

THE Hudson Times

December 26, 2024 ♦ Volume 2 – Issue 52

A FREE Weekly Publication



SANTA TALES

Santa was able to take time out of his busy schedule to read stories to students at Hills Garrison Elementary School last week. After the readings, he was presented with a gift for his efforts as Santa and the school's crossing guard. See more photos page 12. *Photo by Chris Paul*

Hudson Cable is Looking to Increase Accessibility in 2025

PAUL CONYERS
HUDSON TIMES

The Hudson Cable Utility Committee met on Dec. 12 to review possible accessibility projects with HCTV's Director of Community Media Mike Johnson.

"This is a topic we often get asked by residents in town, and these are, I feel like small things, I think we can do that, will go a long

way," he said. "In the past, I know we've tried this, but I want to look into it further, because I've seen other towns do it, potentially putting small speakers in the back of the BOS room and the seating rooms. We're often hearing from residents that they can't hear in those spaces."

Town conference rooms already have assisted listen-

ing systems, although residents must contact the videographers to sign out such devices before a meeting. Committee members also revived the idea of bringing closed captioning into the meetings, a service that would cost around \$5 per meeting. Eventually captioning will likely be a legal requirement.

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Town's Proposed Payroll Policy Reviewed by BOS

ALEX MALM
HUDSON TIMES

One of the agenda items during the most recent Hudson Board of Selectmen meeting, was in regards to a proposal for a payroll policy for the Town of Hudson.

It was explained during the meeting by Board of Selectmen Chair Bob Guessferd that there was a sub committee set up with Selectman Kara Roy and Selectman Heidi Jakoby to work on coming up with a policy.

"The Selectboard just asked we draft a simple town of Hudson payroll policy really dealing with reporting of time worked," Jakoby said during the

meeting.

Jakoby explained that herself and Roy looked at several policies and picked something straightforward to consider.

"It's pretty simple and straightforward," Roy said.

The proposed policy states the following:

All hourly employees are required to complete weekly timesheets, which will be reviewed and signed by their department head.

It is important that your time be accurately reported so that you are compensated for all the hours that you work. No one is authorized to complete your time sheet on your behalf, and falsification of time records

could lead to disciplinary action, up to and including immediate termination from employment.

If there are any changes needed to your weekly time sheet, then you must initial the change, indicating that you agree to the change and the accuracy of the change.

Your department head will provide you with details concerning your obligation to report all the time you have worked.

Work Week/Hours of Work

The Town's work week begins on Sunday at midnight and ends on Saturday at 11:59 p.m. Because of the nature of our business,

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Target Site Struggles with Dust Issues, Resident Complaints

PAUL CONYERS
HUDSON TIMES

The December meeting of the Hudson Planning Board had issues with the Target Logistics Center discussed and a conditional use permit request for a wireless antenna facility on Groves Farm Road.

Following a number of concerns over landscaping issues at Target's Green Meadow site, board members asked the Town Engineer Elvis Dhima for an update on the Logistics Center.

"We are not aware of any outstanding issues out there. There was a concern at one point about trees being cleared, but that was a human error on the people in charge of the site, and the

individual who was involved with that is no longer involved with the project," explained Dhima. "Target has taken steps to replace every single tree they've taken down with a new tree and an additional tree. For every tree that is taken down, two will be provided."

Replanting will start by early April of 2025, weather permitting.

"I would suggest, if there's other rubs or whatever, we engage in extra communication," suggested Board member James Crowley, who worried not enough was being done to keep the town informed on construction issues related to the Logistics Center. "People grumble, and if they see something written or pub-

lished, it would help."

The site also suffered from dust complaints, with Dhima conceding it was challenging to manage the problem on particularly windy days. The site is using around 70,000 gallons of water per day in an attempt to keep the dust down, along with an organic mat solution.

"They have applied an organic mat twice, it's sticky and it keeps everything together," he said. "That has helped significantly, and they're in compliance with all state permits."

The Engineering Department and Target hoped the dust situation would settle with the competition of earthworks in the coming

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School IT Director Looks to Update Software, Replace Hardware

PAUL CONYERS
HUDSON TIMES

The first December meeting of the Hudson Budget Committee saw a proposal for several large-scale technological upgrades for SAU 81 included in the FY 2026 proposed budget. Superintendent of Schools Dr. Daniel Moulis emphasized the importance of several “big ticket expenses” like a \$200,000 replacement for the current MUNIS financial system.

“To speak very openly, the MUNIS system is a very outdated, antiquated system. It is more than time to replace that,” he explained.

Replacing MUNIS is seen as a key part of district-wide software upgrades that would include a more advanced accounting platform for district officials.

SAU 81 IT Director Kevin Peterson was also at the meeting to give more detail on when and how the district hoped to improve technology in the coming

months and years. This included the introduction of more advanced hardware and software.

“The IT budget has gone up quite a bit over the past five years,” said Peterson. “We’ve been both creating replacement cycles, updating the network, and then also doing a concerted effort to protect software as needed across the district.”

New IT items coming into the upcoming budget are new laptop carts for online learning, with the goal of having a set number of laptops for every class at local schools.

