# Fucson Times

December 12, 2024 ◆ Volume 2 – Issue 50

A FREE Weekly Publication



VISIT Christian Gaudet shares her holiday wishes with Santa at the third annual Festival of Wreaths at Hudson Memorial Middle School on Saturday. Dec. 7. Over 75 holiday-themed wreaths were being raffled off at the event this year. See more photos page 12.

## Interim Option For Finance Director Approved by BOS

ALEX MALM HUDSON TIMES

Selectmen voted on a number of personnel items, during its Nov. 26 non public meeting, according to draft minutes from the meeting.

One of the proposals was to appoint Town Accountant Beth McKee as Interim Finance DepartFinance Director is hired.

Longtime Finance Dir-The Hudson Board of ector Lisa Labrie previously tendered her resignation.

As part of the change, the Board of Selectmen also unanimously approved increasing her salary by 7.5% while performing the duties as the Interim Finance Supervisor.

One of the decisions ment Supervisor until a was to hire Joshua Kippen-

han as a full-time police officer with a starting pay rate of \$28.82 per hour, which is in accordance with the Hudson Police Employee Association Contract.

The Board of Selectmen unanimously approved the

Another agenda item was in regards to the hiring of Alexi Jarry as a full-time

## **Superintendent Explains School's \$69.5 M Budget**

HUDSON TIMES

The Hudson Budget Committee met on Dec. 4 with an in-depth look at the proposed school district budget of \$69,577,219 for the 2025-26 fiscal year.

Superintendent of Hudson Schools, Dr. Daniel Moulis went over key budgetary items.

"As part of the Executive Summary, there's the School Board's direction, Superintendent's direction, enrollment numbers, budget drivers, warrant articles, default budget, and grant funds," he outlined. "As part of the direction from the School Board, we are looking at a comprehensive budget to support our goals

and priorities as part of our years to the Budget Comstrategic plan, looking at the skills and competencies that support students in the areas for student's needs and the area of college and career readiness."

Enrollment was a perennial concern for town offi-

"We are seeing here that projecting through 2025-2026 through fifth grade, we may be seeing some growth," said Committee member Shawn Jasper. "But we really haven't seen that previously. Is there a new trend here?"

It was unclear why the new projection was different. Moulis promised to send all enrollment forecasts from the past five mittee.

He also outlined the importance of academic intervention and a clear curriculum as central goals for SAU 81. Infrastructure and capital improvement projects will be included in warrant articles, except for a \$130,000 window replacement project at Hudson Memorial, which is in the FY 2026 budget. The numbers include an attempt to maintain staffing levels if possible. Several separate warrant articles were still being finalized.

Security, both physical and technological, was also a growing concern for the Superintendent.

continued on page 4

## **School Fund Balance Pays** for Three Warrant Articles

ALEX MALM **HUDSON TIMES** 

During the most recent meeting of the Hudson School Board, members reviewed and recommended three proposed warrant articles that would be funded by fund balance from last years budget.

One of the proposed warrant articles the board looked at was for a fire alarm system at Hudson Memorial School.

The proposed warrant article states:

"Shall the Hudson School District vote to raise and appropriate a sum of up to \$75,000 to replace the fire alarm system at Hudson Memorial School? This sum is to come from the **continued on page 3** June 30 fund balance avail- reads:

able for transfer on July 1 with no amount to be raised by additional taxation. This is a special warrant article."

One change to the wording that was recommended by the School Board was to change the wording from fire alarm system to panel to better reflect what the warrant article is for. The School Board agreed to make the change.

The warrant article, if approved, would not have any tax rate impact and it was unanimously approved by the School Board.

Another warrant article that was discussed during the meeting was related to the installation of additional emergency alert beacons.

The warrant article

"Shall the Hudson School District vote to raise and appropriate a sum of up to \$63,800 to add additional emergency alert beacons throughout the district? This sum is to come from the June 30 fund balance available for transfer on July 1 with no amount to be raised by additional taxation. This is a special warrant article."

Since the funds for the warrant article if approved would be coming from the June 30 fund balance, if approved by voters, this warrant article would also not have an estimated tax rate impact.

The School Board voted to recommend the warrant article.

continued on page 7

## Selectmen Get Briefed On November's General Election

At the most recent Hudson Board of Selectmen taken up was was a presentation from the Town Moderator, regarding how the most recent general election went in November.

Town Moderator Paul Inderbitzen noted that they had over 14,000 ballots were cast during the General Election.

"There were 14,723 ballots cast, a 78.1 percent voter turnout, a record for Hudson," Inderbitzen said. "Our Ballot Clerks and Supervisors of the Checklist processed an average of 980.9 voters per hour overall with 513.3 per hour at Memorial School and 430.3 per hour at Alvirne High School."

said there were 2,053 "ab- tors, but it did not slow up and took down both polling with traffic control, espe- tion laws, Inderbitzen said sentee votes were processed at Memorial."

"Town Clerk, Ms. Brewmeeting, one agenda item ster, with the help of Tax Collector, Ms. Strout-Lizotte, did an amazing job of coordinating the absentee process," Inderbitzen said. 'The Supervisors of the Checklist staff registered 1682 new voters as well as 173 name and address changes."

> Inderbitzen also added that he had not heard about any traffic issues during this year's election.

"I was not made aware of any parking issues at either location," Inderbitzen said. "As with most of the state's towns, we had long lines at both locations and did our best to process voters as quickly as possible. We had some equipment In addition, Inderbitzen problems with the tabula- the DPW efficiently set up

the checkout process at the ballot boxes."

Inderbitzen then went on to thank those who helped out with the election.

"I must commend the hard-working staff for their efforts. Many stayed extra hours or came back to help after their shift. Their dedication and efforts helped make this election successful," he said. "We also had some Alvirne students acting as greeters which helped keep the lines moving."

During the election GFWC Hudson Women's Club also helped out.

"I want to thank the GFWC Hudson Women's Club for providing dinner for the workers at the both locations and tabulating the write-ins," Inderbitzen said.

