

THE Hudson Times

February 27, 2025 ♦ Volume 3 – Issue 8

A FREE Weekly Publication



Congresswoman Maggie Goodlander speaks with AFROTC student Caleb Haselteen during her tour at the Wilbur H. Palmer Center at Alvirne High School last week.

Photo by Chris Paul

U.S. Rep. Maggie Goodlander Tours Palmer Center at Alvirne

CHRIS PAUL
HUDSON TIMES

The staff and students at the Wilbur H. Palmer Center at Alvirne High School had a visit from newly elected U.S. Congresswoman Maggie Goodlander on Wednesday morning, Feb. 18, helping to promote Career and Technical Education Month in New Hampshire.

Goodlander toured the facility with Alvirne's CTE Director, Eric Frauworth, who led her through the hall-

ways to a number of key classrooms at the center. They were also joined by Superintendent of Schools, Daniel Moulis and Assistant Superintendent, Jessica Benson.

Goodlander also spoke with a number of students during the tour as well as the Alvirne Principal Steve Beals.

The walk began with a look at the newest area being offered by the school's Health Science section. A dental program will be offered in the coming weeks and currently that area

continued on page 8

Six Candidates Vie for the Two Open Selectmen Spots

PAUL CONYERS
HUDSON TIMES

The candidates running for the Hudson Board of Selectmen had the opportunity to make their pitch to voters at Candidates Night held on Thursday night, Feb. 20 at the Hudson Community Center.

"For the Board of Selectmen, we have two positions for three-year terms and six candidates," explained Town Moderator Paul Inderbitzen.

The first candidate was longtime resident Todd Boyer.

"Although I did choose a life in the private sector, my desire to serve the community has never gone away," he said. "I currently serve as an alternate on the Hudson Planning Board,

but I want to continue doing more in the town. As a business owner, one of the things I'm most proud of is the ability to keep 18 different personalities working as a team."

He promised to bring productive energy to the Board of Selectmen.

Candidate Mark Fauteux emphasized his history in the area, including his graduation from Alvirne High School in 1982.

"I've lived in Hudson for over 35 years," he said. "Once I graduated from high school, I worked in the construction field full-time, starting at the bottom, working hard and learning all the aspects of residential and commercial construction."

Unlike many other candidates, this was Fauteux's

first time running for office in Hudson, as he advocated keeping the "flavor" of the town intact.

Candidate Marilyn McGrath wanted to address the loss of much of the town's rural farmland.

"I previously served two terms as a member of the Board of Selectmen, with liaison assignments with the Police Department, Finance Department, and the Municipal Utilities Committee," she said. "The loss of farmland is really sad. Farms existed where Sam's Club and Walmart now are. A farm existed where Market Basket now sells groceries."

McGrath is a lifelong resident of Hudson and previously served on the Plan-

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Planning Board Pledges to Support Sidewalk Expansion

PAUL CONYERS
HUDSON TIMES

The February workshop of the Hudson Planning Board saw its members tackle the issue of sidewalks in Hudson, an unresolved problem that arose more than once last year.

"The topic of sidewalks: when should we require them, if we should require them, have come up a few times in the context of the plans that were in front of us," explained Interim Town Planner Jay Minkarah, "Just in general, it's not uncommon for municipalities to require Sidewalks to be installed. That could be within a residential subdivision or if a site abuts a commercial street. It's

also not uncommon cases to require payment in lieu of building a sidewalk, you build it or you contribute in lieu of... In some cases, you just contribute. There's a lot of options out there depending on how the town wants to go."

The town's 10-year plan includes the construction of more sidewalks with state assistance.

"I think with non-residential units on an arterial or collector roadway, you've got to do a sidewalk," said Board member James Crowley, who recalled a case where the developer did not want to build a sidewalk, and where the Planning Board found it impossible to require an "in lieu

of" payment. "We had no mechanism to collect funds, that's something that's still got to be worked out."

Chair Tim Malley raised the possibility of wording some way to collect money from property owners unwilling to install a sidewalk when required. He also wanted to clarify what the process was for taking over a sidewalk after completion of new development, noting that the Department of Public Works would have to put time and money into overseeing anything under the responsibility of Hudson.

"I basically did research on different towns through-

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School Board Get Financial Update, Discuss Discipline

ALEX MALM
HUDSON TIMES

During the most recent Hudson School Board meeting, the School Board received an update on the District's current financials.

Superintendent Dan Moulis, explained that at this point in the year, they are looking at having excess revenue compared to what they were projecting originally.

"Our excess for revenue (we are) looking at an excess of \$723,215," Moulis said during the meeting.

Moulis said, that at the end of the fiscal year, they are expecting their fund bal-

ance to grow, to a total of about \$2.5 million after anticipated expenses, and various warrant articles all passing that utilize the end-of-the-year Fund Balance.

Also during his superintendent report, Moulis provided the School Board with some of the main points in the monthly discipline reports from the different schools.

It was explained by Moulis that he had been asked previously by the School Board for more context to be provided about the different trends they are seeing at the schools.

One area Moulis pointed to as part of his report, was from Alvirne High School, with it being noted that they had 60 detentions for 2025 and 32 in 2024.

The number of in-school and out-of-school suspensions is also up at Alvirne High School compared to 2024.

In 2024 there were six in-school suspensions at this point at Alvirne High School, compared to the 17 this year.

