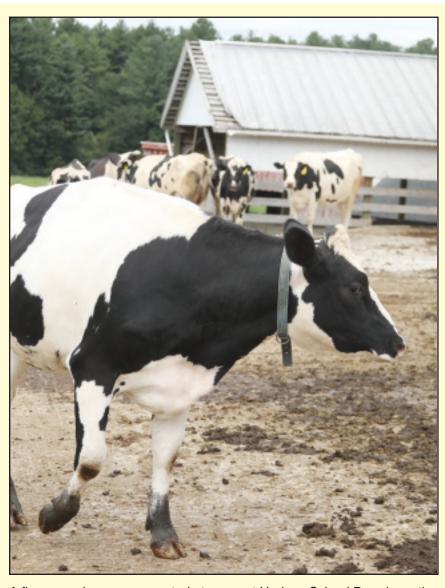
Hudson Times

August 22, 2024 ◆ Volume 2 – Issue 34

A FREE Weekly Publication



A five-year plan was presented at a recent Hudson School Board meeting on a number of upgrades that need to be made to the Alvirne Farm at Alvirne High School. Photo by Chris Paul

Five-Year Plan For Alvirne Farm Laid Out by Beals

HUDSON TIMES

During the Aug. 5 Hudson School Board meeting, the School Board received a presentation from Alvirne High School Principal, Steve Beals, and Farm Manager, Emery Nadeau, about the five-year plan for the Alvirne Farm.

It was explained by Beals that the Farm continues to be an educational opportunity for students noting that the farm was the site for a kindergarten field trip this year, saying that CTE staff "put on an incredible program."

"It certainly is our laboratory for our veterinary science program," Beals said about the farm.

Beals explained during the meeting that about two years ago the Alvirne Trustees were approached by farm staff with the hopes of making a plan for improvements to the Farm.

As part of the farm, the objective is to "ensure the farm remains a source of pride for Alvirne, the Palmer CTE Center, and Hudson."

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Selectmen Listen to Limiting Truck Traffic on Speare Road

ALEX MALM HUDSON TIMES

Selectmen received a proposal during its Aug. 13 meeting from Hudson Police Chief, Tad Dionne, regarding limiting truck traffic in Town.

"We had a robust Aug. 8 meeting with the highway safety committee about Speare Road," Selectmen.

He explained that in a month period they had four accidents at the bend and explained that there are difthey had come up with some potential ways to help reduce issues.

as any commercial vehicle, ed on any of the streets or 1 1/2 tons or heavier, other The Hudson Board of than those commercial vehicles which are engaged in making local deliveries or pickups on a restricted street or street that is directly connected to a restricted street) in both directions of travel and at all hours of everyday from Kimball Hill Road to Bush Hill Road as described in § Dionne told the Board of 317-34 Schedule VII," Dionne wrote in a memo to the Board of Selectmen.

> In his memo, Dionne ferent ordinances related to truck traffic in town.

One of those states: "It "The Highway Safety shall be unlawful for any Committee has recom- person to operate any truck mended prohibiting Thro- in any manner or at any ugh Truck Traffic (defined time or on any day indicat-

parts of streets described in Schedule VII (§ 317-34), when such truck is of a type indicated in § 317-34 and defined in this section or when such truck is larger or heavier than the maximum size or weight indicated in Schedule VII for that street or part of a street."

The other is titled § 317-34 Schedule VII: Truck, Commercial Vehicle and Heavy Vehicle Limitations, which states "In accordance with the provisions of § 317-13F, trucks shall be restricted from the following streets and parts of streets in the manner and to the extent indicated (in the schedule

continued on page 4

Four Finalists for the Open **Town Administrator Position**

HUDSON TIMES

With the impending retirement of Town Administrator, Steve Malizia, the Hudson Board of Selectmen once again discussed the process for hiring its next town administrator, during its Aug. 13 meeting.

It was explained by Board Chair, Bob Guessferd, previously that they hired a consulting firm MRI, to help with the process.

"MRI, as we know, is doing the initial selection process," he said.

Guessferd said that they received multiple resumes for the position, which were then vetted by MRI.

"We received 20 some-

explaining that they went through a process conducted by MRI, which included some candidates being asked to write essays.

At that point they had six candidates identified and now have four finalists.

"There are now four candidates that are viable from the MRI perspective," Guessferd said.

He explained that they were scheduled to meet with the finalists on Thurs-

Selectman, Heidi Jakoby, who asked for the item to be on the agenda, explained that she thought they should discuss the selection process publicly.

> Jakoby said

thing resumes," he said received some questions from different staff members, and wanted to make sure they are on the same page before the interviews.

"We all have questions I think we'd like to ask," Guessferd said, saying that they received questions from different perspectives including the chiefs, and different department heads.

Guessferd noted that while they may have some follow-up questions for each of the candidates, he said he thought it made sense that whatever questions they ask the first the candidate that they ask all the other candidates the same questions.

"We have to be fair," he continued on page 10

BOS Approve Liaisons For Contract Negotiations Teams

HUDSON TIMES

At the Aug. 13 Hudson Board of Selectmen meeting, one of the items taken up was in regards to future potential contract negotiations for different unions.

Hudson Police Employees Association submitting a request to negotiate a successor contract I am requesting that the Board of Selectmen appoint the Sel-

Malizia, wrote in a memo to Employee Association sucthe Board of Selectmen.

He explained that as part of the town code, the liaison from the Board serves as part of the negotiation team for that union.

"Per Town Code Chap-"In anticipation of the ter 75, Negotiating Team for Labor Contracts, a member of the Board of Selectmen shall serve as a liaison to the negotiation team for the Town," Malizia wrote in the memo. "The Board will ectman member of the need to appoint a member to negotiating team," Hudson serve on the negotiating Town Administrator, Steve team for the Hudson Police cessor contract. As Chairman Guessferd is the liaison to the Police Department, it would be appropriate to appoint him as the Selectman member of that negotiating team."

It was explained by Malizia that their contract is set to expire in June of 2025, and that they haven't received anything from the union yet.

The Selectmen agreed to have Guessferd serve on the negotiation team for the police contract.

ing, Malizia noted that they needed to select a committee member for the upcoming Hudson Support Staff Union contract.

"In anticipation of a request to negotiate a successor contract from the Hudson Support Staff Union, I am requesting that the Board of Selectmen appoint the Selectman member of the negotiating team," Malizia said.

