

# THE Hudson Times

February 22, 2024 ♦ Volume 2 – Issue 8

A FREE Weekly Publication



**Cookie Kick-Off** Ellie Sutherland, a member of Hudson Girl Scout Troop 62658 helps to organize cookies for their sale in front of Walmart on Saturday, Feb. 17. This was the first of a number of sales taking place around town. See more photos on page 8. *Photo by Chris Paul*

## Fire Department Allowed to Make New Hire Offers Before Board OK

ALEX MALM  
HUDSON TIMES

One of the agenda items discussed during the Feb. 13, Board of Selectmen meeting was related to how firefighters are hired in town.

“Selectman [David] Morin has requested that an item be placed on the Board of Selectmen’s agenda to discuss conditional employment offers to Fire-

fighter/AEMT candidates moving forward,” Town Administrator, Steve Malizia, wrote in a memo to the Board of Selectmen.

He explained that “in order to ensure that Hudson is able to hire qualified candidates in today’s competitive labor market, time is of the essence and being able to provide a conditional offer to a candidate before the Board meets to formally

approve the hire may improve our ability to secure a candidate’s commitment to Hudson.”

Morin said if there is a delay from the time the Fire Department decides to hire someone to the time the Board of Selectmen meets to approve the hire(s), there is a chance they may have lost out on that candidate.

Essentially, he thinks **continued on page 2**

## Selectmen Approve Changes To Transfer Station Passes

ALEX MALM  
HUDSON TIMES

During the Feb. 13 Board of Selectmen meeting, a proposal was discussed to allow additional passes for residents at the town’s transfer station.

In a memo to the Board of Selectmen, Director of Public Works, Jay Twardosky, explained how every residential address is “permitted three passes per calendar year for disposing of household/construction debris at the town’s transfer station.”

“This three pass limit was put in place to deter residents from disposing of commercial waste, or waste generated in other municipalities, due to

being a service provided through taxes and not from a pay-as-you-throw fee schedule,” Twardosky wrote. “Occasionally a need arises where a resident needs to dispose of more debris than those three passes would allow. Residents have expressed interest in purchasing extra passes to dispose of such debris.”

Twardosky explained to the Board of Selectmen that they worked with CMA Engineers through a consulting contract “to poll surrounding communities about their fee schedules to compare with our per ton disposal fees to make a more informed decision on what the fee should be.”

He stated that based on the research, they believe the fee “should be based on the average cubic yards that a full-size pickup truck (which is the average size vehicle that uses the transfer station. Cars being the smallest and one ton trucks and trailers being the largest) can hold, which is 2-2.5 cubic yards of loose debris,” Twardosky wrote.

“That loose debris, once crushed and packed into containers, will have a volume of approximately one cubic yard. The industry standard for the average weight of a cubic yard of this type of material is 500 pounds. Based on all

**continued on page 4**

## Deliberative Session Amendment Adds \$500K to Operating Budget

PAUL CONYERS  
HUDSON TIMES

The proposed school operating budget for 2025 was the first, most debated item at the Deliberative Session on Feb. 10.

If Article 1, which governs the budget, were to pass, the town would spend \$67,509,020 for fiscal year 2025, and if it fails, this year’s default budget of \$67,596,534 will apply with “certain adjustments required by previous action of the Hudson School District or by law,” according to Moderator, Paul Inderbitzen. A special meeting for a revised budget is also possible if the proposed budget fails.

Notably, the School

Board unanimously rejected the lower budget proposal, with a 4-0 recommendation by the School Board. Several proposals, including the conversation of 15 part-time paraprofessional positions to full-time and the addition of a behavioral analysis coordinator were cut by the Budget Committee. The operating budget retained the addition of six new part-time paraprofessionals, a part-time finance bookkeeper, and a part-time computer science teacher.

“I believe you’re getting a good education for your students with the amount of money this town spends for their school program because the school tax rate is lower than every other

surrounding community,” said Budget Committee Chair, Norm Martin.

Patty Langlais of 22 Stonewood Lane stood to amend the operated budget, adding \$500,000 to the proposed spending.

“My reasoning behind this is first, the paras. When I was on the School Board a long, long time ago, we had full-time paras, and since then, we’ve cut these down to part-time paras,” said Langlais, who stepped down from her position as a School Board member in 2020. “If you go by any schools in the past couple of years, all you see on their job boards is ‘paras needed, apply within.’ Currently,

**continued on page 7**



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### Accepting New Customers

# First Spring Trail Workday Scheduled for Late March

PAUL CONYERS  
HUDSON TIMES

The Conservation Commission met in February to plan a Trail Workday for March. After gathering some information, Commission Chair, William Collins, found that Sunday, March 24, worked best for members of the Commission.

"We can go out extra early and stay extra late," joked Collins, referring to longer days and the switch to daylight savings time next month that would occur before the workday.

"Hopefully by March 24, there won't be snow on the ground," said Secretary,

Ken Dickinson.

Specifically, he wanted to see the impact snowmelt and running water might have on local trails.

Collins also pushed forward with a previously discussed plan to categorize open land across Hudson.

"We calculated, between open space and conservation land, we had in the area 2,471 acres of land representing about 13.19% of the town's overall land mass," said Collins. "We should roll this up with a more formal process."

The Chair added that these numbers may no longer be accurate and

spoke of posting all documents related to open space online. While there was an initial plan to create an Open Space subcommittee, it was deemed impractical. With categorization, Conservation hopes to determine the status of recently purchased, something that has not always been clear.

"Several parcels of land were purchased within the last five years, we should double-check the status of those parcels and that will guide us with updating the list," said Dickinson. "I look forward to getting going with the open space thing, it's exciting to try to

do some of that again. You sometimes forget about certain parcels in town that may or may not be available. I think there's some parcels we've overlooked."

Dickinson noted that some of the publicly available information includes a graphic from 2006 and a written report from 2012.

"This update would be a good project for us to tackle, get it all updated to a 2024 format," said Collins. "I would like to revise the list of town-owned land versus the current open space and everything like that to see what undeveloped land can possibly be converted to

open space."

He gave a 15-acre parcel off Richmond Drive as an example of what land might be eligible for recategorization and incorporation into other conserved property.

Collins announced that updates to Hudson's trail maps are close to completion.

"We're very close to completing the map project we've been working on," he said. "The finishing touches are a QR code so people can scan the maps on their phone, and it will take them to an application. Probably between early March and

early May, everything should be concluded. I think once people get that on their phone, they're really going to like it."

He also floated the idea of a "Picnic on the Pond" get-together sometime in late summer to inaugurate the new maps, although there are no definitive plans yet.

"I was thinking one day in early September when the weather's still nice, and the bugs are down low, having something at Musquash Pond where we can put up all the new maps. It just gets the word out on our new maps, details to come."