He added: "The staff of

places, especially at Alvime where they came back at the end of the night so the cafeteria could be reset for the next school day. The staffs at Memorial and Alvirne were very helpful."

Inderbitzen during the meeting, said The Hudson Police Dept. did a great job

cially at Memorial."

"I would also like to thank the voters of Hudson for their patience and perse-

Over all, given the large turnout, I believe that this election went as well as can be expected," he said.

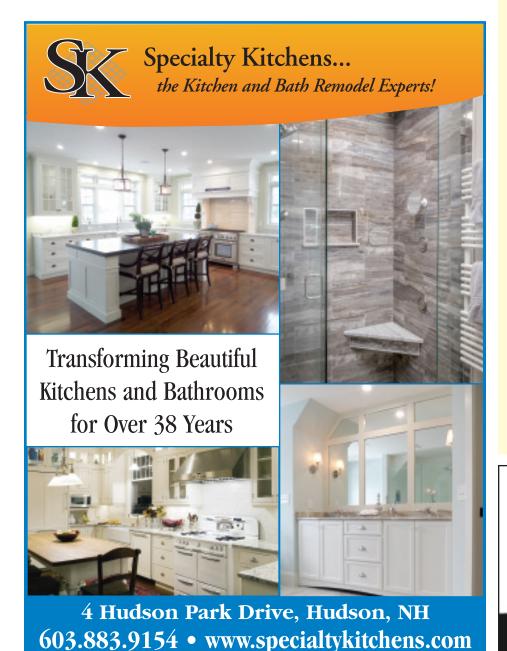
With changes in elec-

that they are planning on doing some PSAS specifically about the new law requiring a photo I.D. to vote, saying they hope to make them before the March election.

"If you don't come in with a voter I.D. you can't vote," Inderbitzen said.



Wreath Arrival Christina Madden displays two of the nearly 400 wreath that were delivered to the Hudson VFW Post 5791 on Monday morning. The wreath were purchased through the Wreaths Across America organization with donations collected over the past few years. The town of Hudson will celebrate the National Wreaths Across America Day on Saturday, Dec. 14, beginning at 11 a.m. on the grounds of the Hills House at 211 Derry Road. The ceremony includes the presentation of Ceremonial Wreaths for each of the armed services, the Merchant Marine, and POW/MIA. In Hudson, two additional wreaths are presented by the Knights of Columbus for the several hundred veterans buried in St. Partick's and Holy Cross Cemeteries where wreath laying is not allowed. Hudson Memorial VFW Post 5791 and Auxiliary is the official sponsor of the Hudson event. Photo by Chris Paul



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## **School Board Approves Amended Policy For Student Member**

The Hudson School Board had a third policy reading, during its most recent meeting, related to its updated policy on student member of the board.

As part of the policy it explains that the "The School Board will have one student School Board member from Alvirne High School. Student School Board members ("student members") will not have the right to vote and will be

excluded from all non-pub- Student Government it lic sessions the School Board enters."

"Student members will serve one-year terms, beginning in June of each year. A student is eligible for reelection, if applicable," the policy states. "Student members will be chosen by a majority vote of the high school student body under procedures for nomination and election established by the student government of the high school."

For responsibilities of

explains that The student school shall establish procedures for:

- 1. The nomination and election of student-member candidates;
- 2. Any public high school student in the school district to petition the student member to present proposals and opinions to the School Board;
- 3. Filling any vacancy that may occur in the student-member position from

One of the questions government of the high raised during the previous meeting was in regards to changing when the student would be required to stay

> School Board member Ethan Beals explained that he was concerned with having a specific time for the student to stay until.

> The proposed language under student member expectations stated that the student member "Attends School Board meetings, at a

completed prior, excluding discussions and procedures involving subjects which are confidential under RSA 91-A (i.e., non public sessions held in accordance with 91-A:2 and 3);"

The other expectations include:

- Represent all students within the district
- Present to the School Board specific proposals and ideas from the high school student body, and when appropriate, place proposals on the School Board agenda in accordance with Board Procedures
- Serve as a liaison between students and the principal, other faculty, student government advisors, appropriate outside agencies, and district staff and the School Board
  - Keep the student body

business and actions · Comply with all

School Board policies relative to students and School Board members, when applicable

Hudson Superintendent Dan Moulis said that they tried to make the policy so they would be able to stay past 8 p.m. if they wanted.

School Board Chair Maureen Dionne, said that the discussion for the changes to the policy was to have consistency with what other districts have for their expectations.

The School Board ultimately approved the updated policy with amended language to change it so the student member has to stay until a minimum of 8 p.m. or to the maximum extent possible.

## Finance

continued from page 1

Telecommunication Technician with a starting salary of \$23.09 per hour, which is in accordance with the Hudson Police Employee Association Contract.

The Board of Selectmen unanimously approved the hiring of Jarry.

Also during the meeting, the Board of Selectmen unanimously approved denying the firefighter Step 2 would extend the firefightgrievance filed by the International Association of Fire Fighters.

Another proposal reviewed by the Board of Selectmen during the non public session was to authorize entering into a MOU with the firefighters union.

The proposal was to authorize the Board to enter into an MOU with the Professional Firefighters of Hudson Local 3154 which

ers probationary period to one year from the employee's date of hire to complete the specified requirements and establish requirements that must be met within eighteen months from the employee's date of hire.

On the recommendation of Fire Chief Scott Tice the Board of Selectmen unanimously approved entering into the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Professional Firefighters of Hudson Local 3154

During the public portion of the meeting, Board of Selectmen Chair Bob Guessferd noted that the Sustainability Committee will be collecting old Christmas lights around town for people to dispose of by recycling the lights.

The next Hudson Board of Selectmen meeting is slated to take place on Jan. 7 beginning at 7 a.m.

#### **Hudson Times**

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## Editorial

#### **Taxing Choice For Residents**

Facing a proposed increase for the 2025-26 budget, board members asked administrators and staff to find ways to cut the spending.

The proposed budget represents an increase over the 2023-24 budget.