For out-of-school suspensions, there were five out-of-school suspensions at the high school up to this

point and this year there have been nine.

Moulis explained during the meeting that the Alvirne High School administration has been working on tardiness, which is one of the reasons for the increases.

Another note that Moulis made about the data, is the fact that there is a discrepancy between the number of detentions being issued at Nottingham West compared to Hills Garrison.

It was explained by Moulis, that they found out that Nottingham West has been reporting the number

of lunch detentions, while Hills Garrison hasn't been.

Moulis explained that lunch detentions aren't classified under the state rules for needing to be reported as detentions.

He explained that they are working on having them reported correctly moving forward.

In personnel news, the School Board approved several coaching nominations for the Spring at Alvirne High School.

It included varsity baseball coach Colton Houle, JV baseball coach Richard Lof-tus, baseball pitching coach

Alex Larson, varsity softball Becky Radziewicz, JV softball Jessica Toomey, boys varsity tennis Colin Stone, boys varsity spring track Phil Demers, girls varsity spring track Adam Dufault, Danielle Davis assistant spring track, Jeff Ogiba, an assistant spring track coach.

Other nominations included Patrick Meehan for girls' varsity lacrosse, Cam DeBrusk for boys varsity lacrosse, Conor Gannon for boys' JV lacrosse, Molly Norton for girls' JV lacrosse, and Andrew Rush for unified track.

Sidewalks

Continued from page 1

out the state that have different sidewalk funds or regulations with some of the options that they're providing to their residents," said Board member Victor Oates. "I kind of weaved together a structured layout."

He gave Manchester as an example, where the property owner covers half the cost of building a side-

walk with the town covering the rest, with a reimbursement cap. Oates also wanted clear goals for what Hudson wanted for a more extensive network over the next decade.

"I'm a big supporter of having a sidewalk fund so we could collect money instead of giving waivers to developers," said Board member Ed Van der Veen, who supported even longer-term thinking from the

town. "We've got about 20 years' worth of work in front of us."

He wanted to close several "gaps" in relatively high pedestrian areas, including the intersection of Derry Street and Elm Street.

"People walk that all the time, in the street. Basically, walking through the intersection," said Van der Veen. "You've got apartment complexes, you got kids walking to schools, you've

got a Starbucks that's going to go in there, and nobody can walk on a sidewalk through that intersection."

There were questions on how much developers should contribute to any sidewalk account. Most suggestions included a contribution system that would avoid relying on local taxpayers.

"I don't think having a developer give money to a sidewalk fund is any burden

whatsoever," said Oates. "You either provide it and build your home, or don't provide it, and build over there."

While most members expressed a reluctance to shift the burden onto the town, Board member Tim Lyko urged members to at least consider future warrant articles as a "fastest way" to build sidewalk sections in high-traffic areas without waiting for a fund

to fill up.

"I don't know if I want to make builders do sidewalks as they're building," he argued. "If we're going to do it, I'd rather save up money and do it all at once."

In the end, the Planning Board did not agree on a single idea, although they expressed overwhelming support for expanding the sidewalk network in the coming years.

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Benson Park Receives Wild Farm Artifacts from Son of Animal Tamer

PAUL CONYERS
HUDSON TIMES

The Benson Park Committee met on Feb. 20 to hear from David Selvis Jr. during public input, whose Hudson-born father, David Selvis Sr., was said to be "the first animal trainer" at the former Benson's Wild Animal Farm.

"When he was in high school, he used to train local cats and dogs," said Selvis

Jr. "In high school, he used to walk or ride his bicycle to Benson's, and he got a job taking ponies and giving kids rides around the area. As he spent more time there, he started getting used to chimpanzees. So, he started working with chimpanzees and training them to do tricks. This went on and on and on and then he went to leading an elephant around the park giving

rides."

According to the son, Selvis Sr. also worked at a zoo in Bedford, in addition to Benson's Wild Animal Farm, later buying property in Merrimac.

"He also got involved in walking around the park with pythons around his neck, one of them was 18 feet long! I have pictures of him with the python around his neck," said Selvis Jr.

"He started out with chimpanzees and he went on to training lions and tigers."

Members of the Benson Park Committee were shown several framed pictures detailing Selvis Sr.'s life as an animal trainer at the park. Included was a photo of Wild Animal Farm founder John T. Benson. Selvis Jr. also brought a scrapbook and artifacts from the former theme park, including a long wooden stick utilized to reward lions and tigers for following tricks and a piece of elephant hide he claimed was from Betsy the Elephant.

"That elephant is buried somewhere in Benson. There are many animals buried in Benson Park, I

don't know where, but they're in the ground somewhere" he said. "What else are you going to do with a giant elephant?"

Committee Chair Judy Brouillette was not surprised to hear about Betsy.

"I believe that the criteria back then was very different," said Brouillette, who stated there was "no doubt" Selvis Sr. had been a trainer at the park. "What you would like to do? Donate your items so they can go into our museum?"

Selvis Jr. confirmed this was his intention as he hoped to include his father's member with that of Benson Park. Committee member Susan Clement also asked for a copy of his notes for further research, a

request that was immediately granted.

The Benson's Museum and Discovery Center is an ongoing project overseen by the Friends of Benson Park to be located at the old Elephant Barn.

"Natalie, who is one of the Friends of Benson, had stated they are always on the lookout, especially for these absolutely amazing items," said Brouillette. "They get pictures here and there, but these are some incredible items that you want to donate, and it tells a story."