## Hudson Memorial Could See New Floors and Science Lab Renovations

PAUL CONYERS  
HUDSON TIMES

The Feb. 10 School Deliberative Session heard a proposal to upgrade the science labs at Hudson Memorial School. On the ballot as SAU Warrant Article 5, up to \$200,000 would be drawn from a special June 30 fund balance available on July 1, 2024, to avoid any direct tax impact.

"Last year, there was a very similar Warrant Article. There are eight total science labs at Hudson Memorial School, and the current plan is to renovate those at two per year over a total of

four years," explained School Board Vice Chair, Maureen Dionne. "Some of those eight labs date back to the original building from the 1960s while others are part of an update from the 1980s."

Voters approved a similar Warrant Article to renovate the first two science labs last March after some supply-related delays. The staggered pace of work will ensure that most work is done over summer break.

"There are a number of updates associated with this renovation, including removing old gas lines, mak-

ing the labs ADA compliant by updating the learning spaces, adding and improving storage for equipment and supplies for the teachers, increasing the number of learning spaces overall for all in the classrooms, and adding whiteboard space to enhance that learning experience for everyone," said Dionne. "Both classrooms will benefit from these updates in a number of ways."

There was no public comment on SAU Article 5, which was unanimously recommended by the School Board and Budget

Committee.

Warrant Article 7 was for another renovation at Hudson Memorial School, proposing up to \$94,000 to be taken from the same June 30 fund for a hallway flooring replacement.

"For anyone who's been inside Hudson Memorial, there's nothing else I need to say. But for those who haven't been for many, many years, we've been patching and fixing these tiles that break," said School Board member, Gary Gasdia. "They continue to break, it's an old floor, and these are tripping haz-

ards."

He highlighted the damaged floor tiles as a safety issue for the school, noting that continued repairs were becoming increasingly expensive.

"I think we're at the point where we need to replace," said Gasdia. "This Warrant Article would completely replace all of the existing hallway flooring on both floors with low-maintenance vinyl planking."

The School Board and Budget Committee unanimously recommended SAU Article 7.

"For anybody who has

not been in there, the hallway between the gymnasium and offices is slanted and also is like a fun ride if you're on a scooter. My question is, will that be leveled as well?" asked Heath Smalley of 18 Farmington Drive.

Gasdia joked that "the funhouse experience would continue" as the slanted hallway is a result of the original design. While he was not against eventually fixing the slanting issue, such an expense would likely be much higher than the \$94,000 allocated for tile repair.

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## Have an Announcement?

This service is provided free of charge to Hudson residents who wish to announce the birth of their child or grandchild, marriage engagement, wedding or milestone event such as a Silver Wedding Anniversary. This is a great way to share your news with your local community. The Hudson Times also accepts obituary notices. Please contact us at 537-2760 or e-mail to [hudsontimes@nutpub.net](mailto:hudsontimes@nutpub.net).



# Editorial

## Prepare for the Election

The March 12th election is almost here and it all starts with respect, let's all try to respect each other's views and opinions.

We'd love to see the high turnout that we saw for the recent Presidential Primary be repeated on March 12th. It would be amazing if the people who gripe all year and state they are struggling to pay their tax bill or are no happy with the job the incumbent is doing, making their views known.

It is nice to see a lot of people have stepped up to run. It's healthy to have contested races, no one should run unopposed even if they are doing an amazing job.

Make sure to do your research, it's very important to understand what you're being asked to vote on, with the warrant articles and the candidates. Don't panic, you still have time to get the answer you need to make an informed vote.

Take your time when making your decisions on all the warrant articles, and candidates running. It is important not to just blindly vote because someone told you to. Both sides will push for what they want, but you need to vote for what you think is the right choice. Take the time to read all about the articles, talk to a lot of different people to get different points of views, and make an informed decision that works for you and your wallet. Gather up as much information as you can and use your own mind to decide how you will vote.

The right to vote carries with it the

responsibility of understanding the issues. We need to be asking questions such as; Can we afford it? Is it a want or a need? Is it something we can postpone? Have we looked at all the options?

How about a union contract and loans, seeing if it covers one year or three, the costs should be clear. Find out the cost for each year, you won't be asked to vote on it in future years, but the cost goes into your tax bill automatically.

So, be polite and afford a basic level of respect for your fellow citizen, but you shouldn't afford beyond basic respect to those who aren't working on ideals you believe to be important.

Respect is one of mankind's most noble sentiments. The highest levels of respect are always earned, never given. This is true of self-respect as well as respect for others. Before granting the highest level of self-respect or respect for others, make sure the person is worthy of the honor.

We let ourselves and our neighbors down when we ignore the election, only to find ourselves taxed out of our homes and represented by people who embarrass or upset us. The mirror is a great place to look for an answer as to why taxes are so high.

In a state with just about the best opportunity for residents to self-govern, we see turnouts at local elections hovering around 10%.

Please, make no excuse this year.

For your own good and the good of the community, go to the polls March 12th.

# Letters

## Consideration of Petition Article 48

To the editor,

I think everyone should be made aware of some history associated with the Planning Board review of Article 48 Petition to Amend Town Code 334-38 Aquifer. It was Not Recommended by the Planning Board by 6-0 at their 01-10-2024 meeting. Also, not all Planning Board members were able to attend that meeting due to individual family tragedies. Please watch the 01-10-2024 Planning Board meeting video link on the Town of Hudson website. Generally, my impression was that they were not overly concerned with the regulating Gas Station language in: "All areas overlying Stratified Drift Aquifers identified in Hudson Master Plan Chapter III - Natural Resources, Groundwater Resources Section, Map III-8 Aquifers locations of Moderate to High Yield to be prohibited from develop-

ment or operation of a snow dump or gasoline station."

The Not Recommended by the Planning Board vote seemed mostly due to lack of a definition of what a snow dump comprises. Researching internet sources: "A snow dump site is a location where snow is dumped as a part of the snow removal process. The collected snow can contain a variety of grit, de-icing chemicals, vehicle fluids, engine emissions, and litter. The snow and mix of other products are transported to a location other than where it originated and collected."

In the past Snow Dumping of excessive snow at Hudson Park adjacent to Merrimack River by the DPW was a concern of public citizens. They were concerned with the Hudson DPW using Merrill Park as a snow dump for overflow snow collection from other town properties during significant snowstorm events. To the

DPW's credit they had properly researched NHDES guidelines and contacted NHDES to see if Merrill Park was an acceptable location. The NHDES assured them it was. However, since then the public realized in this Petitioned Article, Merrill Park is located over a significant aquifer listed in the Master Plan. This Petition to Amend Town Code 334-38 is to bring to voter attention as to whether they approve of continuing the practice of using Merrill Park as a snow dump. It is felt the Town should dedicate efforts to find and utilize other acceptable locations for excess snow storage other than this park as a snow dump. A vote YES on Article 48 Petition to Amend Town Code 334-38 Aquifer shows your agreement with the idea that Merrill Park should NOT be used as a snow dump by the Town of Hudson.