The primary drivers for the proposed budget remain health insurance, personnel costs, repair and maintenance costs, and equipment costs. These all increase as our town expands rapidly, a little too much and too fast for my taste.

With the budget season in full swing, we hope that the boards keep the taxpayers in mind in this difficult economy. In current times, it makes good financial sense to ask officials in your town to sharpen their pencils, and do everything possible to reduce spending and lower burdensome property taxes.

Many communities throughout the region are dealing with escalating property taxes that are causing financial stress for a large number of residents. Of those affected, elderly homeowners are often the ones who suffer and have the most to lose. Living on fixed incomes, they struggle to pay their bills and have trouble covering the high costs of such items as prescription medications and home heating oil.

Seniors face the daunting task of keeping up with the rising cost of living while trying to stay in their homes. In some cases, they have lived in the same house for decades and really have nowhere else to go. Their children are grown and they are often left alone to handle daily living expenses and pay for

maintenance and repair costs on their aging properties. Even a small percentage increase in property taxes could be financially catastrophic and enough to force them out of their homes. While seniors who no longer have children attending school do benefit if property values remain stable or increase, they also suffer if property taxes rise precipitously.

Developing a budget isn't an easy job, as officials must balance reducing costs while trying to maintain services such as police and fire at a reasonable level. As they work on their spending plans, we encourage them to scrutinize the bottom line, while keeping in mind the most vulnerable in their community. After all, we want to be an inclusive community and avoid becoming an elitist community, one that prioritizes actively welcoming people. We want to focus on creating a community where everyone feels comfortable and can afford to belong here!

Although state and federal taxes usually garner the most attention, New Hampshire property owners pay more in local taxes when compared to many other states. Yet during the budget season, few typically attend school and town budget planning sessions.

We urge you to attend these meetings and exercise your right to question and hold officials accountable during the budget season; making them look at whether is it a true need or a want. After all, it's the taxpayer's money and we have a say in how it is spent - but only if we participate in the process can that happen.

## Hudson Times

The Hudson Times is a weekly publication covering Hudson related news and information, it is available at a number of drop-off locations throughout the town.

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## Travel Requests for CTE, HR & UN Club Get Okay

ALEX MALM

At the Dec. 2 Hudson School Board meeting, travel requests from the Model U.N. Club, the CTE Center and HR were all approved by members.

"The Alvirne Model U.N. Club is seeking permission to attend an overnight field trip to Boston for the Boston University Model U.N. Conference from February 7-9, 2025," Alvirne High School Principal Steve Beals wrote in a memo to the School Board. "This three-day high school simulation of the United Nations is held annually. Its goals include aiming to teach students skills in public speaking, diplomacy, and problem solving that they can apply to the real world."

It was explained by Beals that the "advisor and

students would be happy to present their learning to the school board as follow up to the activity, if approved."

"The cost is \$550 for each student participant which we anticipate being 8 students. Funds will be paid by interested families and will include fundraising activities to offset the cost," Beals wrote in a memo to the Hudson School Board.

The Board of Selectmen unanimously approved the travel request during the meeting.

Another agenda item was in regards to a proposal for the CTE Center.

"The Alvirne Farm Manager, Emery Nadeau, would like to attend the NY Farm Show in Syracuse February 20-22," wrote in a memo to the Board of Selectmen.

It was noted by CTE Director Eric Frauwirth

students would be happy to that it's a show that Nadeau present their learning to the normally attends.

"This is a yearly farm show where Emery networks with other industry professionals and has a chance to explore advances in technology, equipment, and processes. Revolving funds will be used for hotel and mileage reimbursement of roughly \$1,100," Frauwirth wrote in the memo to the School Board

The School Board ultimately unanimously approved the request during the meeting.

Also during the meeting, the School Board approved a workshop request for Joyce Call. The workshop is a "HR Bootcamp" in Anaheim California on Jan. 30 and 31. The cost is \$1 325

The next School Board meeting is slated for Dec. 16, at 6:30 p.m.

## **Budget**Continued from page 1

"We did have a cybersecurity incident that happened at the end of June and July," said Moulis. "As part of this budget, we are looking to continue to improve and update our security systems as part of the network."

Committee member Bob Wherry noted that SAFE Grant funding had been specifically allocated for security and safety features "attributed to the infrastructure of the schools." Recent security-focused infrastructure features included increased surveillance of Alvirne High School.

The proposed approved budget for the upcoming fiscal year is \$69,577,219. The default budget is \$69,415,543. Neither am-

ount included the warrant articles.

As usual, there was a focus on using state and federal funds, when possible, with a focus on how to fill the gap left by sunsetting funds such as the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) Fund. Several staff positions are partially or completely totally covered by ongoing grants.

"On these grants, how much is each one?" asked Committee member Randy Brownrigg after reading through the numbers. "Like the Title IV technology, how much is that grant that we receive?"

Morris stated the Title IV grant was \$69,932.57 this year, lower compared to the last two years. Many grants expire after five years, and the amount paid out in a given year can vary.

"So, you have 31 staff in grants for FY 2025. Do you know what that's going to be in FY 2026? What's the number?" asked Committee member Rich Weissgarber. "When the grant funding stops, do you carry the person over onto an existing vacant space?"

There was no exact number, although school officials expected it to possibly decrease slightly with a projected decline in Title Grant money. Several positions funded using ESSER had been moved to the district's operating budget. Other positions, like most social-emotional learning coaches, were phased out when federal funding.

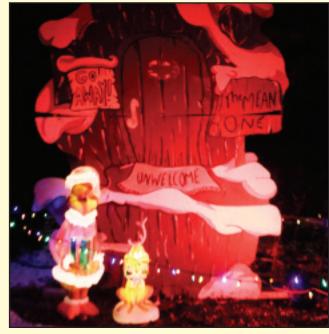
The next meeting of the Hudson Budget Committee is scheduled for Thursday, Dec. 19, at 7 p.m. in the Buxton Meeting Room.