Like with the police union, Malizia said by Town Code, they need to

Also during the meet- have the liaison part of the negotiation team, however he said, "There is no liaison specific as there was for police or for fire or for highway."

> "As this Union covers employees from the various Town departments, there is no Selectman liaison appointed for this Union. The Selectmen will need to appoint a member to this negotiation team," Malizia said.

> Selectman, Kara Roy, volunteered to be on the negotiating team, which was unanimously approved.

The Board of Selectmen also approved a donation for the Hudson Police Department from Walmart.

"The police department would like (to) request approval to accept a Walmart donation of cases of water and chips to be used at HPD functions. The total value of the donation is \$419.20," Hudson Police Chief, Tad Dionne, wrote in a memo to the Board of Selectmen.

The next Selectmen meeting is slated to take place on Aug. 27, at 7 p.m.

Questions Payments for Town Planner

HUDSON TIMES

The Hudson Budget Committee met on Aug. 7 and one of the items addressed was the hourly rate being paid to the Interim Town Planner, Jay Minkarah, from the Nashua Regional Planning Com-

the contract, which I emailed out to you," said Selectman Liaison, Heidi Jakoby. "In that contract, you can see it was \$72 an hour, and that is paid directly to NRPC."

The NRPC regularly offers Town Planning services to member towns, and the cost, which was his time. That's the bench-

"I was given a copy of including Hudson. The hourly rate is paid directly to the NRPC, with Minkarah receiving a salary as Executive Director at the Regional Planning Commission.

"When this was negotiated, that's how they came up with the scope of work

above and beyond our membership fee," she said.

Chair, Bill Cole, questioned the assertion that Interim Town Planner was not being paid by the town

"We're going to go forward and continue to pay them \$72 an hour based on

mark, if he puts in ten hours, we put in an invoice for ten hours," said Cole.

Other members noted such an arrangement was not necessarily unusual.

"We're only being charged for the hours expended. There are consulting companies that will charge hourly rates for con-

sultants, those consultants are nonetheless salaried employees," said Committee member Bob Wherry.

The Committee also wanted a copy of the Request for Proposal regarding the Town Hall assessment project.

> "What the Committee is continued on page 5

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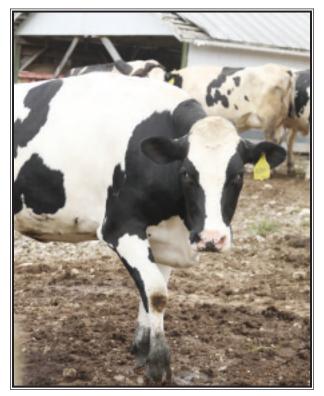
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Alvirne

continued from page 1

One of the goals of the plan is to improve animal well-being and safety.

Another goal is to improve farm safety for staff, students, and visi-

"We wanted to improve the safety for staff," Beals told the School Board.

Other goals, as part of the plan, are to "protect investment of equipment and machinery," and to update structures.

Beals noted that the Alvirne Farm Trustees have been generous over the years by helping to make improvements to the farm. In the past couple of years, they have spent around \$250,000 on the farm improvements.

One of the main

improvements that is pending at the farm is the machinery barn.

Beals explained that the machinery barn is in ments, it would include a rough shape and any of the equipment is open to the

He explained that they are looking to be able to replace the barn to be able to fit the equipment they

have; in order to protect the new equipment they have from the elements.

As part of the improveconcrete floor and they would have electricity run to the new building, along with a water line that would run to the new hydrant outside of the building.

For the hay barn, pending improvements include the replacement of the roof, doors, and trim, and it would add electricity, lighting and ceiling to the building.

At the farmhouse, pending improvements include repairing of trim, the replacement of siding, along with the home being reinsulated.

There are also pending improvements that may take place for the driveway in the future including paving it from the top of the gravel driveway to the milk barn and the existing access roads.

At the equine facility,

some potential improvements that may take place that are pending include the removal of the old livestock barn and building a new one.

The next School Board meeting is slated to take place on Sept. 9 at 6:30



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Editorial

Getting Ready for a New School Year

How can it be? Wasn't it just a few short weeks ago that school let out for the summer, and a fine summer it has been. But there's more than a glimpse of fall in the air already, and the first day of the new school year arrives next week. Next

The opening of the school year brings with it a sense of everything new once again. Empty notebooks, sharpened pencils, new pens, and for the younger set, untouched crayons carry with them an excitement about what lies ahead. And for those of us long past worrying about where we'll sit in the classroom and whether we'll remember the locker combination, we still have our mem-

For parents, the start of school is sure to bring a sudden wave of nostalgia and the reality that the years are passing quickly. But school also brings an obligation for parents, just as it does for students.

What parents think of school is conveyed to their children. Parents who attend open houses, participate in Parent Teacher Association activities if their work schedules allow, meet the teachers and familiarize themselves with the school buildings, and prioritize homework are going a long way toward creating a

positive learning experience for their children. And we all know kids learn by example.

Just as it's a child's job to attend classes and be open to learning, it's a parent's role to be involved with their child's education. A teacher can only do so much; how much value parents place on education and the learning process goes a long way toward making that learning possi-

We hear a lot about team building in schools, but the most important team to build at this time of year is the one involving parents, their children, and their school staff and administrators. Starting out right, with communication and mutual respect in the forefront, will go a long way toward making this school year a good one for each child.

And a reminder: Be extra cautious around schools and whenever children are walking to and from school. Pay attention to crosswalks, speed limit signs and blinking lights in school zones. Watch out for school

There's nothing like the opening of school, like the opening of a new book, to remind us of all we have yet to learn, and of the excitement that knowledge of new things can bring. Enjoy!

Poison Ivy, Robinson Pond Runoff Possible Line Items for Budget

HUDSON TIMES

The August meeting of the Hudson Conservation two-and-a-half. But you're Commission had its mem- not going to see a ten perbers address their role in cent increase of anything the upcoming 2025-2026 Budget for the first time.

Commission Chair, William Collins, stated, "We typically are self-sustaining. Some of it does come from the town, and a good portion of it does get reimbursed through the conservation fund back to us." He added, "Any ideas from anybody as to whether we need anything like small equipment? Anything from small equipment maintenance fund, we've still got a pretty hefty balance there. Association dues and fees, we still have money there."