“How do you determine how many devices you need?” asked Committee member Rich Weissgarber. “How many spares do you guys keep?”

He was told the numbers were based on enrollment, though such numbers could change depending on where the district was in its replacement cycle. Older devices are used as spares,

and most software updates are automatic as part of SAU 81’s software licensing budget.

“In terms of being able to work cooperatively with the town side on the IT stuff, especially when looking at cybersecurity, network security, and so forth, is there any way for those kinds of activities where it makes sense to collaborate?” wondered Clerk Kevin Walsh.

Peterson explained that as a school, many licenses for programs like Microsoft 365 were available to the district at a discount. The town was not eligible for the same discount, and sharing was not allowed, limiting cooperation from a software perspective.

Cybersecurity was another goal of the IT Director, who looked to implement a “software security department” to monitor the

school network for security threats.

“For the cost of one security technician, we can have 24 hour, seven days a week coverage protecting our network,” he said.

Other priorities included replacing nine-year-old network switches, maintenance of their wireless networks, and miscellaneous equipment replacement items like projectors and monitors.

“On line items nine and ten it says ‘vacant’ and you have a number in there. Are you hiring or have you hired someone to fill those spots?” asked Committee member Randy Brownrigg after looking through the budget.

Peterson stated there were two contractors the district intended to take on full-time next year for those spots.

Cable

continued from page 1

“The captioning, because of the size of our community, we actually get a bit of a reprieve. It’s not going to be required for a number of years,” explained Committee Chair Mike O’Keefe. “That being said, I think it’s still a worth thing we should still be doing, it’s not a huge expense.”

The Chair suggested starting captioning on “key

programming” before expanding it after an initial launch. Other priorities included physical accessibility for HCTV facilities.

“We’d like to get a permanent ramp going to our stage for people that’s level with it,” said Johnson, referring to the HCTV studio, which only has a small, temporary ramp at the moment. “I don’t foresee that being an expensive cost, but it’s just a small thing we’re looking at right now to ensure we’re meet-

ing the needs of everyone who visits us.”

Another goal involved making it easier to watch HCTV on any device. Nearby public access stations in Bedford and Merrimack use a Cablecast phone app, making it easier to follow townwide content. The Director expressed his desire to extend that service to Hudson.

“That’s a way we can draw in some younger audiences as well, he said. “They’d be able to just download the app, access all of our content live or recorded.”

It would cost around \$1,600 to develop, requiring approval from the Board of Selectmen.

With the conclusion of football season at Alvirne High School, Johnson was happy to report high viewership for Alvirne games and other school events on social media. Since October, HCTV also completed a Hudson History collaboration with the Rodgers

Memorial Library, conducted election coverage for the town, and covered numerous award events like the National Honors Society.

HCTV also attended the ACM Nor-Eastern Video Festival in Connecticut, where they won first place for a 2023 video on the Concord Fire Department’s participation in the Emergency Services Explorer program.

“We did place for two other programs second and third. In third place the Hudson Police Department recruitment video in the PSA category, that was a big project for us,” said Johnson. “In the news and magazine category one of our Hudson Happenings programs got selected.”

In total, HCTV covered 93 events, shows, and meetings from October to December.

The Cable Utility Committee is scheduled to meet again on Monday, Jan. 13, 2025, at 7 p.m. in the Hudson Cable Access Center.

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Editorial

New Year, New Beginning

As we approach the New Year and head into the darkest days of winter, it's common to reflect on the past year and consider the changes we want to make. There is certainly always room for improvement.

We all know the typical resolutions; exercise more, eat healthier, adopt a more environmentally friendly lifestyle, become better prepared, or reduce screen time in favor of more quality time with family. While these resolutions are commendable, one may want to do something that could lead to more lasting results.

Looking back at all the negativity surrounding the recent election, and our local elections fast approaching, why not consider taking a stab at getting involved? While it can be easy to complain about what occurs at town hall, actively participating in the process can be much more rewarding and enable you to make positive changes at the right time.

The filing period to run for office begins at the end of January. We encourage you to get involved. Open seats often go unchallenged, allowing the same individuals to be reelected repeatedly. Therefore, encouraging competitive races is essential. A little change and competition can be healthy for our community.

Be open-minded! It may be challenging, but the effort will be worthwhile. In politics, we do not elect representatives to serve special interests; our

officials are meant to represent everyone equally, and to do so publicly. Volunteers play a crucial role in the smooth operation of our town.

If running for office feels overwhelming, there are always vacancies on boards, commissions, and committees that often go unfilled. Whether you want to start slowly as an alternate or dive in as a full member, there are various areas of interest, such as conservation or housing, where you can contribute your time for the betterment of your community.

Many residents struggle with paying taxes or experience significant changes in their town that affect their quality of life. While some may consider moving away, many will find similar challenges wherever they go. A better solution might be to advocate for responsible spending right where you live.

As budget hearings and deliberative sessions approach in January and February, here's another important resolution: make it a point to attend these events and voice your opinions respectfully, supported by facts and courtesy. At the very least, inform your elected officials about your concerns, and encourage your neighbors to do the same.