James Crowley  
Hudson

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](mailto: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.

## Transfer Station

Continued from page 1

this information, we believe the fee for extra passes should be \$30 each," Twardosky said.

He explained that his recommendation was to implement the program beginning on the first day of the new fiscal year, which is July 1, and fees would be collected through checks or credit cards at the Public Works office.

Twardosky said that under the program, residents would be able to purchase up to three additional passes, and if someone needed more "it will be up to the discretion of the Public Works Director, or

their designee."

Other recommendations include having the extra passes "clearly marked as such for verification by transfer station personnel," and having staff "verify that the material being brought to the transfer station is allowable and doesn't violate our permits."

The public works department would also have the right to "limit or deny passes if it is found that residents are abusing this service by bringing in commercial waste or waste generated in other municipalities."

Board of Selectmen

Chair, Marilyn McGrath, said "I think a lot of people will be happy that need the additional passes."

Selectman, Dillon Dumont, asked if it would be possible to have passes available at the Transfer Station.

Twardosky responded by saying that right now they would prefer people buy them at public works in advance, and they can find out what people are bringing and can make sure people aren't planning on bringing stuff from other towns. They prefer to have a discussion beforehand.

The Selectmen ultimately approved the new policy.

## THE Hudson Times

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# Electric Aggregation Plan Coming to Hudson in March

PAUL CONYERS  
HUDSON TIMES

Hudson Community Power held a public information session on Jan. 31 to outline the town's Electric Aggregation Plan, which was approved by the voters last March as an automatic opt-in program.

"When we're talking about community power, what's going on is that Hudson Community Power will purchase electricity from the sources that you choose. Today, if you're not with one of the competitive electric suppliers, Eversource is buying power on your behalf, and they're called the default supplier,"

explained Craig Putnam, Director of the Hudson Electric Aggregation Committee. "What Community Power is about is replacing Eversource as the purchaser of your power. You'll have more choices, and more choices with a lower price when we go live with the program in March."

He went on to explain that Eversource will still own the power delivery infrastructure, including the wires, poles, bills, meters, and transformers. As the name implies, an aggregation plan leverages the more extensive buying power of many residents and businesses together for

lower prices.

"You have a choice of one when it comes to rates, it's whatever Eversource makes available to you, unless you want to go with one of the competitive suppliers," said Putnam. "The goal is to be able to leverage larger buying power to get lower prices."

The Aggregation program is an opt-out program with Eversource remaining the default option for residents who choose not to participate, except for net-metered customers, who can opt-in to the program if they want. There's typically no charge for switching back and forth between

the default and community supplier, although switching away from a competitive electric supplier may include an early termination fee depending on contract terms.

For those in the Aggregation Plan, the "supplier" line of a power bill will read "Community Power," not "Eversource."

With the automatic opt-in and the upcoming implementation of the Plan, there was concern from members of the public that not everyone was fully informed. One resident stated, "I was at the senior center, and nobody except one person knew anything

about what I was talking about. It might be a good idea to do a question and answer at the senior center."

Putnam agreed this was a good idea and promised to put more effort into informing elderly residents of the changes, though he noted that low turnout had been an issue previously.

"We have done drop-in question and answer sessions, we did them two a week for several weeks running, and one person showed up," said the Director. "We really did our best to try and get the word out."

Other concerns were

around the automatic opt-in, with one person saying they "found it offensive" that they had to opt out and they "should have the ability to do what I want to do."

Putnam re-emphasized that the automatic opt-in was necessary to get enough people to use Community Power to make it worthwhile.

Service for the Aggregation supplier is set to begin in early March, with the exact switchover date depending on when meters are read. More information is available online at [www.communitypower-nh.gov/hudson](http://www.communitypower-nh.gov/hudson).

## Article 4 Proposes Using Capital Reserve Fund for School Roof Repair

PAUL CONYERS  
HUDSON TIMES

The Feb. 10 Deliberative Session saw public input on several new infrastructure proposals in the school district, including a scheduled roof replacement project at Dr. H.O. Smith Elementary School.

Warrant Article 4 was the first notable proposal, which would allocate the withdrawal of \$250,000 from the School Renovation Capital Reserve to replace an old section of the roof.

"It is a membrane roof that runs over a portion of the building, covering around 15,000 square feet in total. The roof replaced runs over the addition that was added to Dr. H.O.

Smith in 1989, as well as the main office and entrance areas," explained School Board Vice Chair, Maureen Dionne. "The current roof shows extensive wear-and-tear, and it is beyond its serviceable life. It frequently leaks and requires extensive maintenance."

The warranty for the old roof expired in 2015. Roof drains will be fixed and replaced if needed.

"Can you tell me what materials are going to be used?" asked Mike Tranfaglia of 24 Woodcrest Drive. "What's the expected life of that?"

Director of Facilities, John Pratte, answered that it would be an EPDM rubberized roof "fully adhered to

the underside" with a "20-year warranty on the material and the labor."

No consideration was made for a metal roof, with Pratte adding that metal is not an ideal material for most flat roofs.

"Is this roof structurally suited to holding solar panels?" asked James Wilkins of 112 Belknap Road. "I know replacing the membrane isn't going to make a difference on that."

While the School Board is currently looking into possibly installing solar panels, Pratte emphasized that whether the roof was suitable would require an entirely separate feasibility study at a later date.

As it is drawing from

the Capital Reserve, the roof repair would not have a tax impact and was unanimously recommended by the Budget Committee and the School Board. With around \$550,000, the School Renovation Capital Reserve Fund could require new contributions within the next few years if the roof replacement project is approved.

"We have an Emergency Fund also. I was wondering if someone could tell us what the Emergency Fund is and what are the qualifications for using money in that Fund pertaining to the roofs of the school?" asked Patraick Quinlan of 12 A Sunshine Drive.

"We do also have \$1.1

million in the Emergency Fund. The requirements around using that would be to have an emergency that would have the School Board's approval plus the Budget Committee's approval and then get approved by the state," added District Administrator, Jennifer Burk. We can only use it for two purposes: one is for some kind of emergency where something catastrophic happens, or to offset the tax rate."

She gave damage to equipment not covered by insurance that could not be covered in the scope of the budget as an example.

Voting for the budget will occur on Tuesday, March 12. Polls open at 7 a.m. and close at 8 p.m. Ward one voters have the Hudson Community Center as their polling place, while Ward two voters have Alvirne High School as their polling place.



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## Lions Club Helps to Feed Our Kids



From left, Hudson Lions Club President, Kimberlee Fournier, Lions member, Pauline Boisvert, of the Hudson Community Food Pantry, and Guest Speakers, Jodi Watterson and Jack Mallett, of the Alvirne National Honor Society, and Regina Beals of the Feed Our Kids Program.