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 Huson Times reserves the right to reject or edit letters for content, length, and frequency. Anonymous letters will not be printed.

## **Andrews Family Christmas Lights Shine Bright in Hudson**







Residents looking for a healthy dose of Christmas spirit should head to 17 Winding Hollow Road in Hudson for the annual Andrews Family Christmas light display. It is designed for people to walk through and also watch from their vehicles. Santa will make an appearance on Saturday, Dec. 14 at 6 p.m. *Photos by Chris Paul* 

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## **Board Tables Proposal For Target Inspector/Engineer**

HUDSON TIMES

At the most recent Hudson Board of Selectmen meeting, the Selectmen were presented with a proposal from the Fire Department related to the Inspector/Professional Engineer needed at the Target Distribution Center project.

"The Hudson Fire Department has been working through the formal bidding process for an Inspector/ Professional Engineer related to the Target Distribution Center project," Hudson Fire Chief Scott Tice wrote in a memo to the Board of Selectmen. "A request for the Town," Tice said during of this project, there is not a our Town Attorney and a a full-time inspector, at least proposal (RFP) was developed and advertised."

Tice explained during the meeting that the reasons they are looking for the engineer is because once Target begins to make progress, they are expected to need inspections at a rate that the Fire Department wouldn't be able to keep up

It was explained by Tice that the Town would be the ones who would be managing the contract with the engineering firm.

"They will be doing the inspections on the behalf of the meeting.

Tice explained that as part of the process, they originally received no formal bids by the deadline.

"No formal bids were received by the deadline of 10 a.m., on Monday Sept. 16, 2024," Tice wrote in the

He explained that after they received no bids they "continued to solicit vendors to discuss our needs regarding this RFP.

"On Oct. 15, 2024 we received a bid from Wright-Pierce," Tice wrote in the memo. "Due to the nature

specific total amount to award as services are based on an hourly rate."

Tice explained that Target would be the ones who are paying for the fees to the engineer, and that the Town wouldn't be on the hook for it.

"While the town will be paying for these charges directly to Wright-Pierce once invoiced, this will be fully funded by Target as part of their conditions related to construction practices," Tice explained. "The proposal from Wright-Pierce has been reviewed by

form of agreement has been drafted which would be signed upon approval from the Board."

Tice said that as part of the development agreement with Target, they are responsible for the inspec-

"There is no cost to the taxpayer," Tice said.

Selectman Heidi Jakoby explained that she thought there was supposed to be a full-time inspector as part of the development agree-

Tice explained that they don't think they would need

at this point.

Tice added the stipulation was for a full-time inspector, but said its likely not needed for full-time

However, other Selectmen agreed with Jakoby noting they should look at what the development agreement says before making any decisions.

"I agree we enforce those stipulations, so we need to follow what the stipulations says," Selectman David Morin said.

The Board of Selectmen ultimately agreed to table the proposal.

#### Committee Finalizes Spending Recon mendations for Town

PAUL CONYERS **HUDSON TIMES** 

meeting of the Hudson Budget Committee saw its Malizia. "I can't always members discuss Hudson's expected revenue in the going to do, how many are

2025-2026 town budget.

"Revenue's a little bit The last November hard to predict," Acting Town Administrator Steve predict what people are

going to register for vehicles, or what they're going to do for permits. We can control spending, with revenue we can certainly make our best-faith estimate, but it is a best-faith estimate at this point in time."

Committee member Shawn Jasper warned against underestimating the tax rate. After researching the state's meals and rentals tax, he moved to increase the revenue estimate in the budget from town \$1,793,865 to \$2,200,000. The motion carried unani-

There were also a few additional expenses added to the general town budget, including a request from the Board of Selectmen to add \$13,200 for two poll pads to the Town Moderator's 2026 budget for future town and midterm elections. Several members of the Budget Committee saw this purchase as unneces-

"Because we're heading into a year with just town elections, I think we have sufficient poll pads," said member Bob Wherry. "I'm not one for kicking the can down the road, but I think we would be better served to postpone those poll pads for a year before the midterm elections."

He added that the town may need to replace some of its older voting machines over the next few years, and wanted to focus on that before poll pads. Committee member Randy Brownrigg raised the possibility of renting poll pads if there was a sudden need for more of them next year. Other members argued in favor of buying more pads now instead of waiting.

"I think it does make sense to purchase them now. I'm not sure that renting ever really works out that well, because they have to make their money back. The rent over a very short period of time exceeds what the cost is," said Jasper. "It makes sense to put them in this budget, but not buy them until the end of June.'

Lawrence wanted to know how much more the pads might cost in the

"Technology always costs more if you wait," warned Malizia. He was unable to give an exact number on how much more expensive the pads would be in 2026.

After heavy debate, the Budget Committee narrowly voted against endorsing the \$13,200 for poll pads.

They unanimously voted to recommend the 2025-2026 general gross budget of \$38,791,101 to voters, the \$2,457,091 sewer budget (supported by user fees), and the water fund budget of \$3,974,199.

The next Budget Committee meeting was scheduled for Wednesday, Dec. 11, at 7 p.m. at Town Hall.







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## Benson Park Committee Thank Shoe Exhibit Volunteers

PAUL CONYERS HUDSON TIMES

The Benson Park Committee opened the Nov. 21 meeting with public thanks for work done by Paul and Claudia Tracey, who spent much of last summer restoring the Old Woman in the Shoe exhibit. Committee Sue Clement noted the Shoe had been in disrepair for some time.

"There was old paint that had to be scraped off, primer that had to be applied, new paint had to be applied, windows had to be reopening. The Shoe dates

wood had to be repaired, new locks had to be installed I believed three times, and this fall we had the privilege of reopening the Shoe," outline Clement. "The most interesting thing about this couple is they don't even live in our town; they have to drive probably 99 miles each time they come to work on the Shie and the garden that's around the Shoe."

Over 200 visitors came to see the Shoe on its recent

replaced, graffiti on the back to the former Benson's Animal Farm theme park.