After all, if officials are unaware of a problem, it is unlikely that anything will be done to address it.

We wish you the best with your resolutions, whatever they may be. From all of us at Nutfield Publishing, we extend our best wishes for a happy and healthy New Year!

Sustainability Committee Welcomes New Member, Prepares for Next CPCNH Rate Period

PAUL CONYERS
HUDSON TIMES

24/7.”

The Hudson Sustainability Committee met for the last time in 2025 on Dec. 16 to officially welcome Robert Larson to the Committee, filling an empty spot until at least next April.

“For many years I did environmental engineering,” said Larson, speaking to his credentials.

Committee Chair Deb Putnam thanked him for the help as members noted this would be the first time membership slots were full in many years.

The Hudson Transfer Station will be open one last time for the season on Saturday, Dec. 28 from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. All remaining 2024 Transfer Station passes will expire on Dec. 31. During winter, the Station is not open on Saturdays for yard waste, cardboard, and metal. The next Nashua hazardous waste collection date will not be until spring 2025.

“The newly revised residential solid waste and recycling guide will be released just after Jan. 1, 2025. I've been advised the layout will be adjusted,” said Deb. “Please look for that to be posted in the DPW section of the town website. They no longer print large quantities to have them available, but residents can access the website

Hudson's Holiday Lights Recycling Program was well underway, as Alternate Committee member Craig Putnam reported that around 100 pounds of material had been collected from the many collection boxes around town as of Dec. 12.

“We're off to a very good start,” he said. “We'll see if we can beat last year's record, we hope we can and we're off to a good start. The bins are at the Recreation Department/ Community Center, the Senior Center, Town Hall, and at Rodgers Memorial Library. There's also one at Shepherd's Hill.”

The Recycling Program will run past Christmas.

Craig also outlined the latest report of Hudson's Community Power Program, which had a participation rate of 69%.

“That's slightly less for the overall participation rate for CPCNH, which is now up to 50 towns, cities, and communities,” he said. “The overall rate is 71%, we are just slightly below that.”

He added that Hudson's program was slowly adding more users, almost all of who use the default Granite Basic plan.

“There's a handful of people who have opted-up to one of the higher rate classes with higher levels of

renewables like Granite Basic Plus and Clean 50 in particular,” Craig explained. “We're in the period where the utilities are figuring out what the new rates are going to be for the winter-spring rate period.”

Already, Eversource indicated it was proposing a slightly lower residential supply rate of 8.9 cents per kilowatt hour for the upcoming period. According to Craig, Eversource approached the NH Public Utilities Commission for permission to change the nature of how they buy electricity, looking to purchase more power from the day market.

“What's that's going to do is give them more flexibility in their purchasing, and it moves them a step closer to the way the Community Power Coalition of NH does their purchasing,” said Craig.

CPCNH is expected to post its proposed rates by Jan. 1. The rate period will start Feb. 1 for most customers. The Sustainability Committee unanimously voted to publicize the new rate chart when available.

The next meeting of the Hudson Sustainability Committee is scheduled for Monday, Jan. 27, 2025, at 7 p.m. in the Buxton Room at Town Hall.

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

Nutfield Publishing Will Not Be Publishing on Jan. 2, 2025

In lieu of the upcoming holidays, Nutfield Publishing will not be printing a newspaper on Jan. 2. The staff uses this time each year to take a short break to celebrate the holiday. Our next paper will be produced on Thursday, Jan. 9. We thank our readers and wish you a happy and safe new year.

THE 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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School Board Reviews Professional Staff Development Opportunities Policy

ALEX MALM
HUDSON TIMES

The Hudson School Board had a first reading for a proposed updated policy related to Professional Staff Development Opportunities.

Under the statement of policy the proposed updated policy states “The Hudson School District believes that learning is a lifelong venture and embraces a professional development program that has an articulated relationship with the educational goals identified by the Hudson School Board, district schools, and targeted instructional personnel needs. Further, the district’s professional development must have a clear link between the improvement of instruction and continuous school improvement. Finally, the Hudson School District acknowledges that instructional personnel are central to student learning and improving pedagogy and content knowledge is

essential to improving student performance.”

“The Hudson School District will create and maintain a professional development master plan in compliance with Ed 512 Professional Development Master Plan and Recertification and provide administrative oversight and supervision of that plan. All Hudson School District professional staff must meet all requirements specified in the approved Professional Development Master Plan for re-certification purposes. The Hudson School District’s Professional Development Master Plan outlines the specific requirements for all teachers with regard to professional development, the link between professional development and teacher evaluation, and the teacher supervision and evaluation process.

Finally, the district will offer a comprehensive professional development pro-

gram which:

- focuses on teachers as central to student learning, yet includes all members of the school instructional community;
- focuses on individual, collegial, and organizational improvement;
- respects and nurtures the intellectual and leadership capacity of teachers, principals, and others in the school community;
- reflects the best available research and practice in teaching, learning, and leadership;
- enables teachers to develop further expertise in subject content, teaching strategies, instructional practices, use of technologies, and other essential elements for teaching to high standards;
- promotes continuous inquiry and improvement embedded in the daily life of schools;
- is planned collaboratively by those who will participate in and facilitate

that development;

- provides necessary time and resources;
- is driven by a coherent long-term plan; and
- is evaluated ultimately on the basis of its impact on student learning and performance

The School Board gave its approval to send the

updated policy to a final policy reading.