With fewer line items compared to past budgets, the Chair indicated that the Conservation Commission expected to remain financially stable into the foreseeable future. He also had an eye on possible future projects and wanted to be ready with ideas for budget season.

"It's October really when they start talking about setting parameters," said Town Engineer, Elvis Dhima. "It's safe to say

any increase, based on past that done." practices, will be between zero to two percent, maybe like that."

One goal of the Commission was to hire a regular, professional service for poison ivy removal near park trails.

"That's something you can probably entertain or talk about," Dhima suggested. "As far as the trails, there are also some deficiencies there. Through the years, you've been tackling them yourself but you've been getting poison ivy and spending more money treating those then anything else."

Any professional services are likely to be relatively expensive, both for the removal of poison ivy and the removal of invasive

"When we get into treatment of knotweed and poison ivy and thing where we bring a forester in, we're paying a lot of money for that," said Collins. "Some of those other projects could come from existing funds, and I don't think we need to ask the budget committee for existing money we can get

Secretary, Ken Dickinson, suggested using existing funds after going over a list of several relatively small land improvement projects and outreach programs.

"I think that some of the items identified, like adding three kiosks and dressing up the parking area with additional fill from the town forest could all come out of the forestry fund budget," he said. "I don't see anything standing out to me."

Other projects expected in 2025 included water quality improvement at the Robinson Pond watershed.

"We're looking at Robinson Pond and other treatments to help with the phosphorus levels and other things along that line," said Collins. "We can send out a mass mailing to everyone in the community for water quality, things they can do around the house to improve runoff, things like

As the watershed project is still in its stage of planning, it was unclear how much it might cost and unclear as to whether a line item might be needed to move it forward.

Hudson Times

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Truck Traffic

Continued from page 1

VII list)."

"Schedule VII describes the list of streets that have limited or no access, which direction of the road at to which extent," Dionne

He said that as part of the proposal, they were also looking to be able to add Speare Road to the list of streets with limitations.

"We are also requesting that Speare Road be added to § 317-34 Schedule VII, the schedule of listed streets with Truck, Commercial Vehicle, and Heavy vehicle Limitations," Dionne explained in the memo.

In addition, Dionne said they were looking to have a sign installed.

"We are further requesting that a sign prohibiting such through truck travel be installed at the entrances Speare Road by Kimball Hill Road and Speare Road by Bush Hill Road," Dionne wrote in a

It was explained by Dionne that in order to make the changes, they would need to go to a public hearing first which he

was requesting that they give permission to do, saying there are many concerns with the road.

"It's just a non-conforming road at this point," Dionne said

It was noted by Dionne that in terms of enforcement purposes they are going to be looking at "larger vehicles," and it won't affect anyone who lives on the road.

The Board of Selectmen unanimously approved sending the proposal to a public hearing.

The next Board of Selectmen meeting is slated to take place on Aug. 27

BOS Approve Benson Park Donation, Purple Heart Day

At the Aug. 13 Hudson Board of Selectmen meeting, one agenda item was for a donation of lion statues for Benson Park.

Benson Park Committee Chair, Jack Madden, explained that they would be receiving two lion statues that are currently at 46 Highland Street.

"Ms. Laurie Cannata, the daughter of Carol & Maurice Viens, would like to donate them to Benson Park, from which they originally came," Madden wrote in a memo to the Board of Selectmen. "Ms. Cannata's parents bought them at auction in 1991 for \$2,000 and had taken care of them for about 30 years. As the value of the donation well exceeds \$100, I understand

that a Public Hearing will have to be held. I am submitting this info early enough that a review and discussion of the actions needed could be undertaken at the August 13 Board of Selectmen Meeting."

It was noted by Town Administrator, Steve Malizia, that since it was worth an estimated value of \$2,000 or more that they had to have a public hearing in order to accept them as a donation.

"The Friends of Benson Park and The Benson Park Committee have reviewed potential locations for the lion statues in the park and we agreed upon the grassy area at the southwest corner of the Kitchen/Office Building," Madden said. "The "Proposed Location Lions Statues' photograph shows the grassy area as seen from ford, announced that the the upper entrance gate. Please see the attached Map EXTRACT "benson park trail map" which shows a red "X" at the proposed location. By Separate email, I have asked DPW Director, Jay Twardosky, for his concurrence to place the statues at this location; we do not want to interfere with any buried utilities which may be present here."

Madden noted that they are still working out the details on where the final location will be for the stat-

"That hasn't been settled yet," he said.

The Selectmen ultimately approved accepting the donation.

∂During the Recognitions portion of the meeting, Chairman, Bob Guesstown would be joining a number of other towns in the state in becoming a "Purple Heart Community."

Guessford was joined by a number of Hudson veterans to address the audience and read the proclamation they had prepared.

In the proclamation, the Selectmen urged residents to acknowledge Aug. 7 as "Purple Heart Day" and hoped that the community would display flags to commemorate the day each

Selectmen also approved the date of the 2024 9/11 Observance and delivered a proclamation on becoming a Purple Heart Community.

"This year, 9/11 falls on Wednesday," Malizia wrote in a memo. "I am also recommending that the Board have a rain date in case of inclement weather."

He recommended that the rain date be the next day if needed.

The selectmen approved the Observance for Sept. 11 at 6:30 p.m. at Benson Park.

Budget

continued from page 2

interested in the RFP for the Town Hall Assessment," said Cole, who wanted to know what the scope of the project would be. "An RFP went out, a proposal was received, a source selection, was held, and a vendor has been selected. I would like a copy of all of that, and the proposal that was selected."

According to Jakoby, the overall assessment was and "assigned is in progress," though there

would not be much of a problem sending the Budget Committee information on what has been done so far. She also promised to email a copy of the contract to the Committee.

With budget season coming up in a few months, the Committee prepared its draft schedule for the 2025-26 Budget cycle.

"This is basically what we had last year," said Cole. "Tonight, hopefully we're going to approve this document with the condition that it can be revised moving

forward. At which time, I'll send it back to the town and the school, and they can tell us the lineup of who they want and when."

Typically, the Committee addresses budget requests from each town department and the school at separate meetings. Member unanimously voted to approve the schedule with conditions leaving the draft open to revisions if necessary.

The Budget Committee is set to meet at 7 p.m. on Wednesday, Sept. 4, in the Buxton Room of Town Hall.