> "We would like to honor you both for your volunteer services by presenting you with a Certificate of Appreciation from the town, and from the Benson Park Board," said Clement. "Thank you so much for all that you done for the park."

> The Committee thanked Southern New Hampshire University's Inter-Greek Council, including its president Roxanne, who had

unteer work. With help from the Council, over 40 students were at Benson Park last October to help with work like trail upkeep, tree clearance, and Adopt-A-Spot maintenance.

"We need this by many volunteers, so I'm hoping by showing our appreciation, it will help to make our park continue to look as beautiful as it does," said Clement. "I hope your group will continue to return for years to come."

The Benson Park Committee gave the Inter-Greek

434-1444

Committee Chair Judy Brouillette also moved to recognize the achievements of several people unable to make it to their meeting, including Mike Regis for his contributions towards restoring the dog park.

"His innovation, ideas, leadership, and donations have made a significant difference, and inspired others to help out and do some work at the park," said Brouillette. "He was instrumental in spreading and regrading the area outside of the dog park."

Regis was responsible Council a certificate of for some of the heavier

Marshall of Sunshine Paving.

"It was with Keith's donation of having multiple pills dropped off so that we would have the actual material needed," said Brouil-

She also thanked staff member Astin Fortier for overseeing communication between Regis and the Committee and Dennis White Jr. from Dirty Dog Enterprises for dropping off donated material.

The Benson Park Committee will meet on Thursday, Dec. 19, at 7 p.m. in the

Continued from page 1

The third warrant article discussed was in regards to the Science Labs at Hudson Memorial School.

The proposed warrant article states:

"Shall the Hudson School District vote to raise and appropriate a sum of up to \$225,000 to upgrade two Science Classrooms/Labs at Hudson Memorial School? This sum is to come from the June 30 fund balance available for transfer on July 1 with no amount to be raised by additional taxation. This is a special warrant article."

It was noted during the meeting, that since the funds for the warrant article would come from the end of the year fund balance, the

Hudson **Times 537-2760** 

warrant article wouldn't have an estimated tax rate impact even if it's approved by the voters in March.

The School Board unanimously approved recommending the warrant article during the meeting.

This year's school dis-

trict Deliberative Session is set to take place on Feb. 8 beginning at 9 a.m. with voting day set to take place on Tuesday, March 11.

The Hudson School Board is set to meet again on Jan. 6 beginning at 6:30



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## **Hudson Cub Scout Pack Entertains Fairview Residents**





Members of Hudson Pack 21 visited the Fairview Senior Living facility last Wednesday night and entertained residents with some holiday carolling and festive attire. The scouts have been visiting the seniors for a number of years, bring holiday cheer.

Photos by Chris Paul











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## **School Board Tables Recommendations On Warrant Articles**

ALEX MALM HUDSON TIMES

At the Dec. 2 Hudson School Board meeting, a number of proposed warrant July 1 with no amount to be articles were debated.

One of the proposed tion." warrant articles was related to increasing funds in the Alvirne Farm Capital Reserve Fund.

The proposed warrant article states:

"Shall the Hudson School District vote to raise and appropriate a sum of up to \$150,000 to be added to the Alvirne Farm Capital Reserve Fund approved by voters in March 2024 and article states:

established in August 2024? This sum is to come from the June 30 fund balance available for transfer on raised by additional taxa-

If approved by voters in March, the warrant article wouldn't have a tax impact, since the funds would come from end of the year fund halance.

Another proposed warrant article was related to increasing funds in the Capital Reserve School Renovation Fund.

The proposed warrant

"Shall the Hudson School District vote to raise and appropriate a sum of up to \$150,000 to be added to the Capital Reserve School Renovation Fund established in September 1999? This sum is to come from the June 30 fund balance available for transfer on July 1 with no amount to be raised by additional taxation."

The proposed warrant article would not have an estimated tax rate impact, since funds would be coming from the end of the year fund balance.

School Board member

Ethan Beals argued for potentially flipping the order of the two proposed warrant articles.

"Personally I would flip the two of them," Beals said.

School Board member Gary Gasdia said that he thinks they need money in both of the capital reserve funds, but based on what was presented previously he thinks the Alvirne Farm Capital Reserve Fund is more needed currently.

It was decided to hold off on voting on any recommendations until the Dec. 16 school board meeting.

The other warrant article discussed was in regards to the proposed budget and the proposed default budget.

As it stands now the proposed warrant article meeting under RSA 40:13-

"Shall the Hudson School District vote to raise and appropriate as an operating budget, not including appropriations by special warrant article and other appropriations voted separately, the amounts set forth on the budget posted with the warrant or as amended by vote at the first session, for the purposes set forth totaling therein. \$69,577,219? Should this article be defeated, the default budget shall be \$69,041,735, which is the same as last year, with certain adjustments required by previous action of the Hudson School District or by law; or the governing body may hold one special

X and XVI to take up the issue of a revised operating budget only."

If approved by voters the proposed operating budget would be a negative 9 cent increase on the tax rate, due to various factors. while the proposed default budget would be a negative 14 cent increase to the tax

The concern by the School Board was how to communicate it well on the warrant article.

"I don't like how this is presented," School Board Vice Chair Mike Campbell said during the meeting.

It was decided to postpone making any recommendation on the warrant article until the Dec. 16 meeting.

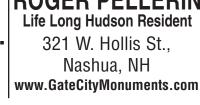


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## Planning Board Reviews Proposed Creation of New Zoning District

Paul Conyers **HUDSON TIMES** 

The Hudson Planning Board held a workshop meeting on Dec. 4 to go over Zoning Amendments for the upcoming year, starting with the proposed establishment of a new Rural Residential District according to Item One.

"Essentially what this would be is a lower density, residential district that's, for the most part, restricted to single family residential uses, agricultural uses, and then a handful of uses that are permitted everywhere, such as municipal uses and schools," explained Interim Planner, Town Jay Minkarah. "The area that we're talking about is essentially the least developed part of Hudson."