Also during the meeting, the School Board reviewed a number of nominations for co-curricular stipends at Alvirne High School.

It included Margot Mateo for the position of Quinceanera Coordinator

which comes with a stipend of \$500, and Rob Scagnelli for the position of Week-end/Holiday Marching Band Parade Supervisor which comes with a stipend in the amount of \$2,000.

The next School Board meeting is set for Jan. 6 beginning at 6:30 p.m. at Hills Memorial Library.

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Thursday	9:00AM - 8:00PM	Thursday	7:00AM - 6:00PM
Friday	9:00AM - 6:00PM	Friday	7:00AM - 5:00PM
Saturday	9:00AM - 5:00PM	Saturday	8:00AM - 3:00PM
Sunday	10:00AM - 3:00PM	Sunday	CLOSED

Selectmen Send Sustainability Warrant Article Forward

ALEX MALM
HUDSON TIMES

The Hudson Board of Selectmen was presented with a proposal to add a warrant article for the upcoming election.

It was explained during the meeting that the proposal came from the Sustainability Committee.

“I reached out to Bob this afternoon regarding the need to “restore” the Energy Efficiency Capital Reserve Fund as the HPD hopes to finish making the Kirby Building energy efficient,” Sustainability Committee Chair Debra Putnam wrote

in an email to Acting Town Administrator Steve Malizia. “The windows and doors are the originals. Unfortunately, no rebate programs are available to cover such work. Thus, the Energy Efficiency Capital Reserve Fund is the logical source of funds.”

Putnam explained that they are using funds currently for the Hudson Police Department building.

“This year, with the Sustainability Committee’s full support, the HPD’s request to use Energy Efficiency Capital Reserve funds to vastly improve the HVAC

system in the old part of the Police Station was approved by the BOS,” Putnam wrote. “The improvements will save the Town money on energy bills for many years to come but were/are not eligible for any rebates. Thus, when work is completed, the Fund will need an infusion of \$25,000 for the ‘25-’26 fiscal year.”

The proposed warrant states:

Shall the Town of Hudson vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$25,000 which will be added to the Energy Efficiency Capital

Reserve Fund previously established in March 2020? The appropriation is in addition to Article A, the Operating Budget.

The Board of Selectmen unanimously approved forwarding the warrant article.

Also during the meeting, the Board of Selectmen unanimously approved a donation from Benson Park Committee member Jack Madden.

“This Donation is from my personal funds,” Madden wrote. “I have received an inheritance earlier this year and this donation is from the inheritance funds.

My intent for the donation is that it pays for labor and materials towards the interior rehabilitation of the Train Station.”

Madden in an email to Acting Town Administrator Steve Malizia wrote “I understand from our previous discussions that the \$5,000 will be deposited in a Benson Park Committee “Donation Account”, so that when the Town pay invoices used for train station interior rehabilitation, the reimbursement will come first from the Donation Account.”

The donation from

Madden wasn’t the only donation received for Benson Park during the meeting.

“The Friends of Bensons donated some new items to the Town of Hudson to be used at Benson Park,” Benson Park Committee Chair Judy Brouillette wrote in an email.

The list included a number of different items that were donated for the Town including a gas chainsaw, a leaf blower, lawn mower, among other items.

In total the donations were worth \$2,034.75.

Approval Granted for First-Aid Business in Basement

PAUL CONYERS
HUDSON TIMES

The Hudson Zoning Board of Adjustment met on Dec. 12 with a hearing from John Onoroski of 63B Wason Road, who wanted an Occupation Special Exception to run a business from the basement of his home, a use not generally allowed in a residential zone.

“The business that I want to do is simplicity itself, I just want to make

these small first aids kits and sell them online,” explained Onoroski. “I also want to sell kits for camping and whatnot, that would be tweezers and regular gauze, nothing special or out of the ordinary. I would buy the supplies in bulk online, make the bags in my basement, then just sell them on my website.”

He promised there would be no visible indication of the business on Wason Road.

“Since it’s online sales, I

assume everything going out is also being shipped? In other words, people won’t be coming to the house?” asked Zoning Chair Gary Daddario.

Onoroski confirmed this would be the case, no customers or employees would come to his home.

“There are no signs or anything else like that, there’s no parking for customers or anything of the sort and there’s not going to be any traffic,” he added. “The bags we make are with a sewing machine that I have and an embroidering machine for the logo, it’s pretty self-explanatory. It’s just me.”

The only vehicle related to the business would be

Onoroski’s truck.

“You answered a question about shipping packages, you’re going to bring them to the Post Office. How about deliveries of product?” asked Vice-Chair Normand Martin. “What are your hours of operation?”

Onoroski stated that he already had a separate PO Box in Nashua for shipping, with supplies picked up as needed. As an online business, there would be no set hours, kits would also be shipped to customers as required. He showed off several examples of what the kits might look like, most of which were no larger than a few pounds.