Hudson Lions Club Scholarship Awarded

The Hudson Lions Club awarded Audrey Normand, of Hudson, a \$1,000 Lion Ron Boisvert Scholarship for Continuing Education in the Medical Field, on Aug. 10, during the annual Hudson Old Home Days. Audrey is a Pre-Vet Sophomore at the University of New Hamphire. Pictured left to right: President Kimberlee Fournier, Recipient Audrey Norman, Audrey's mother, Kim Normand, Scholarship Chair, Lion Roger LaTulippe, Lion Pauline Boisvert, spouse of deceased Lion Ron Submitted by Lion Deedee LaTulippe Boisvert.



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Brox Pledges to Protect Water Sources with Pit Expansion

HUDSON TIMES

At the August meeting of the Hudson Conservation Commission. members reviewed a conditional use permit application from Brox Industries regarding the company's ongoing gravel pit expansion plans.

Environmental Consultant, Bruce Gilday, of BAG Land Consultants was at the meeting to explain the impact of the expansion on the surrounding environment along with Erik Stevenson and Scott Riley from Brox.

"We've now made a formal submittal of an applica-

the Brox property at 85 Greely Street," explained Gilday. "This is a continuing operation that's been going on for the past 40 to 50 years, it started as a Hudson sand and gravel operation before Brox took it over in the 1970s."

The sand and gravel mined from the pit make base material for buildings, bridges, and highways. With much of the useable sand and gravel now exhausted from the original pit, Brox has been looking to expand since 2022 and previously worked with the Commission for a site walk. The main issue came from tion for a dredge and fill on what to do with six small

wetland patches, all of vernal pool firsthand. which would be "taken" in the plan approved by the state. Expansion would require blasting.

"There's no way of preserving or avoiding these wetlands," he said. "We did find that that one of the areas had an indication of being a vernal pool."

In fact, one of the largest wetland sites met the criteria for being vernal pools upon closer inspection. Brox hoped that a strategy of compensatory mitigation would enough to offset the damage. Commission members wanted to do another "quick site walk" to see the

"The state allows for on-site or off-site compensation for losses of wetland," explained Commission Chair, William Collins. "If there is a doable project somewhere else within the community and it's acceptable, that is a compensation for the wetlands."

Several abutters were also at the meeting with questions about the project, including Joanne Dowd of 20 Glasgow Circle, who served as president of the nearby Highland Woods Condo Association.

"We are in a watershed area, and I am wondering, when they start enlarging,

what the blasting really ment within what changes does to the watershed area. Blasting obviously leaves remnants," said Dowd, "We want to know what that does to the watershed area. Does it taint the water?"

Collins did not know the answer. Ground wells in the area of a blast are typically monitored for water quality. The Brox team promised to give the Condo Association a more concrete answer on water quality in the coming days.

Town Engineer, Elvis Dhima, added that Brox's expansion permits were granted by the state, not by Hudson.

"There is water move-

they make, but that's an Alteration of Terrian Permit, a state permit," he said. "If they have a permit for that at the state level, that's something we do not regulate at the town level."

"In my career we've spent a lot of time on that site managing stormwater," said Stevenson. "We have discharge points on our property that need to be sampled on a quarterly basis."

He went on to say that Brox had been sending water quality reports to the EPA for over 20 years, a practice the mining company did not intend to overlook when blasting.

Hudson Conservation Commission Approve Driveway Redesign

PAUL CONYERS **HUDSON TIMES**

Miara Transportation came before the Hudson Conservation Commission on Aug. 12 to follow up on a recent site walk at 12 Bockes Road, where the heavy equipment company hoped to get a conditional use permit to build a new garage and driveway for storage.

"The last time I was in front of you we had all talked about possibly moving the proposed garage further away from the wetlands buffers," said Project Engi-

neer, Allison Lewis, of as possible." Keach-Nordstrom. "You'll be happy to know that after discussing it with the client looking at the design, we did relocate the garage to the northern side of the property."

She went on to explain that the redesign could not completely eliminate the buffer impact due to the need to bring trailers into an exciting building at the front of the property.

"The new impact would be on that western wetland buffer," said Lewis. "We tried to stay as far out of it

The redesign also increased the number of trees on the site.

Commission Chair, William Collins, thanked the company for working to minimize the environmental impact of the project, although he wanted to double-check a few details regarding stormwater

"You have the same drainage scheme, where it will empty into that retention pond along the southern portion of the property or pretreatment?" asked

Collins.

Lewis confirmed this was still the case, with an additional catch basin and a rework of the detention basin to keep runoff out of the surrounding groundwa-

"Do you remember what your proposed temporary wetland impact was before versus now?" asked Secretary, Ken Dickinson. "Was it a net decrease?"

The Project Engineer confirmed that the revised plan represented a "large decrease" by "at least half" in terms of direct wetland impact. Additionally, she claimed that the wetland

"I was just curious, on the northern part of the site between two large buildings, is that paved right now? Or is it gravel?" asked alternate, Chris Cameron, referring to part of an existing driveway.

He was informed that the driveway is currently gravel and will remain gravel where possible. Only a small access road to the garage would be paved under the plan.

Overall, most members were impressed with the design.

"It looks like you did

buffer impact was "down by everything in you power to follow the best way to put this garage in that proposed area," agreed Commissioner John Walter. "I'm satisfied, it looks good.'

> The Conservation Commission unanimously voted to recommend the conditional use permit. Miara Transportation's revised plan will still require approval by the Planning Board.

> The next meeting of the **Hudson Conservation Com**mission is scheduled for Monday, September 9, at 7 p.m. in the Buxton Room of Town Hall.



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Selectmen Discuss Using a Recruiting Firm for Hiring

HUDSON TIMES

At the most recent Hudson Board of Selectmen meeting, one of the agenda items discussed was related to potentially contracting with a recruiting firm in the future to help find applicants for different positions.

Selectman, Heidi Jakoby, said she wanted to have a discussion about it and the status of hiring after hearing concerns from the Budget Committee.

"I know at my budget

believe November of last year, and I know that we have had difficulties finding candidates," she said during the meeting.

While she noted that they will be hiring for the Assistant Town Administrator position later on, after the position was approved in March, she added that they have other employees who may be leaving for different jobs, or due to retire-

"I'm just really conmeetings I have continuous- cerned, as a Select board ly been asked about the member, that we don't have town planner position, a recruiter as the Board of

which has been open since I Education does," Jakoby said.