The Benson Park Committee is scheduled to meet again on Thursday, March 20 at 7 p.m. in the Hudson Cable Access Center.

School Board Approves Student Welfare, Child Abuse Policies

ALEX MALM
HUDSON TIMES

The Hudson School Board had policy readings for a number of proposed policies during its most recent board meeting.

One of the proposed policies is in relation to Parental Notification of and Involvement in Student Welfare.

The proposed policy states "Pursuant to New Hampshire RSA 186:11, IX-e, the district will not adopt policies, procedures, or student support forms that prohibit district personnel from answering questions from a parent/guardian about that parent's/guardian's student's mental, emotional, or physical health or well-being, sexuality, or a change in related services or monitoring, or that have the effect of encouraging a student to withhold from a parent/guardian such information."

As part of the proposed revised policy, it states that "District personnel will not discourage or prohibit parental/guardian notification

of and involvement in critical decisions affecting that parent's/guardian's student's mental, emotional, or physical health or well-being.

"The Superintendent and his/her designee are authorized to adopt procedures that permit district personnel to withhold any of the above information from a parent or guardian if a reasonably prudent person would believe that such disclosure would result in abuse, abandonment, or neglect of a student or other child as those terms are defined in RSA 169-C:3," the proposed revised policy states.

"This policy shall supersede other conflicting policies that are or can be created," the policy states.

The proposed policy was approved by the School Board unanimously during the meeting.

Another proposed revised policy that got a second reading was in regards to Training and Information Relative to Child Abuse.

The proposed policy

states that the "The Superintendent shall require that every employee, designated volunteer, or another person whose position requires a criminal history records check under RSA 189:13-a, and/or is a "covered person" as defined in Board policy GBCD is provided with informational materials, training, or other education, either online or in person, concerning child sexual abuse prevention, sexual assault, and harassment policy training, warning signs of child abuse, and reporting mandates. Such training shall be completed within 30 days of employment and renewed every two years for all such employees, designated volunteers, and other persons."

During the meeting, the School Board unanimously approved the new policy.

The next regularly scheduled Hudson School Board meeting is slated to take place on March 10 beginning at 6:30 p.m. at the Hills Memorial Library.

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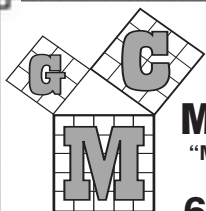
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Editorial

Read Across America

March is designated as Read Across America month in many local schools, celebrating the beloved children's author Dr. Theodor Geisel, better known as Dr. Seuss, whose birthday falls on March 2. Throughout this month, schools across the country engage in various activities centered around the theme of reading.

Read Across America was created by the National Education Association, highlighting the vital importance of reading, especially reading to children early and often.

Whether it involves dressing up as the Cat in the Hat, creating green eggs and ham, serving as a "celebrity reader" at a local elementary school, or cuddling up to read a bedtime story, Read Across America serves as a gentle reminder of the significance of reading in our lives—a skill that could easily become neglected amid today's busy schedules.

One of the key factors for future success is the ability and desire to read. Sometimes, we forget how much we take our reading skills for granted and overlook how we learned to read in the first place. We utilize this essential skill every day. Research shows that children who devote time to recreational reading perform better academically. Whether it's reading job applications, college textbooks, or exam questions, reading is a lifelong companion. Although some individuals struggle with reading and may need to exert

extra effort, engaging with enjoyable reading material can make a difference.

Read Across America isn't just for kids; adults also find great pleasure in losing themselves in a good book, whether by a warm fire or relaxing by a pool. If your child asks you to spend a little extra time at home reading this week, embrace the opportunity. Amid hectic, overwhelming schedules, this time will be well spent. While you're at it, consider visiting your local library's children's section. Witnessing a building filled with books can create a memorable experience for your child.

There is immense joy in discovering something new through an informative nonfiction book about a favorite figure or subject. Whatever the genre, nothing compares to the feeling of getting lost in a good book; these habits are fostered from a young age.

Read Across America emphasizes the importance of simply picking up a book and allowing yourself to get immersed in its story, exploring where it can lead your imagination, and discovering the doors it can open. There are countless formats to enjoy reading, including on your phone, on a computer, in newspapers, magazines, comic books, graphic novels, and more. Reading to a child creates lasting memories for both of you.

As Dr. Seuss wisely said, "You're never too old, too wacky, or too wild to pick up a book and read to a child."

THE Hudson Times

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Letters

**Debra Stoddard,
Write In Candidate
Town Moderator**

To the editor,

I have been a taxpayer in Hudson since 1996. I live in Hudson's Ward 1 and have seen the efficiency, fairness, and integrity of how our town election process has been consistently managed. Debra Stoddard has been a huge part of that. She has been an Assistant Moderator, working with Paul Inderbitzen (former Town Moderator), for the past 16 years and most recently served as the Acting Moderator for Ward 1 when the town went to two polling locations. She continues to be a part of the election process, loves our town, is ethical, and strives to keep the integrity of our elections according to NH's state laws and regulations. Debra resisted running for Moderator as she felt that having a seasoned person to work alongside the new Town Moderator would keep the election process running efficiently. However, since no qualified candidates have stepped forward, she now feels that it's more important to make sure it does continue running smoothly by submitting her name for the Moderator position - and she CAN make that happen. Debra has been a Hudson taxpayer/resident in our town since 2000 and has been active in our community since. Besides the time that she has served running our town elections, she is an active volunteer in other

arenas. We have attended the same church for 15 years and during that time Debra has served with our community outreach team, as our church council secretary, and as a singer and musician for services. Debra is a hardworking, dedicated person with integrity and strong character. She would serve our town well as the Town Moderator and I enthusiastically support her in this endeavor. I hope that others will join me by writing in Debra Stoddard as Hudson Town Moderator at our next town meeting on March 11, 2025.