Duplexes would not be allowed, although homes

apartment in a converted basement or attic, would be allowed. The formal definition of a duplex under town law is a unit with separate utilities and firewall separa-

"When we put this out, that should probably be crystal clear," said Vice-Chair Jordan Ulery. "I'm just thinking about somebody deciding to take a larger house and breaking a couple rooms offs for an inlaw apartment."

The new zoning district would reflect several goals in the town's Master Plan. which aimed to maintain a partially rural character of Hudson. Growing population and related population density have been a significant issue for towns across southern New Hampshire in ple with trailers. We have recent years.

Ulery questioned the with an Accessory Dwelling proposed location for parts Administrator Chris Sulli-

"Take a look at what's marked with around Standish Lane, that's pretty dense," he noted.

Minkarah was open to changing the designation as necessary but questioned whether the Standish Lane area was too dense to be considered rural residential.

The Planning Board unanimously voted to move Item One to a public hearing as written.

Another matter of debate was Item Four, which focused on the issue of tractor-trailers being parked on residential land and would prohibit the parking of such trailers in many zoning districts not earmarked for business or industrial use.

"There's too many peoone property that has seven trailers on it," said Zoning

intent of the article was to reduce the number of commercial trailers in residential areas, not tractor-trailers.

The Planning Board debated the exact wording of Item Four should be. Current zoning law already prohibits vehicles and trailers over 13,000 pounds from being parked outdoors on residentially zoned land.

"One thing you could do, is prohibiting any commercial trailer with a kingpin on it, because all those kingpins," said Alternate Todd Boyer.

The wording of the article also allowed trailers for "loading and unloading" as needed. It didn't specify how long a trailer could be on a property before it would formally violate the article.

"Would we have an issue putting in something for when trailer is there for 12 hours?" asked Board member Victor Oates. "I'm thinking there should be

Unit, such as an attached of the designated rural land. van, who confirmed the commercial trailers have some leniency in there. If it's my job and I just got home, I may not have time to go drop it off at the shop and pick-up my car."

> Sullivan stated it would not be a problem, but objected to allowing a commercial trailer to be on residential property much longer.

> "If it's gone and I don't see it, it's fine," he said.

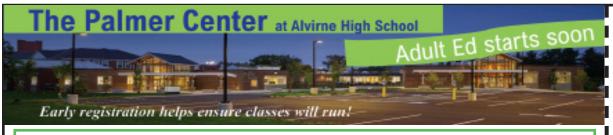
> The Planning Board did not come to a consensus on the final wording of Item Four, agreeing to revisit the issue at a later meeting.



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Welding 1: This popular beginner's class is taught by Hudson's own Dave Anger. Learn the basics! No experience necessary. 5 Weeks 6 - 8:30 p.m., Tuition \$100 (includes materials)

#### TUESDAY NIGHTS: January 7, 14, 21, 28, February 4

Welding 2 Tig & Mig: (Pre-requisite Welding 1) In this course you will build on skills learned in Welding 1 and learn Tig & Mig welding. 5 Weeks 6 - 8:30 p.m., Tuition \$100 (includes materials)

Byzantine Braclet: You can create your own Byzantine bracelet, choice of Copper or Silver, in one night! Tools will be provided. Jan. 21, 5:30 - 8 p.m., Tuition \$20 (materials list to purchase)

Woodworking with Doug: Doug will teach you how to build a small box a cutting board, giving you basic woodworking skills for future projects. 5 Weeks 3 - 5 p.m., Tuition \$75 (includes materials)

World Religions: Join us for two evenings of presentation & discussion of the major faiths of the world. Fact based information from historical accounts of the progressions of faiths & how they evolved through the civilizations & cultures.

Jan. 7 & 14, 5:30 - 8 p.m. Tuition \$30

#### WEDNESDAY NIGHTS: January 8, 15, 22, 29, February 5

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Children's Book Illustration: Learn to use characters & scenes to create engaging illustrations for children's books. Beginners & experienced artists alike will grow foundational drawing skills & creativity. Limited sketching supplies provided, bring drawing/painting materials of choice.

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<u>Monday</u>	Classes

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#### Tuesday Classes

☐ Welding 2 (\$100)
☐ Woodworking (\$75)
☐ World Religions (\$30)

#### Byzantine Bracelet (\$20)

#### **Wednesday Classes**

☐ Woodworking (\$75)
☐ Illustration (\$60)

Name:	
•	

     Email:	
_ Linaii.	

Phone:

## **Hudson Memorial Hosts Annual Wreath Festival**



Over 75 holiday wreaths lined the walls of the Hudson Memorial Middle School for the third annual Festival of Wreaths event on Saturday, Dec. 7. The donated wreaths were being raffled off to families, who had plenty to choose from and a number of activities to take part in. Santa Claus was also available for holiday photos with the children. The event serves as a fund raiser for the school's PTO. Photos by Chris Paul









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

## **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.

#### **Annual Tree Burn**

All are welcome on Friday Jan. 3 with a rain date on the Jan. 4, to Esteys Country Store in Londonderry on RT 102 for their 4th Annual Tree Burn from 6 p.m. until... Friends, customers, bring a tree or just stop by for a bonfire, s'mores, Hot Chocolate, and good company.

#### **Victorian Christmas**

Come and see the beautiful Hills House decorated for Christmas on Dec. 14 from

10 a.m. - 3 p.m., (in conjunction with the Wreaths Across America Ceremony at 11 a.m.) and Dec. 15 from 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. Fantastic photo ops throughout the house. All rooms will be decorated, several by Alvirne students of Mrs. Hill. Light refreshments, cookie decorating for the kids, and Free admission, donations appreciated.

#### **Dungeons & Donuts**

Looking for fellow Dungeons & Dragons players? Come and grab a donut and play at the Rodgers Library on Satur-

#### **Overeaters Anonymous**

day, Dec. 21, at 9:30 a.m.