> She explained that she was looking to see if there was any possibility of getting a contract for a recruiter to help them move forward.

> On the issue of the Town Planner position, it was explained by Town Administrator, Steve Malizia, that they originally got some candidates for the position, but it was determined that none of them were worthwhile.

They eventually interviewed another candidate, but Malizia said, "that per-

son didn't seem to fit the for a Town Planner. bill for the town of Hudson,"

One recommendation they did receive. Malizia said, was to change the job title for the job application, which he said they had some success with, noting that they received four applications, and that they have one potentially good candidate.

"It looks like we have at least one candidate that looks like they're worthwhile," Malizia said.

It was also noted by Malizia that they aren't the only town who is looking

"We're not the only ones in this market trying to get people," Malizia said.

Jakoby said that they will likely be facing challenges with finding candidates for positions for a while.

"There is a continuance turnover in any position," Jakoby said.

One thing that Selectman, David Morin, pointed out is the fact that Massachusetts pays more than Hudson, which impacts finding candidates.

"Massachusetts killing us in pay," he said. concerned that the Budget Committee has been wanting the town to do things more internally.

Chair, Bob Guessferd, said one thing they could consider is putting it on a warrant article and see what the community thinks about spending more on recruiting.

"I like the discussion. I think we should bring it up again," he said.

The next Board of Selectmen meeting is slated to take place on Aug. 27 at 7

Board of Selectmen Begin 2025-26 Budget Discussions

HUDSON TIMES

The Hudson Board of Selectmen was tasked with setting budget parameters for department heads to consider when proposing their various proposed budgets during its most recent meeting.

"As budget season is approaching, it is appropriate that the Board of Selectmen provide budget parameters to the Department Heads for their Fiscal Year 2026 (July 1, 2025 to June 30, 2026) budget submissions," Town Administrator, Steve Malizia, wrote in a memo "For Fiscal Year 2025, the Board directed the Department Heads to submit level funded operating budgets with major items or

initiatives to be addressed separately for the Board's consideration, either as a request outside of the department budget or in the form of a warrant arti-

It was noted by Malizia that for the past two budget seasons, the Board of Selectmen asked for department heads to propose level funded budgets aside from benefits and labor costs.

"I think it would be reasonable to consider allowing up to a modest 1% to 3% increase in the department's operating budgets for the FY 2026 budget," Malizia wrote. "Similar to previous budget years, other major items or new initiatives over that amount may be addressed separately for

the Board's consideration, it. either as a request outside of the department budget or as a separate warrant article for Fiscal Year 2026. Should the Board vote to direct the Department Heads to submit operating budget with a 1% to 3% increase, exclusive of labor and benefits."

Vice Chair, Dillon Dumont, said with costs going up for people in town, and salaries not necessarily increasing for people, he thought they should propose a level funded parameter, with anv other increases than salaries or benefits needed to be presented separate for consideration or as a possible warrant article.

No Selectmen seconded

Selectman, Kara Roy, said they have had default budgets the last two years, and department heads have not been able to get caught up, saying that she though they should go with two percent "so they can maybe make up for some of the stuff they haven't been able to do."

Dumont disagreed however, saying that they run the risk of getting a default budget again with that strat-

"We should be level funding the budget and letting the voters decide if they want to increase that," he said.

Selectman, David Morin, said he agreed with

"At some point this is possibility that the final progoing to catch up with us and we're going to be in real trouble," he said about not having increases.

Selectman, Heidi Jakoby, noted that no matter what they put in place for budget parameters at this point, there is always the

posed budget could be different.

On a 4-1 vote the Selectmen agreed to a 1.5% budget increase for the parameter for department heads. Dumont against it.



HUDSON SCHOOL DISTRICT PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE Unanticipated Revenue

Pursuant to RSA 40:14 (XI), the Hudson School Board will hold a public hearing on September 9, 2024 at 6:30 pm at the Hills Memorial Library, 18 Library St., Hudson, NH to accept and authorize expenditure of unanticipated revenue from the Alvirne Trustees.

Hearing 2:

Pursuant to RSA 40:14 (XI), the Hudson School Board will hold a public hearing on September 9, 2024 to follow Public Hearing 1, at the Hills Memorial Library, 18 Library St., Hudson, NH to accept and authorize use of Capital



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Broncos Band Unveil New Uniforms at OHD Parade









The Alvirine High School Marching Band participated in Londonderry's Old Home Day Parade on Saturday, Aug. 17, giving the band a chance to show off their new uniforms. The bands first home game halftime show will be on Friday night, Sept. 13, when the football team takes on the Salem Blue Devils.

Photos by Chris Paul

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Photos by Chris Paul

Saturday at Old Home Days Features Lots of Animals











the Hudson Mall

reptile show under the Community Tent that afternoon.

Families that attended the Saturday festivities of this year's Old Home Days celebration were able to enjoy lots of different animal exhibits throughout the day. There was a petting zoo set up by Carriage Shack Farm with everything from bunnies to a pony and llamas. There was also an exotic animal show by Wildlife Encounters and a



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HUDSON SPORTS

Broncos Girls' Soccer Look to Turn It Around This Year

BLAKE SANTANA HUDSON TIMES

After a 2022 season that saw Alvirne's girls' soccer team host a playoff game as the eighth seed in Division I, the team found themselves in a rough patch in 2023, between graduating numerous strong athletes including Paige Boudreau, Paige McKinley, Lyla Davis, Mallory Busnach, and so many others, as well as an injury to Alekhya Buddhiraju, who tore her ACL before the season began, costing Alvirne their best player for the season.

Alvirne is coming off an 0-15-1 season in which not much went right, but the team is hoping for a bounce-back year in 2024. The Lady Broncos will open their season on August 29 against Dover at home. Kickoff for that game is scheduled for 5:30

coming off a year that saw them going 3-12-1, so that should be a competitive matchup right out of the gate, as Dover only beat Alvirne 2-1 last season in a game that also took place at

Alvirne will then turn around in their second week of play and face off against the defending state champion Timberlane Owls in their next game, that one being in Plaistow against the Owls on Tuesday, September 3 before coming back home to host the Salem Blue Devils, who were a .500 team last season with a record of

The following week, the Broncos will have a backto-back with their first game of the week being on the road against Nashua South on the 11th at Stellos Stadium in Nashua and their second game being on PM at Alvirne. Dover is the 12th against last year's

Clippers. The Panthers were a 7-9-1 team a year ago that the Broncos battled to a narrow 3-1 defeat a year ago.