Sincerely,
Sharlene Peterson
Hudson

Vote Xen

To the editor,

I'm writing to ask my neighbors to join me in giving one of our two votes to Xen Vurgaropoulos for the Hudson Board of Selectmen.

I chuckle about Xen's candidacy - that a guy with a nearly impossible name to pronounce is, ironically, the easiest candidate to understand.

Xen is a husband, father, community volunteer, and United States Marine. When we spoke, he talked about his desire to give back to our town, a value he has embodied as a resident of Hudson, including as our Alvirne High School swim coach.

Those same conversations with Xen have shown me how important it is to

him to seek out as many perspectives as possible. Small towns like Hudson can struggle with a "good old boys" club. That's not Xen. He's running because he wants to engage as many neighbors as possible and bring those perspectives to the table as a Selectman.

For me, I've been so frustrated by national politics. I'm tired of parties fighting, and I'm concerned when I see that same tone seeping into our local government. Xen has been refreshing in speaking about how there is no such thing as a Democratic or Republican Selectman - he just wants to be OUR Selectman.

And by giving Xen one of our two votes, we can make that happen.

Scott J. Wade
Hudson

Vote No on Warrant Articles 32 & 33

To the editor,

I'm writing to encourage residents to vote NO on both Town Warrant Articles 32 & 33. Both articles serve the interests of business first, not the homeowners in Hudson.

Re: Article 32 – Establish Mixed Use District (MUD)

- Would your quality of life be better with a business as your neighbor? No.

- Would you enjoy having a business less than 100 feet from your back door? No.

- Would dumpsters, del-

continued on page 6

Election Letters

It has been a longstanding policy of Nutfield Publishing to not publish campaign letters in the newspaper on the week prior to the town and school election. Reason being: It does not give those affected by a letter published the chance to rebut any inaccuracies in the statements made. The only letters pertaining to the March 11 election appearing in the March 6 issue will be to correct inaccuracies made in letters/articles in prior publications.

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.



Candidates running for town and school positions this March attended the Candidates night organized by the Hudson Womens Club. Photo by Chris Paul

Candidates Night

Continued from page 1
ning and Zoning Boards.

Candidate Pete Sessions wanted to encourage residents to involve themselves in local affairs, himself included.

“The only way to make a difference here is to get active!” said Sessions. “I’m a retired technical writer, I’m a detail-oriented guy, I like numbers, I like analyzing problems, I like solving problems. My slogan for this campaign is ‘Proud to Live in Hudson.’”

He praised the effectiveness of the Hudson’s town government, for making “the most of every dollar” spent and called for “growth in a responsible way” to increase the tax base.

Candidate Xen Vurgaropulos hoped to put his years of organizational experience to use.

“With over 15 years of experience as a maintenance supervisor for Jet-Blue, I manage large operations, and budgets, and balance immediate needs with long-term planning,” said Vurgaropulos. “I’m running

for Selectmen because I believe I can be a voice for every resident of the town.”

He also talked about working together with residents to serve the town.

Incumbent Selectman Chair and candidate Bob Guessferd was attending his daughter’s wedding and unable to attend Candidates Night, although he wrote a letter expressing his interest in another term as Select-

man. “I was appointed as a Selectman by a judge in the Hillsborough County Superior Court in August of 2021,” wrote Guessferd. “I’ve learned how important it is to be able to interact

effectively with members of the board, listen to their opinions, and respect their perspective. I would like to have the opportunity to build on this past three-and-a-half and help continue to

lead Hudson forward.” He also pushed for greater cooperation with the School Board and expressed optimism about the upcoming update to the Master Plan.

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Budget Committee Candidates Call for Improved Communication & Cooperation

PAUL CONYERS
HUDSON TIMES

Town Moderator Paul Inderbitzen oversaw Hudson's 2025 Candidates Night on Feb. 23 as the town prepared for its upcoming election. As an elected Board, the Budget Committee had several returning or prospective members in attendance.

"Thank you to the Hud-

son Women's Club for holding this Candidates Night. It's an opportunity for you to see and hear the candidates you'll be asked to vote for in March," said Inderbitzen. "For the Budget Committee, we have three three-year terms and one one-year term."

Bill Cole was the first to speak as the former Committee Chair, who called for

greater scrutiny on spending for both the town and school, which he called "totally out of control." Unlike the other two candidates, Cole was not an immediate incumbent.

"I've had the pleasure and honor of serving in a number of capacities in town government, both elected and appointed, most recently from March of 2021 to last October, I served as a member and Chairman of the Budget Committee," he said. "What the last three-and-a-half to four years did do, was confirm to me that the Hudson taxpayer is caught in a downward spiral."

Cole worried about rising property taxes and a declining quality of life.

Incumbent candidate Rich stressed the impor-

tance of communication between the elected Budget Committee, the town, and the school district.