“I’m going to guess

most of these are commercial. You’re not going to hunt any government contracts or anything like that?” asked Board Member Tristan Dion. “Are the kits Class A or Class B kits?”

There were no plans for any large-scale product of his first-aid kits, most of which he guessed would be rated as smaller Class A kits, with possible expansion to Class B kits in the future.

Tion warned Onoroski that all first-aid kits count as a “class one medical device,” subject to inspection by the Food and Drug Administration.

“You are subject to FDA guidelines. Depending on how big you get, you would be subject to audits or inspections by the FDA,

just something to think about in the future,” said Dion.

Shawn Clark and the other residents of 65 Lawson Rd. wrote a letter of support for the application, saying Onoroski’s “decision to leave his established profession of many years to in order to start this kind of business speaks volumes about his passion and dedication to providing essential medical supplies.”

Overall, Zoning Board members were receptive to the presentation, unanimously voting to approve the Special Exception.

The Hudson Zoning Board of Adjustment will meet again on Thursday, Jan. 23, 2025, at 7 p.m. in the Buxton Room of Town Hall.



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Budget Committee Reviews for Elementary School Finances

PAUL CONYERS
HUDSON TIMES

The Dec. 11 meeting of the Hudson Budget Committee saw its members review the budget for Hudson's elementary schools for the 2025-2026 fiscal year. Dr. H. O. Smith Elementary School Admin Principal Mary-Ellen Labrie gave an overview of that budget.

"The proposed budget allows teachers to create engaging classroom environments, and provides support for all development levels," explained Labrie. "The overall elementary budget is up 3.27%. Of that, 3.24% is salaries and bene-

fits, the rest of the overall budget is up by \$29,781, which, for the three campuses that comes out to a little under \$10,000 per building."

Supply budgets are slightly higher to account for the growing cost of materials. Several programs previously covered using ESSER have been moved to the operating budget. Other items included magnetic reading, software subscriptions, a replacement cycle of walkie-talkie radios, a replacement cycle for classroom furniture, and increased expenses for the food services program.

Budget Committee Chair

James Lawrence noted a "substantial" increase in labor costs for the district's two Early Learning Centers at Dr. H. O. Smith and Library Street Schools.

"Can you talk to me a little bit about why those are increasing this year over last year?" asked Lawrence.

Superintendent Dr. Daniel Moulis stated that the district added a school counselor and had a proposal to change a library media paraeducator to a certified library media specialist to cover both Learning Centers.

"I do not believe that comes up to the complete total of that salary and ben-

efits line," admitted Moulis. "I think there's a little more checking to confirm where the rest of that increase comes from."

There seemed to be a few other discrepancies related to salary and benefits.

"Why is one person's dental \$11,962 and the rest seem to be under \$2,000. Is that just an error? Or how does that work?" asked Committee member Randy Brownrigg. "Is it a program that they have or something?"

Moulis believed the uptick was a result of the conversion of the paraeducator job to certified library specialist, although he

promised to double-check and conceded that the number was unusually high.

"Something that's not in the budget but was cut with six classroom aides, how does that impact you?" asked Committee member Kevin Walsh.

Labrie indicated the aides would be a welcome addition to Library Street's first-grade classes, but did not deem them as critical as some other positions, especially with limited room to increase overall spending.

"There are definitely pressing needs in the budget," she said "It will possibly be considered for next year's budget."

Currently, the kindergarten classes already have a similar set of aides.

"They were in the proposed budget last year with six classroom assistants for kindergarten," explained Moulis. "There's been great benefit to the district in kindergarten classrooms for students and teachers in having those positions and adding six more in the initial proposed budget was a proposal that went forward to the School Board."

Board members eventually chose to direct funding to the library media specialist, deeming it impossible to fund the aides for 2026.

Target

Continued from page 1 weeks.

"I understand the town is offering some remediation to neighbors that were affected by dust. Could you go over that?" asked Vice-Chair Jordan Ulery.

According to Dhima, car wash vouchers are being provided to any abutters impacted by the dust. The cost of the program is covered by the site contractor. While it will be suspended through

the winter months, town officials expect to restart the vouchers next April.

Dhima promised he would share all complaints with Target.

"The goal of staff working on sites is to make sure that it's done right, that it's in compliance with the town's regulations and approvals, and if there's deviations, getting things back in compliance," Interim Town Planner Jay Minkarah. "This is by far the largest project Hudson has ever

seen, there's no there aren't going to be some issues that arise during a site that large."

On Verizon's Groves wireless antenna facility located at 12 Groves Farm Road. Town Engineer Elvis Dhima said, "Last year we had an opportunity to basically come together with an agreement to put an antenna above our existing water tank."

Dhima added, "Basically, the way it works is that we have a tank, they put a nine-foot antenna on top of

it, and we get paid based on what they're doing up there. For those of you who are on the south end, there's an issue there with phone calls getting dropped, I have horrible reception out there and this is a booster."

According to a warrant article approved by voters

last March, Verizon will have a 25-year lease agreement for the antenna, with the option of extending it to 40 years. Revenue from the project will go toward supporting the water utility system.