*Courtesy photo*

During a recent meeting, the Hudson Lions Club members of The Feed Our Kids program visited to speak about how the group provides weekend meals to local children in need through the collaboration of the Food Pantry with the National Honor Society (NHS) of Alvirne High School.

Each week, NHS volunteers pack 80-120 drawstring bags of breakfasts, lunches, dinners, and snacks to distribute to the six schools in the town of Hudson.

The Food Pantry works with each

of the school's counseling office to identify students in need of Saturday and Sunday meals, and the program provides food to them in a reliable, but confidential manner.

The program was formed by Erin Beals eight years ago, and her mother, Regina Beals, now serves as the primary point of contact between the Pantry, the schools, and the National Honor Society.

The Hudson Lions Club donates to the Feed Our Kids Program.

## New Wood Duck Nesting Boxes for Musquash Pond

SUBMITTED BY  
BILL COLLINS, CHAIRMAN  
HUDSON CONS COM

Members of the Hudson Conservation Commission took advantage of the cold weather and thick ice to install new Wood Duck nesting boxes around Musquash Pond recently. Commission member, Brian Pinsonneault, organized the purchase of the new boxes and support polls and directed their installation in various areas around the pond so that they could be easily viewed from the shore. Visitors to the Musquash Pond can observe the wood duck nesting period between March and April with egg incubation lasting about thirty days. The full clutch of eggs hatches in 24 hours so if you are lucky enough to be in the right place at the right time, you may even get a chance to see the newly hatched chicks "jumping" (known as jump day) from the boxes in late spring. The Town of Hudson and surrounding communities offer an abundance of conservation lands for residents and nonresidents to enjoy and spring time



Hudson Conservation Commission member, Brian Pinsonneault, puts the finishing touches on a nesting box installation at Musquash Pond in Hudson.

*Courtesy photo*

provides the greatest opportunity to observe all that nature has to offer. Hope to see you all out on the trails!

For any town resident interested, the Hudson Conservation Commission meets on the second Monday of each month. Our next meeting is scheduled for

March 11th at 7:00 p.m. in the Buxton Meeting room at Tall Hall. The commission has two open seats available for those individuals looking to serve our community. Feel free to attend a meeting in person or catch a recording on the HCTV website.

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# Board of Selectmen Get Briefed On Primary Election Statistics

ALEX MALM  
HUDSON TIMES

The Board of Selectmen received a briefing from Town Moderator, Paul Inderbitzen, about the Jan. 23 Presidential Primary.

"There were 7357 ballots cast, a 44.1% voter turnout," Inderbitzen wrote in a memo. "There were 5789 Republican ballots and 1568 Democratic ballots. The check-in process with the Poll Pads went smoothly once the voters entered the building. Our Ballot Clerks processed an average of 565

voters per hour overall with 296 at the Community Center and 257 at Alvirne."

Inderbitzen stated that some towns across the state said they had a larger than normal turnout for the primary, but this year's was about average in Hudson.

"It's about what we've done every year," Inderbitzen said.

Inderbitzen noted that the The Supervisors of the Checklist staff used their three Poll Pads at each location, and "registered 392 new voters as well as name

and address changes."

He said the Town Elections in March aren't expected to be as busy, noting that last year they had 36 new registrations for voters at the election.

"We did have lines into the buildings a number of times during the day, but once inside, voter check-in went quickly," Inderbitzen wrote about the primary election. "Chief Dionne and his Officers did a great job of managing the Community Center traffic flows with help of DPW staff. There were no

parking issues at Alvirne."

Inderbitzen said he was thankful for "the hard working staff for their efforts," saying without their efforts they couldn't have had an "efficient election."

"I want to thank Wayne Medeiros, the Community Center staff, and the Alvirne custodial staff for their assistance, and the GFWC Hudson Women's Club for providing dinner for the workers at the Community Center tabulating the write-ins, and counting the ballots pre-election," Inderbitzen said.

He stated he was also thankful for the DPW staff who "efficiently set up and took down both polling places, especially at Alvirne where they came back at the end of the night so the cafeteria could be reset for the next school day."

Inderbitzen told the Selectmen that he thinks it "went pretty smoothly at both locations."

Board of Selectmen Chair, Marilyn McGrath, said she found the breakdown of the different party affiliations during the pri-

mary to be interesting, noting there were a lot more people who voted in the Republican Primary versus the Democratic Primary.

"I just found that interesting," she said.

It was noted by Inderbitzen that they are working on getting the voters guide ready and would be sending it out to voters soon so they can prepare for the election in March.

The Town Election is set to take place on Tuesday, March 12.

# Hudson Moves To Become Purple Heart Community

ALEX MALM  
HUDSON TIMES

The Board of Selectmen discussed moving forward with Hudson receiving the Purple Heart Community designation during its Feb. 13 meeting.

The agenda item came from Selectman, Bob Guessferd, who suggested they pursue it.

He explained that last year when he was in Danville, he noticed they

were a Purple Heart community, and he decided he wanted to look into it more, so he started to make inquiries and was able to connect with the person who coordinates the Purple Heart Community designations for the state of NH.

"I would like to place an item on next week's agenda: pursuing obtaining status for Hudson as a Purple Heart Community," Guessferd wrote in an email part of the

public Board of Selectmen agenda packet. "We have at least one citizen who received the Purple Heart - Leonard Nute - and I'm sure there are others."

Guessferd stated that "The idea of the Purple Heart community is to create a tribute to the men and women who have been awarded the Purple Heart medal."

He noted that as part of its communities, usually

they have signs on the main road in the entrance of the community, as a visual reminder for people in the community.

Guessferd also noted it's easier to get the designation for the community than he originally thought.

"It's a simpler process than I thought," Guessferd said.

Guessferd explained that essentially all they have to do is make a standard proclama-

tion, which he would work on and they would sign it at a meeting.

The second step is to get the signs and then put them up.

Guessferd noted that last Monday the American Legion voted to pay for the signs. "So, there will be no cost to the taxpayers at all."

He said the only thing they asked is that the town put up the signs and coordinate where they are put,

specifically for ones placed on state roads.

The Board of Selectmen approved moving forward with becoming a Purple Heart community.

Guessferd said he would also encourage any Purple Heart recipients and/or their family members to attend the meeting when the proclamation is signed. He said they would advertise the date and time of the event.

# School Deliberative

Continued from page 1  
there are 32 positions for paras that are empty!"

She also added a Special Education preschool teacher in her amendment. Reactions to the amendment were mixed.

"The total amount coming from the taxpayer is about a \$10 million increase from 2023 to the 2025 budget," said Peggy Huard of 13 David Drive in opposition to the amendment. "I don't know about the rest of you, but I did not like my

surprise tax bill increase this year."