"I've been on the Budget Committee for about six-plus years, was the Chairman and the Clerk, and I've been on several subcommittees. One of the things I learned when I became educated was a deep understanding of the town and the school and their budgets, knowing I wasn't the expert and talking to the different department heads and school officials," he said. "I always come at things through an unbiased lens, I don't bring the personal aspect into the budget."

He warned against bringing a "personal perspective" into any budget analysis and considered it

"rewarding" to serve as an elected official.

A third candidate, Kim Rice, was unable to attend the meeting. Like Weissgarber, Rice is an incumbent member of the Budget Committee running for another term.

By contrast, candidates Eleanor Bassett and Donna Boucher competed to fill a one-year vacancy rather than a full three-year term.

"I've lived in Hudson for 24 years. I have a wealth of knowledge and experience with budgets," said Bassett. "I ask for your vote, I'm very well qualified, and I do want to delve into our budgets."

She also brought up her extensive experience with budgeting for environmental programs and in the defense industry.

Boucher was another incumbent member of the Budget Committee with previous experience on the Rodgers Memorial Library Board of Trustees.

"I was appointed last spring as a result of a resignation from the committee and I participated in training in Manchester sponsored by the NH Municipal Association," she said. "Since Budget Committee members can't act on their own, collaboratively working together to oversee, not control the budget requires the thoughtful ideas of minds that envision common objectives. I believe that I possess this mindset and will be an asset to continue with the Hudson Budget Committee."

Elected officers will appear on the March 11 ballot.

OBITUARY

Eric P. Boucher



Eric P. Boucher, 62, died on Feb. 11, 2025 in Nashua, NH with his daughters by his side. He was born June 30, 1962, son of Dorothy (Polak) Boucher of Hudson and the late Lionel Boucher.

Eric, a lifelong resident of NH, was a graduate of Alvirne High School. He was quiet and reserved in nature but had a surprising sense of humor which he shared with the family and friends who he cared about greatly. He was an avid outdoorsman; hunting, fishing, gardening and camping were among his favorite pastimes. Eric was also a fantastic cook with a particular knack for grilling, pickling, canning, and making his own jerky. He rarely followed a recipe but always created delicious dishes. Eric was also a Master Scuba Diver, enjoyed riding his motorcycle, and had a love for animals which was evident in the myriads of pets he cared for over the years.

A master craftsman and builder, Eric was extremely proud of his home in Windham, NH which he designed and built. He learned the trade from his father whom he worked alongside for many years before founding his own company. Eric showed a great attention to detail in his work and was respected by many families who entrusted their home projects into his care over the years.

Besides his loving mother, Dorothy, Eric is survived by a daughter; Nicole (Boucher) Filteau and her husband Benjamin of New Boston, NH, a daughter; Alexandria Boucher of Manchester, NH, a grandson; Cade Filteau of New Boston, NH, a sister; Nanette Constant and her husband David of Windham, NH, a brother; Lionel Boucher and his husband Gary Binette of Longs, SC, and a brother; Daniel Boucher of Hudson, NH.

Following cremation, there will be a time of visitation will be held on Wednesday, March 5 from 9 -11 a.m., at the Dumont-Sullivan Funeral Home in Hudson. Burial will be private. In lieu of flowers, please consider making a donation to Gateways Community Services in Nashua, NH at www.gatewayscs.org To share an online message of condolence, please visit www.dumontsullivan.com. The Dumont-Sullivan Funeral Home in Hudson is in charge of arrangements.

Letters

Continued from page 4

iveries and extra traffic improve your backyard family time? No.

Things you should know about Article 32:

- Removes 100ft buffer between a business and residence!
- MUD zone removes the power from a homeown-

er to say No and says Yes to a business!

• All cities have a MUD zone, it's what makes them a city

Re: Article 33 – Petition to Rezone Parcels from Residential 2 to Business

For hundreds of years Hudson Town Center has provided a view into the beginnings of our town. Nestled in this historic area of Hudson are some of the

oldest homes in town, Hudson Grange Hall (originally the Hudson Town Hall and built in 1857), a Revolutionary War-era cemetery, a Little League baseball diamond and youth playground, an old school house built in the last 1800s, and Benson's Park, one of the most important landmarks in our town. This area has seen some growth and changes over the years (we have already lost the historic Hudson Center railroad depot, which opened in 1874), but it remains a suburban neighborhood with all the charm, character, and benefits you would desire in your hometown.

If Article 33 were to

pass it would change all that. It is an invitation for the destruction of our wonderful neighborhood and historical buildings as well as the memories of our hometown. Re-zoning this area to business would be a vicious, irreversible step in the decline and loss of the history of Hudson.

Please vote No on Article 33. Protect and preserve our town's history and our neighborhood.

Please vote No on Articles 32 & 33

Protect and preserve our town history and our neighborhood!

Sincerely,
Nancy Sudsbury
Hudson



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School District Discuss Policies, Receives a Donation

ALEX MALM
HUDSON TIMES

At the February 3 Hudson School Board meeting, one of the agenda items was in regard to a first reading for a proposed policy related to the Parental Notification of and Involvement in Student Welfare.

The proposed policy states that "Pursuant to NH RSA 186:11, IX-e, the district will not adopt policies, procedures, or student support forms that prohibit district personnel from answering questions from a parent/guardian about that

parent's/guardian's student's mental, emotional, or physical health or well-being, sexuality, or a change in related services or monitoring, or that have the effect of encouraging a student to withhold from a parent/guardian such information."