From there, Alvirne will host the Windham Jaguars on Tuesday the 17th in a game that, if last season's matchup was any indication for this year, could also be very competitive, as Alvirne only lost by two against the 6-9-1 Jaguars a year ago. Alvirne will also have a game against Bishop Guertin in Nashua on Saturday that week

The final week of September will see the Lady Broncos take on Concord and Pinkerton to wrap up the month. Both schools that have traditionally good programs with last year being no exception as Concord went 12-3-1 in the regular season and Pinkerton went 8-5-3, both teams falling in the quarterfinal round

Turning the calendar to October, Alvirne will take on Merrimack on October 1 at home, and then have a few days off before traveling to Exeter to take on the him, he thinks the most

the 5th, with their Saturday game kicking off at 11:00 in the morning, which is a rather difficult kickoff time for a game all the way out in Exeter.

The Broncos will get some time to recuperate after the Exeter game, however, as they won't play until Thursday, October 10 at home against Manchester Central before they travel to Stellos Stadium for a third time this season to take on the Nashua North Titans at 10:00 in the morning on Saturday the 12th.

In their final full week

Looking at their schedule, and the projected roster for 2024, Alvirne will likely take a step in the right direction this year, poten-

runners-up-the Portsmouth Blue Hawks on Saturday of the regular season, tially making a run at one of the final playoff bids, or at least being a pesky team that can steal games from contenders, if nothing else. If there is one thing last year showed people who followed the NHIAA, and Alvirne sports in general, it was that anything can happen on any given night. That being said, when it comes to a record prediction for the Broncos, conservatively, they could realistically go somewhere in the neighborhood of 6-9-1, with a ceiling of 8-8 and a floor of 4-12.

Alvirne will take on Winnacunnet on the road to open up the week on Tuesday and then return home for their final home game of the year against Spaulding on Thursday the 17th of October. Alvirne's final game of the regular season will be on the road, as they will take a ride up to Manchester to take on the Manchester Memorial Cru-

tions with the candidates who advance to the next

Continued from page 1

said

Jakoby said she wanted to get a sense of what the most important things are that people are looking for in the candidates, and prepared a sample rubric that they could use for advisory purposes when going through the different interviews to rate the different candidates.

Guessferd said that for

important factor should be supervisory skills and leadership.

Selectman. Dumont, said that as long as they identify their top candidates, that is the goal, and he thinks that the rubric was good, but thought it should be advi-

"For me, I would like it to be advisory," he said.

Guessferd said the next step, if they are successful, is to narrow down the top candidates, and then have more informal conversaround of the process.

Jakoby said she thinks it's important to have a second candidate identified just in case, which Guessferd and others agreed

"I do think we need to have a number one and a number two," Guessferd said, explaining that hopefully they will be comfortable moving forward with at least two of the candidates to another interview.

The next Board of Selectmen meeting is slated to take place on Aug. 27 at 7 p.m.



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Alvirne Boys' Soccer Trying to Make Playoffs Again

HUDSON TIMES

For Alvirne's boys' soccer team, they are coming off a season that they went 5-9-2 and made the Division I playoffs, losing to Nashua South in prelims, which is a step up from their 2022 season where they were 3-13 and missed the playoffs entirely. This

look to build on that mark and perhaps get back to .500 for the first time since 2020 when they were 6-2 in the regular season in the pandemic season.

Alvirne will open their season on Thursday, August 29 against Dover on the road in their lone game of the opening week. Last seaeach other to the finish with Alvirne losing narrowly by a final of 2-1 to the Green Wave, with that game also being held in Dover

In their second week of the season, Alvirne's boys' soccer team will play just one game once again, opening up the month of

season, the Broncos will son, the two teams battled September with a road Panthers, a team the Brongame at the Salem Blue Devils, a team that Alvirne hosted on Senior Night last season and battled to a 0-0 draw in their final home game of the regular season.

> Alvirne's first home game will have to wait until September 10 when the Broncos return home to take on the Nashua South

cos know all too well after their first-round playoff matchup a year ago. The Broncos will also take the ride out to Keene two days later to take on the Blackbirds. Alvirne beat Keene last season 2-1 with that game taking place at home towards the middle of the season

Alvirne will then wrap up the month of September playing three of their final four games of the month at home, taking on Timberlane at home on the 16th, Bishop Guertin at home on the 19th, then taking a ride up to Concord to take on the Crimson Tide on the

Bishop Guertin Holds Annual Christopher Griffin '79 Memorial Golf Tournament

NASHUA - Bishop always Guertin High School's 38th Annual Christopher Griffin '79 Memorial Golf Tournament was held on Friday August 9, 2024, at Pas-Litchfield, NH. The tournament is named in memory of Chris Griffin, a BG graduate who tragically died in a car accident in 1986. A lover of the arts, proceeds raised from the event fund five scholarships totaling \$6,500 for current and graduating students with an interest in the fine arts who demonstrate financial need.

"This year's tournament was a rousing sucthe event. "From the resolute players to the amaz-

staff at Passaconaway, this tournament continues to be a testament to the life and legacy of Chris Griffin."

The tournament hosted saconaway Country Club in 143 golfers, on a not so perfect August day with sporadic showers throughout the day. Nevertheless, the players were treated to a great round of golf, and a BBQ lunch on the course while completing their round

"This event has made a huge impact at Bishop Guertin over many years, especially to our Fine Arts program and deserving scholarship recipients," cess, said Richard (Dick) said Dan Cosgrove '79, co-Lavoie '67, co-chairman of chairman. "This year, we were glad to present four \$1,000 BG scholarships to ing volunteers and the underclass students and a Cormier MSM '79.

accommodating \$2,500 scholarship to a graduating senior. This would not be possible without the support of the people who year after year participate in this tournament and our generous sponsors. For that, we are grateful."

The 38th Annual Christopher Griffin '79 Memorial Golf Tournament winners were:

Men's Division 1st Place: Scoring 56 (15 under par): Dave Tammaro, Steve Beard, Jon Whalen, and Kevin Beard.

Women's Division 1st Place: Scoring 68 (4 under par): Sue Barracchini MSM '82, Tricia Shea MSM '82, and Mary Jane

Senior Division

1st Place: Scoring 61 (10 under par): Marty Edwards '75, Butch Lavoie '75, Mike Lenzi '75, and Todd Henry '75.