By contrast, Mike Lee of 22 Glasgow Circle spoke in support of the amendment.

"I've seen the devastating effects of cutting the paras from full-time to part-time," said Lee. "Teachers and students need more support than ever before."

He emphasized his desire to retain every teacher and paraprofessional, claiming Hudson needed "every competitive advan-

tage" to keep its staff members from looking for work in other towns.

A former educator and part-time tutor, Darcy Orelana, of 12 Robin Drive, also supported the amendment, saying that "funding academics without funding the people" was "missing the big picture about what education is about."

"I don't think it's a very proud thing to be that we're near the bottom on our tax rate for education," agreed James Crowley of 4 Fairway Dr.

There was a question

over the topic of unspent money in the school budget and why it was not being used to support paraprofessionals.

"The money that is budgeted is based on positions that are needed. The money that is in excess is because those positions that are needed, are not able to be filled at this point," said School Board member,

Gretchen Whiting. "When positions are not filled, that money just sits there."

While two full-time para-positions were recently created from reallocating funds, she worried that taking too much money from teaching positions or unfilled positions would create more hiring problems. However, Shawn Jasper of the Budget Com-

mittee challenged this assertion.

"If we can't fill the part-time para-positions, that money is available," said Jasper.

After extensive debate, the amendment to add \$500,000 to the school operating budget was passed by the Deliberative Session.



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# Girl Scouts Set Up Shop for Annual Cookie Sale



Members of Hudson Girls Scout Troop 62658 set up a table at Walmart on Saturday, Feb. 17, where boxes were flying off the shelves pretty quickly. The annual activity helps to raise funds for activities throughout the year. Scouts will be stationed at a number of locations over the next weekends. Troops will have cookie stations set up at Ayottes Market, Sam's Club and Walmart on Saturday and Sunday for the next two weeks.

*Photos by Chris Paul*

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# HUDSON SPORTS

## Admirals Keep Winning Streak Going, Win Ninth Game

BLAKE SANTANA  
HUDSON TIMES

Alvirne-Milford came into their second to last week of the regular season at 8-6-1 with a chance to earn a bye through the preliminary round and into the quarterfinals of the Division II tournament. All they needed was a Spaulding loss to either Portsmouth-Newmarket or Oyster River, and a win of their own against Somersworth-Coe-Brown. They also had a chance to keep Goffstown from being able to catch them, as well, earning a top 6 seed. The Admirals just needed to keep their unbeaten streak rolling, and they did just that, pushing the streak to five games with a 2-2 tie against the Grizzlies on Wednesday and a 2-1 victory over the Somersworth-Coe-Brown Bearcats on Saturday.

On Wednesday, Alvirne-Milford hit the road for the last time in the regular season to play the Grizzlies at St. Anselm College on the Grizzlies' Autism Night. The two teams wore special jerseys that were decked out with puzzle pieces on the shoulders and logos of each team, all in autism-friendly colors. After an extended

pregame ceremony, the two teams got to work battling tooth and nail, coming out of the first period the same way they went in, tied at 0-0.

Nick Caldwell would get the scoring going for Goffstown, beating Kian Corcoran blocker-side after finding himself wide open in front of the net off a perfect feed from Gavin Diodatti top make it 1-0 Goffstown with 9:55 to play in the second period.

Bryce Larco would tally his 12th goal on the season with 3:36 to play in the frame on the rebound from Caddy Beaulieu's shot, evening the score at 1-1.

In the third, Dylan Elbeg beat Corcoran over his glove on a shot from the hash marks to give the Grizzlies a 2-1 lead over the Admirals, but Brandon Ganas took a centering pass from defenseman, Cade Bouchard, and beat Brock Bennett to tie the game back up at 2-2. Alvirne-Milford then seized the momentum, having a few opportunities to end the game in regulation, the best one being a breakaway for Bryce Larco with 40 seconds left in regulation that he sent wide of the net.



Braydon Atwood got his 17th goal of the season against the Bearcats. Photo courtesy Luca DeRosa.

This game would go into overtime, and the Admirals and Grizzlies each had chances to win the game, but ultimately, Kian Corcoran and Brock Bennett came up with some big saves, forcing the game to end in a 2-2 tie, sending the Admirals' record to 8-6-1 on the season. Goffstown's loss to Nashua North-Souhegan on Friday and their tie against Merrimack

ed the scoring with his team-leading 17th goal of the season and gave the Admirals a 1-0 lead just 5:42 into the game.

Unfortunately, Tulley Keefe tied the game up at 1-1 13:52 into the frame on a deflection goal off Dylan Berovac's initial wrist shot. The game entered its first intermission with the same score. The Bearcats were out-shooting the Admirals 10-5 through one period, but Trent Scarbro, or "quadruple him" as the broadcast team has nicknamed him, was keeping his team in the game and Braydon Atwood did his usual thing with open space in front of the net.

Just 4:43 into the second period, Brandon Ganas tallied his 8th goal of the season, which would be the eventual game-winning goal and made the score 2-1.

Both teams had solid chances to score in the remainder of the second and throughout the third, but Dylan Cossette and Trent Scarbro were brick walls from that point on, not allowing another marker the rest of the way. The Bearcats even had a full two-minute 5-on-3 after Landon Briand was called

for tripping and Brandon Ganas was called for unsportsmanlike conduct, and Scarbro still kept them off the board.

Their win, coupled with Spaulding's loss to Oyster River on Sunday afternoon, earned the Admirals at least a sixth seed in the playoffs, with the opportunity to get as high as 4th by the end of the week.

The Admirals will play their senior night on Saturday, February 24 against their biggest rival, the Merrimack Tomahawks in what could very well be a semifinal or championship preview for a final tune-up before the playoffs. If the Admirals can win that game and Dover loses too

Spaulding on Wednesday, the Admirals will secure a fifth seed or better.

To earn the fourth seed, Alvirne-Milford needs to beat Merrimack, Dover needs to lose to Spaulding, and the Lebanon-Stevens-Mascoma Raiders need to lose to two of Timberlane, Monadnock-Fall Mountain-ConVal, and Oyster River. If all of that happens, the Admirals will play host to Dover in a rematch at Skate 3 in the quarterfinals on March 2.

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# Alvirne Boys' Basketball Clinches Playoff Berth With 2-0 Week

BLAKE SANTANA  
HUDSON TIMES

The Bronco boys' basketball team came into the week with a magic number sitting at 4, meaning they could clinch a playoff spot if things went their way last week. Alvirne did just that by beating Dover 46-36 and then stomping the Salem Blue Devils 65-50.

All while Manchester Memorial and Manchester Central, the two teams who were positioned at the bottom of the bracket and on the outside looking in, were on the short end of scores on Friday, earning the Broncos a playoff spot.