"We're looking forward to getting this thing done, and I think it will be a good

project, a good partnership between a private entity and the town. Obviously, we're talking some good money too, that always helps," said Dhima. "This is good to go."

The Planning Board unanimously approved the conditional permit application without debate.

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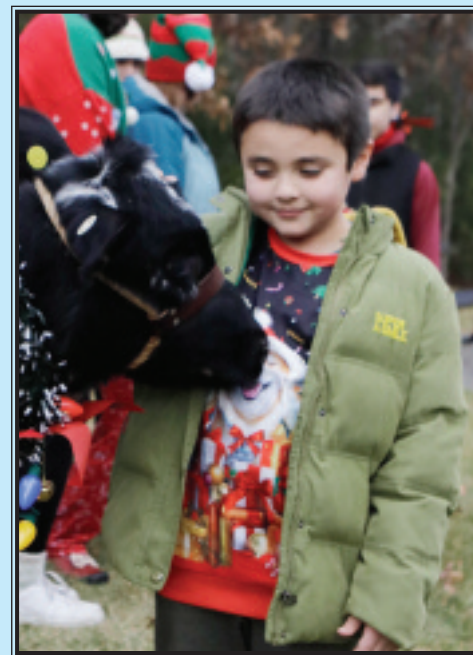
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Christmas Calves Appear at Rodgers Memorial Library



Members of the Alvirne FFA Calf Club walked to calves to the Rodgers Memorial Library last week. The "Christmas Calves" were decked out on holiday attire and attendees of the Elf Workshop were able to give the baby cows some attention before their class began. *Photo by Chris Paul*



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HUDSON SPORTS

Admirals Hockey Start Season with a Victory and Loss



Senior captain Braydon Atwood had two goals against Lebanon-Stevens-Mascoma in the team's 6-2 win to start the season. *Photos by Chris Paul*

CHRIS PAUL
HUDSON TIMES

The Alvirne-Milford Admirals started their winter season last week with two home games, winning the first 6-2, but then falling in an 8-0 shutout to end the year at 1-1.

The Admirals finished last year with a regular season record of 9-7-2 and earned their first playoff berth in five years where they made it as far as the semifinals, where they fell to the eventual Division II Champs from Oyster River High School.

In the team's first game of the season, on Tuesday, Dec. 17, the Alvirne-Milford squad easily got by Lebanon-Stevens-Mascoma (LSM) by a score of 6-2.

The Admirals traded

goals in the first period to finish at 2-2, but pulled away in the second and never looked back.

Lebanon led 1-0 at 8:49 to start the scoring, then at 4:44, Milford's Landon Briand tied the game with an assist from senior Bryce Larco.

Lebanon took their second, and last, lead of the game at 4:32.

With less than a minute left in the initial period, senior forward captain Braydon Atwood tied the game again, to finish the first period at 2-2.

From there, the Admirals controlled the ice, scoring two unanswered goals in the both of the final periods.

continued on page 11



Alvirne junior forward Brandon Ganas had a goal in the team's first game of the season.

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Broncos Girls' Basketball Get Off to 3-0 Season Start

CHRIS PAUL
HUDSON TIMES

The Alvirne High School Girls' Basketball team will go into the holi-

day break with three consecutive victories to open the winter season after winning two games in the final week of 2024.

The Lady Broncos

pulled off a hard-fought overtime win over Goffstown to start the week, then went on to beat Keene by seven points two nights later.

In the win over the Grizzlies, at Alvirne, on Monday night, Dec. 17, despite coming out of the gate strong, their opponents wouldn't allow the Broncos to hold onto a lead for very long and forced AHS into an overtime period, where the home squad was able to come out on top.

The Lady Broncos led 9-2 in the first four-minutes of the game, but the Grizzlies battled back, finishing the first quarter at 13-16 GHS lead.

The second period had Alvirne right the ship a bit, outscoring the Grizzlies 15-9 for a 28-25 lead at the half.

Both teams scored 12 in the third period, with Alvirne taking a slim three-point, 40-37 lead, into the

fourth.

In the final quarter of regulation, Goffstown shaved of the slim lead and was able to force an overtime period.

In overtime, the Broncos outscored GHS 10-3 for the 59-52 win.

Alvirne's sophomore forward, Courtney Anderson, had her team's high score total, getting 18-points with one three-pointer, three free throws and six two-pointers.

Senior forward Ella Hartson and junior guard Lexi Floyd both had 13-points in the victory. Hartson had five buckets and went four for ten at the foul line. Three of her successful free-throws were in overtime.

Floyd put in three from outside the arc and two inside. One of her three-pointers was a clutch shot in OT.

Junior forward, Julia Adams finished with 10-points in the game. She had four baskets and two free-throws.

In the game against Keene, at home, on Thursday night, Dec. 19, the Broncos needed to battle back from a 18-24 first half deficit for the 51-44 win.

After ending the first quarter with a 15-10 lead, the Broncos were unable to find the basket in the second period and were



Courtney Anderson, had 18-points against Goffstown and 10 against Keene. Photos by Chris Paul



Ella Hartson led her team with 14-points against Keene, scored 10 in the Goffstown game.

outscored 14-3 going into the break.