Sportsman Award (Most honest team)

Scoring 79: Ronald Hubert, Jordan LeClair '27, Mark Gibson '79, and Roy Miller '68.

Contest Holes Men's Long Drive (Hole #6): Ray #13):M J Cormier (3' - 2")

(Hole #6): Emily Kurkul

Senior's Long Drive (Hole #6): Mike Lenzi '75 Straightest Drive (Hole #1): Ty McLaughlin

Putting Contest: Went to George Lavash

Closest to Pin (Hole #4): Mike Soule (5' - 5")

Closest to Pin (Hole #11): Mike Soule)1' - 1") Closest to Pin (Hole bilodeaud@bghs.org

Closest to Pin (Hole Women's Long Drive #17): Marty Edwards (10' -

> For more information on the Christopher Griffin '79 Memorial Golf Tournament, to register to play, or to become a sponsor, please call the Bishop Guertin High School Office of Advancement Dakota Bilodeau '17 at 1-603-889x4329. 4107



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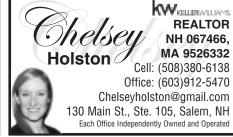
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AROUND TOWN

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.

Food Pantry fundraiser

Lions fundraiser to benefit The Hudson Food Pantry, will take place on Saturday, Oct. 5, at The White Birch, 222 Central St., Hudson. The event will feature Country duo Ayal Brown and Rob Bellamy. Doors open 6:30 and runs to 10 p.m. It will be a fun evening of entertainment & dancing, there will be a cash bar. Tickets are \$35 per person. For additional information: Barbara, 603-305-5193.

Democrats Ice Cream social

All Democrats are invited to join the Litchfield's Democrats at Lix Ice Cream and Catering, Located at 55 Charles Bancroft HWY (Rt.

from 1 - 3 p.m. Meet candidates, participate in values survey, get Absentee Ballot Application for upcoming elections.

Retiree Day Luncheon

The NH Army National Guard (NHARNG) will hold its 15th Annual Retiree Day Luncheon on for Thursday, Sept. 19. Retirees who have not attended prior luncheons or have relocated are urged to contact Command Sergeant Major (Ret) David Follansbee via e-mail: dave_follansbee@comcast.net or (603) 623-7757. Please RSVP no later than Sept. 13. This year's luncheon will be at the Joint Force Headquarters building on the State Military Reservation in Concord and will fea-

3A) On Sunday, Aug. 25, ture a briefing on the current status of the NHARNG as well as exhibits and displays of interest to retirees. A group photo is also planned. The luncheon fee is \$5 at the door.

Veterans Picnic

Hudson Memorial VFW Post 5791 will host its 8th Annual Veterans Appreciation Picnic for All NH veterans and their families at the Hudson VFW, 15 Bockes Rd., Hudson, on Saturday, Sept. 21, from 11 a.m - 3 p.m. The event is open to anyone who has served in any branch of the U.S. military. Veterans don't have to be a member of the VFW, American Legion, or any other veterans' organization to attend. This is just a recognition of service and an opportunity to meet fellow

Veterans. Vets are encouraged to bring their spouses, kids, and grandkids. There is a large fenced-in picnic area (weather permitting) and a large hall if the weather is bad. There will be horseshoes, bocce, and corn hole games, plus games and activities for the kids. New this year, at noon there will be a Cornhole Tournament with a prize for the winner. Veterans are automatically entered in a drawing for free door prizes! Various Veterans Service Organizations (VSOs) will be on hand to distribute information and speak with Veterans about the services they offer.

Dungeons & Donuts

Looking for fellow Dungeons & Dragons players? Come and grab a donut at Rogers Library on Saturday, Sept 7 and 21 at 9:30 a.m.

Renaissance Tile Zentangle Class

On Wednesday, Sept 11 at p.m., and Thursday, Sept. 19 at 6:30 p.m., join Diane MacKinnon, Certified Zentangle Teacher, and create a beautiful tile together at or less.

Rogers Library.

Teen Hangout

Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays at 2 p.m., Teens are invited to relax the Rogers Library teens only space. Snacks, games, crafts, and Nintendo Switch available.

Postpartum Support Group

On Thursday, Sept. 5 at 10 a.m., gather with other postpartum parents and newborns to talk about how you're healing and feeling at the Rogers Library.

Rodgers Readers

On Thursday, Sept. 5 at 7 p.m., come to the Rogers Library to discuss "Isaac's Storm: a Man, a Time, and the Deadliest Hurricane in History" by Erik Larson.

Book Sale

On Sunday, Sept. 8 at 11 a.m., sponsored by the Friends of the Library. At Hills Memorial Library (downstairs), 18 Library St., Hudson. There will be Books, CDs, DVDs, for all ages. \$2

Galaxy Jar Art

On Tuesday, Sept. 10 at 6 p.m., students in grades K-4 are invited to Rogers Library to create their own galaxy in a

Library Donation Event

On Thursday, Sept 12, bring your gently used books, all day to Rogers Library. Conditions and exceptions apply; see events.rodgerslibrary.org for details.

Teen Splatter Paint

On Thursday, Sept. 12 at 6 p.m., help the Rogers Library Decorate Paper Mache Letters for the Teen Area! Whip, Throw, and Splatter Paint.

Access Wisdom Book Club

On Thursday, Sept. 12 at 7 p.m., certified life coach Diane MacKinnon leads a discussion of "I Thought it Was Just Me: Women Reclaiming Power and Courage in a Culture of Shame" by Brene Brown, at Rogers Library.

continued on page 15

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Around TownContinued from page 13

Stitchers' Circle

On Saturday, Sept. 14 at 9:30 a.m., come and stitch/cross stitch, blackwork, embroider, knit, crochet, hand craft with Oonagh Williams at the Rogers Library.

Outdoor Storytime

On Saturday, Sept. 14 at 10 a.m., come to Rogers Library for stories, songs, and bubbles on the library lawn.

Mystery Lovers Book Club

On Monday, Sept 16 at 1 p.m., come to this Rogers Library Book Club. This month's book pick is "The Other Woman" by Hank Phillippi Ryan.

Planning Disney Vacation

On Tuesday, Sept. 17 at 6:30 p.m., join Katie Midgley to learn some tips and tricks to help you navigate your Disney vacation at the Rogers Library.