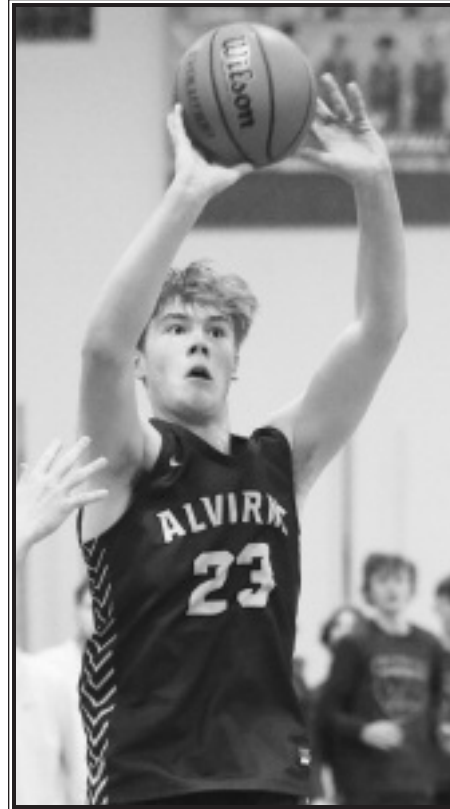
On Tuesday, the boys traveled to Dover to take on the Green Wave on the road, and despite trailing at the halftime break, Alvirne stormed back, only allowing Dover to put up 14 points in the entire second half as they came away with a 46-36 victory in Dover all the

while, lowering their magic number to three. All the Broncos needed to do was beat the Blue Devils and have one of either the Manchester Memorial Crusaders or the Manchester Central Little Green lose their games on Friday, and Alvirne was in. In order for any of it to be possible, though, the Broncos had to take care of business themselves.

Alvirne did just that in their match-up with the Blue Devils on Friday. The Broncos struck first as Gabe Conrow sunk his shot 2:44 into the first quarter for the first points of the night, making it 2-0 Broncos.

Salem would take four separate leads of 3-2, 6-4, 8-7, and eventually 11-9, which would be pushed to 13-9 through the end of the first quarter.

Salem would hold their lead, which would not grow any larger than four points



Andrew Deely



Aiden Mills

until there was 5:22 remaining in the half when Garrett Hall gave the Broncos a 16-15 lead. Salem

would tie the game up at 18-18 momentarily with 4:30 to go in the half, but Alvirne would regain the

lead again before Salem took it back, with Alvirne not regaining the lead until there were nine seconds to play in the first half when senior Aiden Mills found the basket on a layup, making it 28-26 at the half

Alvirne did not look back from there, as they outscored the Blue Devils 18-9 in the third quarter to run their lead to 46-35 entering the final eight minutes of play, and they would hang on to their lead, pushing it to as many as 18 points, winning the game by a final score of 65-50 with Salem only getting their final two points after the Broncos had put the ball down and began celebrating their victory and playoff berth.

This week the Broncos will travel to Bedford on Tuesday to play the 15-1 Bulldogs and then come back home for their final game of the regular season on Friday against the currently 7-9 Goffstown Grizzlies. Their first round of the playoffs will be on Wednesday, February 28, at the home of the higher seed at 7:00 PM. As things currently stand, that would mean a trip to Windham to take on the Jaguars, a team the Broncos lost 53-50 to in Windham on January 2.

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# Alvirne Girls' Basketball Goes 1-1, Clinch Playoff Spot



Broncos senior forward Sadie Rogers added to the point total for her team against MCW.

BLAKE SANTANA  
HUDSON TIMES

Alvirne's girls' basketball team came into the week with the chance to join the Admirals as Alvirne winter teams to clinch a playoff berth.

Their magic number was just one heading into

ry over Central-West. That victory rendered Saturday's game to be a game for seeding, which the Broncos unfortunately lost 59-43 to the Blue Devils.

In their matchup with Manchester Central-West, the Lady Broncos spread their scoring around, with Lexi Floyd leading the team with nine points off three, three-pointers. Courtney Anderson, Sadie Rogers, and Ashlynn Fain each put up eight points for the Lady Broncos.

Defense was certainly the story for the Lady Broncos on their clinching night, only allowing four points in the first quarter and just another six in the second, holding a 28-10 lead through the first half of the game.

The Lady Broncos were outscored 26-24 in the second half, but it didn't matter, as they held an 18 point lead going into the final 16 minutes, so being outscored by 2 was anything but an issue for the Lady Broncos.

The girls had a quick turnaround, having to go to Salem to play the Blue Devils on the road, who

came into Friday's action at 11-4.

The Lady Broncos were not as fortunate on Friday night, as they fell 59-43 to the Blue Devils, unable to upset their second opponent in five days.

For the Lady Broncos, they have just two games remaining on their schedule: on Tuesday they will play their final home game of the season against the Bedford Bulldogs, who will come in at a perfect 16-0, and on Friday, the Lady Broncos will travel to Goffstown to play the currently 12-4 Grizzlies who play 15-1 Pinkerton on Tuesday. The preliminary round of the playoffs will be on Tuesday, February 27 at the home of the higher seed at 7 p.m. As the bracket currently sits, that would send the Lady Broncos to Dover for a rematch of last Monday's battle at Alvirne that ended in a seven-point Lady Bronco victory.



Alvirne freshman forward Courtney Anderson had eight points against Manchester Central-West.



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# Alvirne FFA Celebrates National FFA Week, Feb. 17-24



Members of the Hudson Chapter of the FFA visited Nottingham West Elementary School to talk about Future Farmers. They also read a book about the plant life cycle and made plant life cycle headbands. They also planting seeds with grades three and four.

*Courtesy photo*

The Alvirne Future Farmers of America (FFA) Chapter in Hudson, were celebrating National FFA Week, Feb. 17-24, 2024.

The National FFA Week embraces more than 95 years of FFA traditions while looking forward to

the organization's future. More than 945,000 members will participate in National FFA Week activities at local, state and national levels. These members have a passion for agriculture.

Designated a national

week in 1947, the week of George Washington's birthday, National FFA Week runs from Saturday to Saturday and gives FFA members an opportunity to educate the public about agriculture. During the week, chapters conduct a

variety of activities to help others in their schools and communities learn about FFA and agricultural education. The Alvirne FFA Chapter will celebrate National FFA Week by visiting local elementary school visit to plant seeds with 2nd- 4th graders, creating teacher appreciation goodie bags with Cabot brand cheese that Alvirne cows contribute into the Cabot Creamery Cooperative, educating students and staff through agricultural trivia throughout the week, and more!

Today, FFA provides the next generation of leaders who will change the world. As the top school-based youth leadership development organization in the nation, FFA helps young people meet new agricultural challenges by developing their unique talents and exploring their interests in a broad range of career pathways. FFA members are our future leaders, our future food suppliers, our future innovators and more!

Whether it is through service projects or commu-

nity gatherings, National FFA Week is a time for FFA members to raise awareness about the role the National FFA Organization plays in the development of agriculture's future leaders and the importance of agricultural education.