"District personnel will not discourage or prohibit parental/guardian notification of and involvement in critical decisions affecting that parent's/guardian's student's mental, emotional, or physical health or well-being," the proposed policy states.

The policy goes on to

state that "The Superintendent and his/her designee is authorized to adopt procedures that permit district personnel to withhold any of the above information from a parent or guardian if a reasonably prudent person would believe that such disclosure would result in abuse, abandonment, or neglect of a student or other child as those terms are defined in RSA 169-C:3."

The proposed policy was sent to a second reading.

Another policy reviewed during the meeting was

in regard to an amended policy related to Training and Information Relative to Child Abuse.

"The Superintendent shall require that every employee, designated volunteer, or other person whose position requires a criminal history records check under RSA 189:13-a, and/or is a "covered person" as defined in Board policy GBCD is provided with informational materials, training, or other education, either online or in person, concerning child sexual abuse prevention, sexual assault, and harass-

ment policy training, warning signs of child abuse, and reporting mandates," the proposed policy states. "Such training shall be completed within 30 days of employment and renewed every two years for all such employees, designated volunteers, and other persons." The policy was sent to a second reading during the meeting.

Also during the meeting, the School Board approved a donation from Lincoln Technical College. "Lincoln Technical College (in Connecticut) would like to donate some Caterpillar

equipment they are not utilizing," a memo to the School Board read. The items being donated included two engines valued at \$300 each and two axles valued at \$250 each.

"Students in the Heavy Duty program will utilize these as part of their curriculum," the memo to the School Board stated. "We are asking for the School District's support in receiving this donation valued at \$1,100."

The next School Board meeting is set for Feb. 17 beginning at 6:30 p.m. at the Hills Memorial Library.

Conservation Commission Elects Officers, Plans for Future Trail Work

PAUL CONYERS
HUDSON TIMES

The Feb. 10 meeting of the Hudson Conservation Commission saw its members wrap up officer elections for 2025.

"The positions are Chairman, Vice-Chairman, and Secretary," said acting Chair Carl Murphy. "Does anybody want to run for these positions?"

Incumbent Secretary Ken Dickinson offered to run for the position of Vice-Chair if nobody else was interested, although he was concerned about the time commitment such a job demanded.

"If somebody else want-

ed to have that position, that would be fine as well," he said. "One of the reasons behind that is my schedule, and the uncertainty behind it."

Dickinson served as Conservation Secretary throughout 2024.

Nobody else volunteered to run, leaving the Conservation Commission to select Dickinson as the new Vice-Chair without opposition.

As the incumbent Vice-Chair, Murphy was nominated to become the permanent 2025 Chair of the Conservation Commission. As no other member was interested in the role, he was unan-

imously elected without debate.

Murphy's first act as formal Chair was to nominate their newest full-time member Christ Cameron as the new Secretary.

After asking about the duties of the office, Cameron accepted the nomination and was unanimously elected to the role.

Despite interest in creating a trails subcommittee, the new Chair worried the Conservation Commission lacked the numbers to make it happen.

"I think the trails committee is a good idea, but I don't think we have enough bandwidth with the mem-

bers we have," explained Murphy. "We can revisit that at a future time."

Despite the setback, Commissioner John Walker urged other members to remain active in that area.

"My thought is that. Like we've been doing, to get out on a trail as often as you can," he said. "Go out to walk there during the week on trails you haven't had a chance to walk on. It's always better to know what we're talking about if you've been on the trails. I try to hike a different trail each week in the Hudson town forest."

Walker also warned there was probably too

much open space in Hudson to monitor regularly without help.

Two trails recently overseen by the Commission were the Wilkinson Pond View and Gumpus Pond Loop trails. Both projects are still ongoing.

"We did mark them; we just need to go out and put the proper colors on those trails," said Murphy. "On the Wilkinson Pond View Trail, we need to blaze the trail, to make it more of a trail."

Despite needing extra help on trail work, Dhima recommended skipping the planned Trail Work Day for February owing to the

recent snow storms.

"There's a lot of snow out there," said Dhima. "It's got to get warm at some point, but recently it's just been brutal. We'll tackle things in March, it'll be safer."

Walker recommended focusing on the Hudson Town Forest perimeter trail for the March Trail Day due to the presence of several downed trees. The March Trail Day was tentatively scheduled for Saturday, March 22, at 9:30 a.m.

The Conservation Commission is scheduled to meet on Monday, March 10, at 7 p.m. in the Buxton Room of Town Hall.

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Goodlander

continued from page 1

When asked, what prompted the tour of the Alvirne Palmer Center, Goodlander offered, “I am 52-days into my new job representing New Hampshire in Congress. Over

these first 52-days, I traveled all across our district’s 6,500 miles - from Hudson to Hanover and from Nashua to the North Country - to meet with people and see firsthand the incredible work Granite Staters are doing every single day and the real challenges that our communities are facing.

My visit to Alvirne High School and conversations with the extraordinary students, teachers, and administrators at the Palmer Center brought home for me the essential ways in which our kids and our schools here in New Hampshire rely on federal funding to do the extraordinary work that

they do. I visited Alvirne because I want to be the best possible representative to the people of Hudson that I can be in the People’s House.”