Apple Boats

Can you use an apple to make a boat that will float? Find out on Wednesday, Sept. 18 at 6 p.m., at the Rogers Library. For grades K-4 and their grown ups.

Crime & Cookies

True Crime Podcast Club at the Rogers Library on Wednesday, Sept. 18, at 7 p.m. This month will discuss "BOOTH" from Infamous America.

Characters & Cocoa

On Thursday, Sept. 19 at 5:30 p.m., Rogers Library

will hold its is a monthly group for writers to socialize and talk about the craft. The emphasis will be more on discussion than workshopping.

Tween Disney Trivia

On Thursday, Sept. 19 at 6:30 p.m., Grades 4-8 are invited to join Ms. Maggie at the Rogers Library to test their knowledge of Disney songs, characters, and movies. Prizes awarded. Snacks served.

Apple Party

On Sept. 20 and 21 at 10 a.m., explore apple themed learning centers with your preschooler at Rogers Library. For ages 2-6. This is a drop in event.

Tween Escape Room

On Monday, Sept. 24 at 6 p.m., come to the Rogers Library for an Escape Room.

Pajama Storytime

On Wednesday, Sept. 25 at 6:30 p.m., come to the Rogers Library in your pajamas and enjoy songs and stories for the whole family with Miss Tanya.

Family Pokemon Go

On Thursday, Sept. 28 at 10 a.m., join Ms. Maggie to locate and capture Pokemon in Benson Park.

Cookbook Club

Prepare a recipe from this month's topic, then engage with others about your recipe adventures on Monday, Sept. 30 at 11:30 a.m., at Rogers Library. This month's cookbook is "Modern Comfort Food: a Barefoot Contessa" Cookbook by Ina Garten .

Read 'Em & Eat

On Monday, Sept. 30 at 7 p.m., come to T-Bones to discuss books over good food and drinks. September's book is "The Maid" by Nita Prose.

Watercolor Frog Painting

On Thursday, Sept. 26 at 6 p.m., students in grades K-4 are invited to join Ms. Marissa at Rogers Library for a guided paint-along of a frog.

Preschool Parade on Wheels

On Friday, Sept. 27 at 10 a.m., bring your bike, scooter, wagon, or stroller for a parade at the Rogers Library. Helmets required for bikes and scooters.

Open House

Hudson Memorial Post 5791 of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the US is holding an Open House on Aug. 23 from 6 - 8 p.m., at the post home 15 Bockes Rd., Hudson. If you are a VFW eligible veteran, come check out our facilities and talk to Post Commander Chuck Chapman about what the post and the VFW have to offer you. If you are not an eligible veteran or not a veteran, but are interested in touring the post, you're welcome as well. Find out what the post can do for your organization or check out the function hall. To check on VFW eligibility requirements go to VFW.org, click on Join and then select Eligibility.

Brunch Bunch

On Fridays at 11 a.m., Eat pancakes and talk about books you love or hate at Rogers Library. For students entering 5th-12th grades.

Those attending will be divided by age (Tween 10-13 and Teen 13-18) if the group is large enough.

Preschool Water Play

On Wednesdays at 10 a.m., Preschoolers ages 2-5 are invited to play with water tables and toys on the Rogers library lawn.

Benson Park Saturday Cleanup

Please join the Friends of Benson Park on the third Saturday of each month to make the beautiful park even more beautiful! Donate whatever time you can between the hours of 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. Tools are available but bring your own shovels, rakes, pruners, loppers, etc. if you have them. Great people. Great fun. Great exercise. Lunch provided. Sign up online by going to the Friends of Benson Park website (friendsofbensonpark.org) and providing your email address in the "Contact Us" section.

Buy-A-Brick

Buy a memorial brick in honor of that special someone for this Friends of the Library fundraiser. Details are available at the Rodgers Memorial Library website rodgerslibrary.org

Dino the Therapy Dog

Every Tuesday at 4 p.m., come meet Dino, the therapy dog at the Rodgers Memorial Library. Dino is a St. Bernard who loves to make new friends.

Drop In Stitchers

Come to the Rodgers

Memorial Library every Friday at 9:15 a.m. for this craft group. If you love to craft, whether it be quilting, knitting, crocheting, rug making or plastic canvas, you will LOVE this group! If you're starting a new skill or brushing up on an old one or even if you just like to chat while pretending to work, this is a judgment free

A Good Yarn

On Tuesdays at 5 p.m., come to the Rodger 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.

Songs & Snuggles

On Thursdays Sept. 12, 19 and 26, at 10 a.m., enjoy time together with other caregivers and their babies to learn, play, and develop language and motor skills at the Rodgers Memorial Library.

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 A) low-income, and B) living in our Greater Nashua catchment 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. Please email info@unitedwaynashua.org if you have any questions.

Movers & Shakers

Every Wednesday at 10 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. (except Sept. 4)there will be a Toddler storytime for kids that don't sit still for long at the Rodgers Memorial Library. Songs, stories, games, and activities for ages 1-3. Registration is required. Please indicate how many will attend including adults, infants, and siblings. Caretaker participates.

PFOA Water Test

You can request a water sampling here: Southern NH PFOA Investigation Private Well-Testing Request Form Survey (surveymonkey.com) Questions contact Amy Rousseau | PFAS Response Administrator - MtBE Remediation Bureau at NH Department of Environmental Services Email: Amy.Rousseau-@des.nh.gov, Phone: 603.271.8801

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.

Teen Hangout

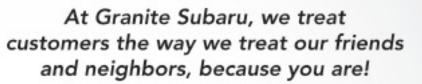
On Tuesdays in Aug. at 2:30 p.m., the Rodgers Memeorial Library will have a Teens only time for snacking, playing board games and video games, doing crafts after school, and just hanging out. Ages 13-18 only.







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SALES HOURS

Monday	9:00AM - 8:00PM
Tuesday	9:00AM - 8:00PM
Wednesday	9:00AM - 8:00PM
Thursday	9:00AM - 8:00PM
Friday	9:00AM - 6:00PM
Saturday	9:00AM - 5:00PM
Sunday	10:00AM - 3:00PM

SERVICE HOURS

Monday	7:00AM - 6:00PM
Tuesday	7:00AM - 6:00PM
Wednesday	7:00AM - 6:00PM
Thursday	7:00AM - 6:00PM
Friday	7:00AM - 5:00PM
Saturday	8:00AM - 3:00PM
Sunday	CLOSED

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