The National FFA Organization is a school-based national youth leadership development organization of more than 945,000 student members as part of 9,163 local FFA chapters in all 50 states, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

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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](mailto:hudsontimes@nutpub.net).

## Police Department Closure

Starting Feb. 20, 2024, the lobby of the Hudson Police Department will be closed for the final stages of renovation. This closure will last for approximately 10 days. If you need non-emergency police assistance, please call (603) 886-6011. If it is an emergency, please dial 9-1-1. If you do respond to the police department there will be a phone outside the lobby to directly contact dispatch. After speaking with dispatch, you will be asked to wait outside or in your vehicle until assistance can be provided.

## Bensons Hike

On Friday, March 1, Rodgers Memorial Library will host a hike at 9:30 a.m. It

will be an hour hike exploring the trails at Benson's Park. The group will meet at the Gorilla Cage at 9:15 a.m. Please dress for the weather as the hike will go rain or shine.

## Curious Kids

Explore learning centers with your preschooler at the Rodgers Memorial Library. On Friday, Feb. 23, at 10 a.m., and Saturday, Feb. 24, at 10 a.m., will involve an Obstacle Course. Siblings welcome. Caregiver participates.

## Maple Weekend is Coming

Londonderry's Peterson Sugarhouse, 28 Peabody Row Londonderry, will be open for visitors March 16 - 17, from noon - 4 p.m., for NH Annual Maple Weekend. Their evaporators will be going, pure local NH maple syrup in all

sizes as well as their home-made maple pecans and maple candy for sale. Of course, there'll be Free Samples of delicious ice cream w/ maple syrup drizzled on top for everyone.

## Songs & Snuggles

Every Thursday in February at 10 a.m., enjoy time together with other caregivers and their babies to learn, play, and develop language and motor skills at the Rodgers Memorial Library. For pre-walkers and babies not yet steady on their feet.

## Adventurers Storytime

Join Ms. Tanya for stories, songs, games, and activities at the Rodgers Memorial Library. For ages 3-5. On Tuesday, Feb. 27, at 10 a.m.,

will involve Pajamas. Caretaker participates with their child or children. Children should be able to sit through a story. Siblings welcome. Registration required. Please indicate the number in your party when you register including adults and infants.

## Teen Hangout

Come to the Rodgers Memorial Library every Thursday in Feb. at 2:30 p.m. for Teens only hang out time, this event is for 13+.

## 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.

## Dino the Therapy Dog

Every Tuesday at 2:30 p.m., come meet Dino, the therapy dog at the Rodgers Memorial Library. Dino is a

St. Bernard who loves to make new friends.

## Movers & Shakers

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

## Mystery Lovers Book Club

You know you love it - murder, mystery and mayhem all in one place. You will also laugh....a lot! On Monday, Feb. 26, at 1 p.m., at Rodgers Memorial Library. This month's book pick is "Vera Wong's Unsolicited Advice for Murderers" by Jesse Q. Sutanto.

## Read 'Em and Eat at T-Bones

On Monday, Feb. 26, at 7 p.m., come to T-Bones to discuss books over good food and drinks! You can pick up a copy of the book from the Rodgers Memorial Library. February's book is

"Part Of Your World" by Abby Jimenez T-Bones is located at 77 Lowell Rd., Hudson. Individuals are responsible for their own food and drink

## 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.

## Coffee With The Cops

On Feb. 27 The Hudson Police Department joins the Senior Center, 19 Kimball Hill Rd., Hudson, for presentations on different subjects involving Community Policing. Coffee Will Be Served at 10 a.m. in the Function Room.

## Songs & Snuggles

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

continued on page 14

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## Around Town

Continued from page 13

### Elementary Craft

On Wednesday, March 6 at 6 p.m., students in grades K-5 are invited to make a rainbow collage with oil pastels and watercolors at the Rodgers Memorial Library.

### Dungeons & Donuts

Looking for people to play Dungeons & Dragons with? Come to Rodgers Memorial Library to play and grab a donut, on Saturday, March 2 and 16, at 9:30 a.m.

### Crocheting with Linda

On Tuesdays in March at 5:30 p.m., the Rodgers Memorial Library will host a four weeks series with an amigurumi project. This is not a beginner class, and you will need to purchase your own supplies. A list will be sent out to all registrants two

weeks before the first class.

### Tween Mario Kart

On Thursday, March 7 at 6 p.m., come eat snacks and play Mario Kart at the Rodgers Memorial Library.

### Laptop Donation Program

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

### Live Zentangle Class Series

On Thursday, March 7, 21 and 28 at 6:30 p.m., join Diane MacKinnon for a 3-class series that will result in a beautiful spring wreath, created by you, and ready for framing at the Rodgers Memorial Library.

### Rodgers Readers

On Thursday, March 7 at 7 p.m., discuss "The Lincoln Conspiracy: The Secret Plot to Kill America's 16th President - and Why It Failed" by Brad Meltzer and Josh Mensch at the Rodgers Library.

### Fire Outreach

Hudson Fire Department will be at the Senior Center, 19 Kimball Hill Rd., Hudson, on March 5 for the Fire Departments Community Outreach with Steve Dube at

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Continued on page 15



# State Officials Warn That Robo Calls Are On The Rise

Most anyone who has owned or operated a telephone has experienced the call of the often-dreaded telemarketer. And on the other side of the same token, more and more people owning or operating a telephone or cell phone today have been experiencing the call of the always dreaded phone scammer.

These days however, the trend in unsolicited sales and scam calls seems to have lost its human touch.

According to a report from the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), nearly half of all cell phone calls made in the United States last year were spam phone calls made from automated systems, or "robocalls."

In this report, data from the Federal Trade Commission's (FTC) National Do Not Call Registry was used to analyze which states had the most robocalls in 2019, finding that New Hampshire was the 9th hardest-hit state last year.

In 2019, New Hampshire residents filed 27,730 robocall complaints, over two thousand robocalls per every 100,000 residents.

Since 2015, New Hamp-

shire has received the 11th most robocalls of any state.

Across the nation, spam phone calls have seen an average increase of fourteen percent since the middle of last decade, with New Hampshire seeing a slightly higher increase of eighteen percent in that time.

The FCC states that unwanted calls are their biggest customer complaint, making up around 60 percent of all of the complaints they receive.

And not even FCC staff is immune to the plight. Ajit Pai, Chairman of the FCC, has said, "I hate robocalls as much as you do. I get them myself on my mobile phone. I hear about them from my family and friends, and I know that customers want to reclaim their sanity."

This surge in robocalls is likely due to the fact that these calls are an inexpensive way for telemarketers and scammers alike to contact millions of people all over the world at one time via use of the internet.