The home squad regained their lead in the third, giving up just four points and scoring 18 of their own.

In the final period, AHS was able to hold on for the win.

Hartson led the Broncos with 14-points, getting one, three-pointer two buckets inside the arc and went 5-7 at the foul line.

Anderson finished with

ten points with four baskets and two free-throws.

Floyd had three, three-pointers for nine points.

Adams and senior guard Avery Willard both finished with six.

The AHS team will be starting the new year with the difficult task of beating the 2024 Division I runner-up on Friday night, Jan. 3 at Alvirne.

They will face the undefeated Pinkerton Academy Astros starting at 6:30 p.m.

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Boys Basketball Get 2-1 Start

CHRIS PAUL
HUDSON TIMES

After getting off to a strong start to the 2024-25 season, with two wins, the Alvirne High School Boys' Basketball team dropped the final game of 2024 and will head into the new year with a 2-1 record.

Both of the Broncos victories came by way of slim, two-point wins.

First, in the team's home-opener, on Dec. 13,

Alvirne was able to get by the Manchester Memorial Crusaders, 47-45.

In the team's second game of the season, in a trip to Goffstown High School, the Broncos came away with an equally narrow win, beating the Grizzlies 51-49 to give the team a promising 2-0 start.

In the Hudson team's final regular season game of 2024, AHS traveled to Keene High School, where they fell 48-59 at the hands

of the now 2-1 Blackbirds.

When the Alvirne team returns to action after the holiday break they will face two extremely tough teams to start the new year.

On Friday, Jan. 3, they will travel to Derry to face the Pinkerton Academy Astros (2-1).

On Tuesday, Jan. 7, the Broncos will face the unbeaten Nashua South Purple Panthers, at home, starting at 7 p.m.

Hockey

Continued from page 9

Atwood got his second of the game at 7:23 in the second, with an assist going to Briand.

Alvirne junior, Brandon Ganas got on the board with less than a minute left in the period, assisted by Dylan MacLeod and Brandon Callahan.

Five minutes into the final period, sophomore Evan Pargas made it 5-2, scoring on an assist from junior Chris Bozza.

The final goal of the game came from junior Mason Tomkins, at 7:22 in the third, with an assist

going to senior assistant captain Ryan Ricard.

The Admirals were plagued by penalties throughout the game, getting five in the final period and nine total.

The LSM squad had had six total penalties, three in the third, two in the second and one to start the game.

Alvirne sophomore Mason Komarek was the winning goal tender.

In the team's second game of the season, the Admiral seemed to be out of the contest late in the first period, allowing their St. Thomas Aquinas opponent to get ahead 4-0 before the second period.

Two of the four goals came on penalties, where AMHS had two in the first and second and a fifth in the third.

The Admirals only gave up one goal in the second period, but were unable to put any points on the board.

St. Thomas finished the game with three more goals in the final period for the eight-goal shutout.

The Admirals will try to rebound after the two-week holiday break when they travel to Oyster River (2-0) on Saturday, Jan. 4.

Oyster River started their year with wins against LSM and Dover.



Season Underway

Alvirne High School Gymnast Leanna Carroll scored an 8.7 during the Floor exercise at the team's meet on Sunday, Dec. 22, in Londonderry. The score put her in third place against teams from Londonderry Salem and Litchfield.

Photo by Chris Paul

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Santa Reads Stories to Hudson Elementary School Students



Current Crossing Guard and former SRO officers Tony Diekman spent time before the holiday break to read to students at Hills Garrison Elementary School. He also made stops at the classrooms to pose with students and their teachers.
Photos by Chris Paul



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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.

Family Chanukah Breakfast

Come to the Etz Haymin's on Sunday, Dec. 29 at 10 a.m., for: Latke Contest, BYO latkes - traditional or unique. Sour cream and applesauce will be provided; Kids Decorated Cookie Contest: Kids, bring your pre-decorated cookies to enter the contest; Kids Cookie Decorating: Cookies and decorating supplies will be provided. Music and Games: Chanukah themed music and games. RSVP required, Please email

office@etzhayim.org. No charge, but donations are welcome. www.etzhayim.org

Meat Raffle

On Friday, Jan. 17, Alvirne AFJROTC and the Hudson VFW will be hosting a meat raffle fundraiser. It will start at 7 p.m., and be held at 15 Bockes Rd. This fundraiser will be a great opportunity for the community to support its youth. There will be a 50/50 raffle and other prizes won throughout the night.

Menorah Lighting and Service

Come to the Etz Haymin's 3rd Annual Chanukah Menorah Lighting And Shabbat Service on Friday, Dec. 27 at 7:15 p.m. Congregants are encouraged to bring their own menorahs with four candles as we will light up the synagogue bringing light to our world.

Clean Water Survey

Clean water is more than a resource; it's the lifeline of

our community. Your voice holds the power to shape a healthier water future for you and for generations to come. Please explore what you know about your tap water and help us understand what's important to you. Please help us by taking the survey at www.surveymonkey.com/r/VOWNOV2024. As an added bonus, when you complete the survey, you'll have the chance to enter to win one of twenty-five fixed-mount or handheld water-saving showerheads, making your contribution to clean water even more rewarding.