Is food a problem for you? Do you eat when you are not hungry? Is your weight affecting the way you live your life? Overeaters Anonymous, no dues, no fees, no weigh-ins no diets. Meetings are on Tuesday's from 9 - 10 a.m., at St. Elizabeth Seton Church 190 Meetinghouse Rd., Bedford, use the rear doors for access to the meeting room in the church basement. Contact Pat At 603-289-8476 Or Jane At 603-674-6540 With Any Questions (Not Affiliated With Any Private Or Public Organization)

#### **Teen Hangout**

Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays at 2 p.m., (through Dec. 19) Teens are invited to relax the Rodgers Library teens only space. Snacks, games, crafts, and Nintendo Switch available.

#### **Preschool Water Play**

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

#### **Brunch Bunch**

On Fridays at 11 a.m., Eat pancakes and talk about books you love or hate at Rodgers Library. For students

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

#### **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.

#### BINGO!

Bingo is back at the Senior Center, 19 Kimball Hill Rd., Hudson, every Tuesday afternoon. Slider cards

entering 5th-12th grades. will start being sold at 1:15 p.m., \$1.25 each. You must be registered at the Senior Center to play.

#### **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 zone.

#### **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 Rou-

continued on page 14

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LOCAL LISTINGS FOR LOCAL READERS

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#### Around Town **Continued from page 13**

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#### A Good Yarn

(except Dec. 24) come to the your

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.

#### **Laptop Donation Program**

United Way of Greater Nashua is reintroducing their Tech Connect United Laptop On Tuesdays at 5 p.m., Donation Program. Donate working

tablets, and smartphones, and they will in turn refurbish them for use by lowincome 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 appointmentt email info@unitedwaynashua.org if you have any questions.

## Spread Warmth of Caring with Holiday Cards For Seniors

Inspiring thoughtfulness

This holiday season, by creating handmade holthose in assisted living. This project is a wonderful

ational Relationships by creativity, and share messages of hope and joy.

How it works: Particiwe're inviting children and pants can design cards youth to spread warmth, filled with cheerful greetkindness, and connection ings, drawings, and holiday wishes. Each card iday cards for seniors, in will be delivered to a senour community, including ior in our community, bringing a smile and a sense of companionship to opportunity for kids to those who may feel lonely

Create: Let your creativity shine! Make cards with heartfelt messages, drawings, and decorations. Include Your First Name Only: Sign your card with just your first name to time. Your card will bring

Why It Matters: For many seniors, especially those in assisted living, the holidays can be a lonely

Supporting Intergener- show empathy, practice during the holiday season. make it personal We Pick joy and let them know importance of kindness, How to participate: up: Completed cards will they're not alone. This empathy, and connection. be picked up and deliv- project also helps young people understand the donald@graniteuw.org

For info email: kate.mac-

## **OBITUARY**



Maria del Rosario Millar, 81, of Hudson, NH passed away Wednesday Dec. 4, 2024 at St. Joseph Hospital in Nashua surrounded by her loving family. She was born on March 13, 1943 in rota, Spain to the late Jose Marquez Ruiz and Milagros Maure Fuentes.

Maria came to the U.S. in 1961 following her marriage dren; Milou Grelle, Joseph Millar, and Angela Benson.

with her family by the pool. She enjoyed gardening and was

Maria has six grandchildren; Rhea Maliar, Marina Benson, Tiffany Mailar, Sean Benson, Erik Benson, and Bryan Benson. Her great grandchildren are Myles benson,

also Jose, Carolina, Angela, Jose, Rosa, Maria, James, and

one called her "Grandma."

held on Wednesday, Dec. 11 at St. Kathryn Church, 4 Dracut Rd., Hudson. All may please meet at church. Rural will be

#### Maria del Rosario Millar



Maria has three siblings; Manuel, Jose, and Maria Marquez.

to the late Samuel A. Millar. Together they had three chil-Maria enjoyed cooking, traveling, and spending time

an amazing seamstress.

MacKenzie Soares, Beatrice Keenan, Grayson Soares, and Beverly Keenan. She leave behind many pieces and nephews in Spain,

She will be greatly missed by all who knew her. Every-

Following cremation, A Mass of Christian Burial was private for the family.

#### **OBITUARY**

#### **Aric Clarke**



Aric Clarke, 49, of Hudson passed away unexpectedly on Dec. 5, 2024. He was born June 30, 1975 to Donald and Cynthia Clarke in Laconia, NH and was later married to Noreen Clarke (nee Couturier).

Aric held a degree in Electrical Engineering Technology and was pursuing a Masters Degree in Electrical Engineering at the time of his passing.

Aric's passion was music. He was an accomplished musician, proficient on the guitar, bass and keyboard. He interned at a recording studio and was a founding member of local band Horizon as their bassist and sound man.

He was the kind of person that you could go to with anything. He would drop whatever he's doing, sit down and talk to you for hours about any situation you're going through. The kind of person that would make you laugh and put a smile on your face in the darkest times.

In addition to his wife, he is survived by his father Donald Clarke of Hudson, three children; Madison and Hailey, both of Litchfield and Alex of Hudson, one grandchild; Cierra Ackling of Litchfield, three brothers; Troy of Milwaukee, WI, Wade Clow of Hudson and Chad Clow of Daytona Beach, FL, three step-children; Feleesha Corduck of Hudson, Myleah Micele (nee Corduck) of Chesapeake, VA and Gage Corduck of Hudson as well as several nieces and nephews.

Following cremation, a time of visitation will be held on Friday, Dec. 13 from 4 - 6 p.m., in the Dumont-Sullivan Funeral Home, 50 Ferry St., in Hudson. Burial will be private. To share an online message of condolence, please visit www.dumontsullivan.com. The Dumont-Sullivan Funeral Homes in Hudson is in charge of arrangements.

#### **OBITUARY**

#### **Guy Girouard**



It is with heavy hearts that we announce the passing of Guy Girouard, who left us on Dec. 1, 2024, at the age of 77. Born on Sept. 27, 1947, in Coaticook, Quebec, Guy spent the early years of his life with his 4 siblings in a home his father built nestled between both his grandparents' houses.