According to the FTC, "If someone is already breaking the law by robocalling you without permission, there's a good chance it's a scam. At the very least,

it's a company you don't want to do business with."

The FTC offers the following ways for those on the other end of a call to determine if the call is a scam:

- Calls with an automated message claiming the answerer has been "selected" for an offer, or that he or she has won the lottery. If a call like this asks for payment, the FTC says that it is a scam.

- Automated calls claiming to come from law enforcement or a federal agency. These calls may claim that the answerer may be arrested, fined, or deported if he or she does not pay a tax or debt right away. Legitimate members of law enforcement and federal agencies will not call for such matters, says the FTC.

- Robocalls claiming to be from the IRS asking for the answerer to confirm sensitive information, such as social security numbers, etc.

- Calls that pressure answerers to make a decision about a product or service on the spot, or ask for payment through wiring money, putting money on a

gift card, prepaid card or cash reload card, or by using a money transfer app.

The FTC says not to rely on caller ID to determine whether a robocall is a scam or not, as scammers have the ability to fake the number and even name that may appear on caller ID, even going so far as to make it appear that the call is coming from a government agency (otherwise known as "spoofing").

Although a robocall of any kind can be alarming and irritating, the FTC says that there are certain types of robocalls that are permitted. These include calls that are purely informational (messages about flights being cancelled, appointment reminders, etc), debt collection calls (not those trying to sell services to reduce a debt), political calls, calls from health care providers (usually a pharmacy reminding a customer of a prescription), and messages from charities (typically to members of a charity or previous donors).

The FTC urges anyone who receives an illegal robocall to hang up immediately and report the call to the FTC at [donotcall.gov](https://www.ftc.gov/donotcall).

In the same vein as reporting robo-numbers to the FTC for data collection, a measure many people take to stop receiving these spam calls is to put their number on the Do Not Call Registry. However, this does not always work.

The Do Not Call Registry tells telemarketers which numbers do not wish to be contacted. It is designed for legitimate businesses which follow laws set in place to protect customers. Unfortunately, this list does not apply to those taking part in illegal schemes.

In fact, according to the FTC itself, "Scammers don't care if you're on the Registry."

The FTC does not have the capability to block any calls, but the Commission does continue to work with other law enforcement agencies and encourages industry efforts to combat robocalls and caller ID spoofing. It has led initiatives to develop technology-based solutions to help investigators track down and stop robocallers.

As if robocalls weren't enough, there has also been a rise in recent years in

spam text messages, or robotexts. Much like their phone call counterparts, robotexts are messages generated through autodialing, says the FCC. These messages range from simple spam texts to messages used for phishing by identity thieves or to even install malware on a victim's phone.

The FCC urges people who receive suspicious text messages not to respond or click any links provided from unrecognized numbers. Senders of unwanted text messages can be blocked by forwarding messages to 7726 ("SPAM"), depending on the phone carrier.

It seems there is still a ways to go until cell phone owners will be completely free from the constant call of spammers and scammers. In the meantime, the option to silence these calls and messages, even just for a moment, is just a button tap away.

For more information on robocalls and robotexts, visit [ftc.gov/calls](https://ftc.gov/calls). To report an illegal robocall or robotext, visit [consumercomplaints.fcc.gov](https://consumercomplaints.fcc.gov).

## Around Town

**Continued from page 14**  
10 a.m., in the Function Room. Coffee will be served.

### Genealogy Club

On Friday, March 8 at 1:30 p.m., join genealogist, speaker, and educator Katherine Wilson as she goes over free available resources for beginning online research in any of our immigrant ancestors' home countries at Rodgers Memorial Library.

### Five Scholarships

The Hudson Lions Club will be awarding four general individual \$1,000 scholarships to graduating High School Seniors and one individual \$1,000 scholarship to a graduating Senior who is a member of the Alvirne Leo's

Club. Applicants must be a Hudson NH resident. Applications may be obtained at the Alvirne Guidance Office or email: [DGRoger@comcast.net](mailto:DGRoger@comcast.net). Applications are due by April 12.

### Stitchers' Circle

On Saturday, March 9 at 9:30 a.m., come and Stitch/cross stitch, blackwork, embroider, knit, crochet, hand craft, at the Rodgers Memorial Library. Not a formal class, but people willing to help.

### Book Donation Dates

The Friends of the Library of Hudson will hold a book donation day each month at Rogers Memorial Library. It's the Thursday immediately following Second Hand Prose (SHP).

Upcoming dates are: Feb. 15. All day (9 a.m. - 9 p.m.). Books are dropped off in the library to a study room. Do not use the donation bin in the parking lot - the bin donations do not go to the friends.

### Cookbook Club

On Tuesday, March 12 at 11:30 p.m., prepare a recipe from this month's topic, Ottolenghi Simple, then engage with others about your recipe adventures at Rodgers Memorial Library.

### PFOA Water Test

You can request a water sampling here: Southern NH PFOA Investigation Private Well-Testing Request Form Survey ([survey.monkey.com](https://survey.monkey.com)) Questions contact Amy Rousseau | PFAS Response Administrator - MtBE Remed-

iation Bureau at NH Department of Environmental Services Email: [Amy.Rousseau@des.nh.gov](mailto:Amy.Rousseau@des.nh.gov), Phone: 603.271.8801

### Preparing for Spring Planting

On Wednesday, March 13 at 6 p.m., Rodgers Memorial Library circulation Librarian Dana Benner will discuss what you should be doing now so everything goes smoothly when the time comes to get your garden planted.

### Pokemon Party

On Thursday, March 14 at 6 p.m., grades 1-5 are invited to come watch Detective Pikachu, design your own Pokemon card, and enjoy a snack at the Rodgers Memorial Library.

### Access Wisdom Book Club

On Thursday, March 14 at 7:30 p.m., certified life coach Diane MacKinnon leads a book club highlighting books that help us all gain more access to our own wisdom at Rodgers Memorial Library. This month's book is: *Young Forever: The Secrets to Living Your Longest, Healthiest Life* by Dr. Mark Hyman.

### Afternoon Book Group

On Tuesday, March 19 at 1:30 p.m., join the Rodgers Memorial Library the third Tuesday of every month for an in-depth discussion of quality best-selling fiction and nonfiction books including biographies. This month's book: "Wish You Were Here" by Jodi Picoult.

### Mystery Lovers Book Club

On Monday, March 18 at 1 p.m., murder, mystery and mayhem all in one place, also laugh....a lot at the Rodgers Memorial Library. This month's book pick is "The Verifiers" by Jane Pek.

### Tween Spring Snack Bonanza

On Tuesday, March 20 at 6 p.m., for grades 4-8, make a few fun spring themed snacks at the Rodgers Memorial Library.

### Friends of the Library Meeting

On Tuesday, March 19 at 7 p.m., The Friends of the Library of Hudson, NH, will hold their regular business meeting. Everyone is welcome.





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