Annual Tree Burn

All are welcome on Friday Jan. 3 with a rain date on the Jan. 4, to Estey's 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 bon-

fire, s'mores, Hot Chocolate, and good company.

Overeaters Anonymous

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)

Preschool Water Play

On Wednesdays at 10 a.m., Preschoolers ages 2-5 are invited to play with water

Brunch Bunch

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

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

continued on page 14

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OBITUARY

Roger Laquerre



On Dec. 17, 2024, the lord Jesus decided it was time for his servant Roger Laquerre to join his wife Rachel, and sons William (Billy), Richard (Rick), and Robert (Bob) in heaven. Roger is survived by his daughter Linda and former husband Steve, daughter Karen and husband Dave, and son James (Jim) and wife Ellen, son Rick's former wife LuAnn, son Bob's former wife Robin, as well as many grandchildren and great grandchildren mentioned below.

Roger was born Feb. 5, 1928. He was the youngest child of Arthur Pierre Laquerre and Odilie Marie (Roy) Laquerre. Both parents had immigrated from Quebec Canada. Roger worked for Impco / Ingersoll-Rand for 45 years until his retirement at age 64. This company was the only employer he worked for in his adult life. Roger rose in the ranks of Impco from a data processing clerk to the manager responsible for all NH and eastern Canada Ingersoll Rand payroll data processing.

Roger was married to Rachel (Dumas) Laquerre for 68 years before her death in 2019. Together, they raised a beautiful family in Hudson, NH in a home that Roger built. Later in life, that home became the common location for family events with their children and grandchildren, which often included playing croquette in the yard and swimming in the pool. Roger's competitive nature, often seen in games like croquette, was passed along through the generations of his family and remains a fun aspect of family gatherings today.

Roger loved spending time outdoors. He volunteered as a Boy Scout Troup Committee Chairman in Hudson, NH for 15 years while his sons were growing up. This experience provided adventures such as visiting the Montreal Expo to doing a week-long 50-mile hike in the white mountains along with numerous jamborees. Roger was also an avid golfer until his 80's and even convinced Rachel to take up the game he loved when they retired to Plant City, FL in the winter of 1997. He especially loved playing golf with his sons and daughter Linda.

From 1997 to 2012, Roger and Rachel were snowbirds, traveling up to Hampton Beach, NH in the summer to spend time with family. During the last few years of staying at Hampton Beach they were able to stay in a duplex provided by their son Bob and wife Robin. Their nightly ritual was the walk to the half shell for the concert.

Roger and Rachel returned to Nashua and moved into the Assisted Living Center at Langdon Place in 2012. Langdon Place provided the perfect base for the still very active Roger and Rachel. After Rachel's passing in 2019, Roger remained active at Langdon place where he was an active puzzler and game enthusiast. He organized both trivia and Skip Bo get-togethers every week for residents of Langdon Place. Roger was an avid swimmer and swam in the Langdon Place pool daily, often supervised by daughter Karen as his "lifeguard" where she dedicated many days ensuring he was able to spend time in the pool that he enjoyed so much. The pool was one of the key reasons Langdon Place was chosen as both Roger and Rachel had a love for swimming that has passed to their remaining children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren.

Linda, Karen, and Jim are eternally grateful to the staff at Langdon Place for the care and compassion provided to their parents.

Roger was a sweet and caring man who has left behind a wonderful legacy in his family of nine (9) grandchildren and 11 great grandchildren: Granddaughter Jessica Holpe, husband Andrew and their son Miles, Granddaughter Colleen Menke, husband Scott and their daughter Summer, Granddaughter Lauren Craft, husband Dustin and their son Declan, Granddaughter Kaitlin Gallagher, husband Brian, and their daughters Meyer and Libby, Grandson Brian McLavey and wife Kate, Grandson Andy McLavey, wife Jessica, and their daughter Maddison and son Mason, Granddaughter Sara Ziegra, husband James, and their son Henry and daughter Alice, Granddaughter Julie Staib, husband Nick, and their sons Benjamin and Tyler, Granddaughter Amanda Briggs and husband Jarad.

Roger's memory will forever live on in his family and they will miss his greatly.

A Mass of Christian Burial will take place on Monday, Dec. 30 at 10 a.m., in Immaculate Conception Church, 216 East Dunstable Rd., Nashua, NH. All may please meet at church. Burial will immediately follow in St. Francis Cemetery in Nashua. To share an online message of condolence, please visit www.dumontsullivan.com. The Dumont-Sullivan Funeral Home in Hudson is in charge of arrangements.

Around Town

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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 zone.

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.

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

Laptop Donation Program

United Way of Greater Nashua is reintroducing their Tech Connect United Laptop Donation Program. Donate your working laptops, tablets, and smartphones,

and they will in turn refurbish them for use by low-income individuals and families. The client recipients are low-income, and living in our Greater Nashua area. Devices can be dropped off at the United Way office located at 20 Broad St.,

Nashua between 9:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. on weekdays or by appointment email info@unitedwaynashua.org if you have any questions.

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.

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