In 1956, Guy immigrated to the U.S. with his family, settling first in Gilman, VT, before spending the majority of his childhood in Littleton, NH. These formative years shaped the devoted father, husband, grandfather, brother, uncle, and friend that so many came to love.

In 1970, Guy married Pauline Houle of Sherbrooke, Quebec, in Littleton, NH. They enjoyed 52 years of marriage until her passing in 2023. Together, they built a life rooted in love, laughter, and family.

After graduating from high school, Guy enlisted in the U.S. Air Force. Following his honorable discharge in 1969, he attended trade school to study drafting. His career spanned 35 years at Improved Machinery, Ingersoll-Rand, and GLV in Nashua, NH, where he made lasting contributions and lifelong friendships.

In 1978, Guy and Pauline purchased their first home in Hudson, NH, where they lovingly raised their four daughters, Donna, Tina, Tara, and Tammy. The family remained in Hudson until Guy and Pauline retired to Zephyrhills, FL, to enjoy their golden years in the sunshine.

Family time was incredibly important to Guy. Weekends and vacations were spent with loved ones, enjoying summers at his brother Gilles' camp on Partridge Lake, traveling to Canada to visit his in-laws, or taking cruises with them. He also loved hosting backyard gatherings, playing cards, and making wine with friends, creating countless cherished mem-

Guy was a man who loved working with his hands, always finding joy in upgrading his home and crafting meaningful projects. Whether it was crafting something beautiful or repairing something broken, he found immense satisfaction in making things better for his loved ones. He had a deep passion for golf, playing often and even leading the golf league at his workplace. He also enjoyed attending New England Patriots games at Gillette Stadium and NASCAR races with family, sharing laughter and cherished memories at every event.

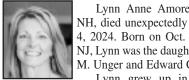
Guy is survived by his four daughters: Donna McCusker of Dalton, NH, and her husband Jay, along with their two children, Emily and Abigayle; Tina Bates of Hudson, NH, and her husband Eric, along with their two children, Emma and Michael: Tara Parkerson of Mansfield, Texas, and her husband Jason, along with their son, Thomas; and Tammy Briggs of Salem, NH, and her husband Ben, along with her son, Austin, and step-son, Jackson; his brother Claude Girouard and sister Diane Richey as well as countless cousins, nieces, nephews and in-laws. He was predeceased by his wife Pauline, his mother and father, Rita and Phil, and his brothers, Gilles and Yvonne.

Visiting hours to honor Guy's life will be held on Sunday Dec. 15 between 1 - 3 p.m., with a Service of Remembrance beginning at 3 p.m., in the Dumont-Sullivan Funeral Home in Hudson, NH. An inurnment ceremony will be held at the NH State Veterans Cemetery, 110 DW Highway, Boscawen, NH on Monday, Dec. 16 at 11 a.m. All may please meet at the

Guy will be remembered for his dedication to his family, his humor and the love he poured into everything he did. His legacy lives on in the hearts of those who knew and cherished him. To share an online message of condolence, please visit www.dumontsullivan.com The Dumont-Sullivan Funeral Home in Hudson is in charge of arrangements.

## **OBITUARY**

#### Lynn Anne Amorelli



Lynn Anne Amorelli, 69, of Hudson, NH, died unexpectedly on Wednesday Dec. 4, 2024. Born on Oct. 23,1955 in Newton, NJ, Lynn was the daughter of the late Evelyn M. Unger and Edward C. Unger.

Lynn grew up in Kansas City, MO before moving to Dracut, MA in the summer of 1966 at the age of 10. Lynn won the title of Miss Dracut, and was a Middies cheerleader during her high school years. She graduated in 1973. She then attended UMASS Lowell and graduated with a Bachelor's Degree in Elementary Education and Soci-

Lynn married Gary Sullivan of Westford, MA on Oct. 9, 1977. She started her career at Wang Laboratories, Inc as a Supervisor in Sales Administration. While there, Lynn gave birth to their first daughter, Lauren Peterson (Sullivan) and after the birth of her second daughter, Kerrie Bagni (Sullivan), she decided to devote herself full time in raising her lovely daughters in Chelmsford, MA. Lynn discovered a love for electrology and became a Licensed Electrologist in Chelmsford. Her last position was held at Center Elementary School in Chelmsford, MA as a Paraprofessional for 10 years. She retired in November 2018. She married Michael Amorelli of Hudson, NH in June 2019.

Lynn was an extremely involved grandmother. Her grandchildren were her pride and joy. She dedicated her days in retirement to building memories with them. She would say that there was nothing more important to her.

Lynn was an avid golfer. She loved to golf whenever she had the chance. She also enjoyed gardening, kayaking, volunteering at the Hudson Food Pantry, and she was an active member of St. Kathryn's Church in Hudson, NH.

Lynn leaves her husband Michael Amoreill, her two children and their spouses, Lauren and George Peterson of Dunstable, MA and their children AJ, Brooks, Grant and Everett and Kerrie and Charles Bagni of Chelmsford, MA and their children Clara and Rip. She is also survived by five siblings and their spouses Kathy and David Kelly of Westmoreland, VT, Mary and Steve Aubert of Londonderry, NH, Daniel Unger of San Luis Obispo, CA, David and Deborah Unger of Epping, NH, Jeanne and Kevin Wholey Bartlett, NH and the late Edward Unger of Litchfield, NH. Lynn's family also includes; stepdaughters Tracy and Christopher Kelloger of Hudson, NH and Elizabeth Amorelli and Seth Balanger of Manchester, NH, step grandchildren; Drew and Julia Alves, Cadance and Carter Kelloger, and Maverick Balanger, as well as many nieces and nephews.

A Mass of Christian Burial was held on Thursday, Dec. 12 at 10 a.m., in St. Kathryn Church, 4 Dracut Rd., Hudson. All may meet at church. Directly following the mass, there will be a mercy meal downstairs in the lower church hall. Friends and family are welcome to attend luncheon in honor of Lynn. Burial will be private. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Lynn's loving memory to The Hudson Community Food Pantry, 23 Library St., Hudson, NH 03051. 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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