Goodlander was also asked what her take-away was from the tour?

She responded, “It was inspiring to see how the remarkable students, teachers, and administrators of Alvirne High School are putting federal funding to one of its highest and best uses: educating the next generation of Granite Staters. The curriculum and opportunities the Palmer Center offers to our students is incredible, and I look forward to supporting these kinds of essential efforts all across our state.”

Goodlander added, “Alvirne High School relies on mission-critical federal funding for its extraordinary programs - from Air Force JROTC to the Licensed Nursing Assistant program. I am working hard



Alvirne CTE Director, Eric Frauwirth, explains some of the features in the Mechanics area to Rep. Maggie Goodlander. Photos by Chris Paul


every single day to advocate for our students, our teachers, and our school in Congress. And our team is here to serve the people of New

Hampshire.” Questions to the Representative can be directed to: Goodlander.House.Gov or by calling 603-226-1002.



U.S. Rep. Maggie Goodlander spent time chatting with students during her tour of the CTE Center at Alvirne High School last week.

Political Advertisement



SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL POLICE

VOTE “YES” ON

WARRANT ARTICLE 5

Dear Hudson Residents,

I, Ronald Cloutier, President of the Hudson Police Employees Association (HPEA), am writing to ask for your support in the upcoming Town Election on March 11, 2025, specifically for Warrant Article 5.

Our association consists of police officers, police sergeants, civilian dispatchers, and departmental employees. Warrant Article 5 pertains to the Hudson Police Employees Bargaining Agreement, which is a contract carefully researched and agreed upon to ensure that our dedicated police department personnel receive fair and competitive wages comparable to those offered by surrounding towns and accredited agencies in our area. The passing of this warrant article is crucial in maintaining our ability to attract and retain the most qualified and sought-after police officers and civilian applicants. The need for the highest quality employees is crucial during emergencies and complex police services. With the support of this contract, we can continue to provide the best service to our community. Being a resident myself, with a family and interest in our town, I encourage my fellow residents to understand the major benefits a strong police department brings. Recruitment and retention remain one of the highest challenges for our department. Attracting and retaining the strongest candidates has never been harder, which is significantly more attainable with the support of the Hudson voters.

In addition to creating financial and incentives competitiveness with other departments in our area, this contract also emphasizes the importance of wellness balance for our officers and civilians. By prioritizing their well-being, we aim to continue to foster a healthy and motivated workforce, ultimately benefiting the entire community of Hudson.

We aspire to gain your vote in a similar manner as the Board of Selectmen and Budget Committee unanimously endorsed the contract through their analysis and oversight. We sincerely appreciate your time in reading this letter and for considering your support for Warrant Article 5. Your support is essential in helping us continue our mission to serve and protect Hudson with dedication and excellence.

Thank you for your continued support of the Hudson Police. **Vote “YES.”**

Sincerely,
 Ronald Cloutier, President
 Hudson Police Employees Association

Paid for by Ronald Cloutier, 142 Lowell Rd Unit 17, Hudson, NH 03051, Box #122



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HUDSON SPORTS

Alvirne Broncos Wrestlers Have Four Take State Titles



Shayne Mackey – 165-pound State Champion



Quintin Tetreault – 190-pound State Champion



Shawn Boudreau – 215-pound State Champion

CHRIS PAUL
HUDSON TIMES

The Alvirne High School Wrestling team competed at the Division II State Championship on Saturday, Feb. 22 and four of those wrestlers came home with division titles.

The championship took place at Goffstown High School, with ten schools competing at the event.

First to finish at the top for the Broncos was number-one seeded Kyler Cox, at 106 lbs., who took home a title by having to win just one match in his bracket.

Cox had an 18-3 tech-fall victory over Bishop

Guertin's Wesley Steinruck in the Semi-Finals, then was given a forfeit in the finals for the 106-pound crown.

In the 165-pound weight division, Shayne Mackey, also the number one seed, won by fall in the finals over Noah Dailey of Souhegan for the Division II title. He went 3-0 at the event with all wins coming by way of pins.

Quintin Tetreault (#1 seed at 190 lbs.) also had a first-place finish for the Broncos. Tetreault also went 3-0 at the event and had a well-fought 3-0 victory over Zach Lavy, of Winnacunnet in the finals.

Another AHS number-

one seed, Shawn Boudreau, went 3-0 for the state title. Boudreau had a pin at 3:44 over Gabe Holt of Souhegan for the title in the 215-pound division.

Timmy Malley had a third-place finish in the 113 lb. weight-class. He had a pin at 1:53 over Ethan Gahm of Winnacunnet in his final match.

The Broncos team will take their top finishers to the Meet of Champions at Pinkerton Academy on Saturday, March 1, to determine the best wrestlers of the state's three divisions.

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Broncos Basketball Get Two More Victories, Sit at 12-5

CHRIS PAUL
HUDSON TIMES

The Alvirne High School Boys Basketball team boosted their season record up to 12-5 with two more wins last week, solidifying a home game to start the upcoming Division I playoffs.

After beating the Londonderry Lancers way back

in the middle of January, the Broncos have gone 9-1 and put themselves at seventh-place in the state standings.

The AHS team began its week at Dover High School, taking on the 6-9 Green Wave, where Alvirne was able outscore their host in each of the four quarters for a 67-49 victory.

The Broncos took an early four-point lead to end the first quarter 14-10, then went up by ten in the second for a 21-11 advantage leading into the half.

A strong third quarter helped insure the victory with AHS getting 19-points led by three, three-pointers by senior Sam Dewitt for a 54-38 lead going into the final period.

The Broncos were able to cruise into the victory with a 13-11 shooting advantage in the final period for the 18-point win.

Dewitt finished with 19-points to lead his team in scoring. He was perfect at the foul line, going 4-4, had three from outside the arc and three baskets in the second quarter.

Junior forward Garrett Hall had 14-points in the game, including two, three-pointers.

Junior guard/forward Sean Chipfunde had two, three-pointers and three foul shots to finish with nine points.

Senior guard Evan Bettencourt and senior center Andrew Deely both had eight-points in the game.

The Broncos got their second victory of the week in the team's final home game of the regular season playing the Winnacunnet Warriors (6-8).

The Warriors came into

Alvirne trying to snap a six game losing streak and by the half it looked as though the Broncos might be accommodating them.

Alvirne's strong third quarter put an end to that notion, leading to the 63-48 victory.

The final home game also set up the Broncos Senior Night celebration, honoring the team's nine twelfth-graders before the contest.

Alvirne came out of the gate strong, taking an 18-16 lead over their visitors, but then looked somewhat flat in the second to trail 27-30 by the half.

The home team turned it around in the third with a 21-10 advantage and a 48-40 lead going into the final quarter.

Outscoring the Warriors 15-8 in the fourth, the Broncos celebrated their 15-point win.

Dewitt finished with 20-points to lead the team.

Chipfunde and Deely dropped in 12-points and Hall had 11-points.

Bettencourt came away



Senior Sam Dewitt had 20-points against the Warriors on Friday night.

with six-points.

The team's final game of the regular season was at Windham High School on Tuesday, Feb. 25. The Jaguars 10-7 record going into the final game of the season.



Broncos senior guard Evan Bettencourt had 14-points last week as the team head into the final week of the regular season. Photos by Chris Paul

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AHS Girls' Basketball Go 1-1, Head Into Final Week at 10-7

CHRIS PAUL
HUDSON TIMES

The Alvirne High School Girls' Basketball team had some good and bad results heading into the final week of the regular season.

The Lady Broncos lost 54-46 to the Dover Green Wave to begin the week, but then bounced back with a

dominating 54-32 victory over the Winnacunnet Warriors to finish the week at 10-7 with just one game left before heading into the Division I playoffs.

The Alvirne girls' started their week at home, hosting the Green Wave of Dover High School where the game also served as the team's Senior Night, where

the Broncos three seniors, Ella Hartson, Avery Willard and Emma Copey were honored before the game with a short celebration.

Unfortunately for the home squad, the game didn't go in their favor, trailing the entire night and ending with the Broncos seventh loss of the season.

Alvirne got behind 21-12 in the first quarter and were outpaced 13-11 in the second to trail 34-23 by halftime.

Things didn't go much better coming out of the break, with AHS getting just eight points and the Wave putting up 12.

In the end, the Broncos made up seven-points but fell by eight.

Putting the loss behind them, the Alvirne squad headed to the seacoast on Friday night, Feb. 21, to face the Warriors of Winnacunnet High School, where they came away with their tenth victory of the season.

The Lady Warriors had just six wins this season, so the Broncos were fairly confident things would go in their favor.

That they did, with the

AHS squad leading all the way.

The Broncos had a 14-7 lead by the end of the first quarter and had a 31-18 advantage by the halftime break.

In the third, the visitors tacked on another 13-points for the 44-29 lead before cruising 10-3 in the fourth for the 22-point victory.

Hartson led the team with 14-points, getting one, three-pointer, going 3-3 at the foul line and hitting four, for two-points.

Freshman Julia Adams had 11-points in the victory. Willard put up eight-points on two threes and a basket, while sophomore Courtney Anderson scored seven-points.

The team's final game of the regular season was at Alvirne High School on Tuesday, Feb. 25 against the Jaguars who have only lost two games this season.



Ella Hartson was heavily defended by the Dover defense.
Photos by Chris Paul



Julia Adams goes for three-points against Dover

POLITICAL ADVERTISEMENT

Article 33

For hundreds of years Hudson Town Center has provided a view into the beginnings of our town. Nestled in the center are some of the oldest homes in Hudson, Hudson Grange, a historical cemetery, a baseball field, playground and Benson's Park is a stone's throw away. This area has seen some growth and changes over the years and remains a suburban neighborhood with all the charm, character and benefits you would expect.

If Article 33 were to pass it would change all that. Article 33 is a walking reservation for the destruction of our suburban neighborhood and historical homes. Re-zoning this area from Residential (R-2) to Business (B) would be a BIG first step in the decline and loss of physical view into the history of Hudson.

Please vote No on Article 33

Protect and preserve our town history and our neighborhood.



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Admirals Win Streak Ends at Seven with Two Losses

CHRIS PAUL
HUDSON TIMES

As the saying goes, all good things must come to an end, and the Alvirne-Milford High School Hockey team's seven game winning streak came to a close last week with losses to the Spaulding Red Raiders and the Dover Green Wave.

The Admirals hadn't lost since Jan. 25 and in that four-week stretch, they outscored their opponents 43-18, but goals were harder to come by in their last two games, resulting in the two defeats.

Starting on Wednesday, Feb. 19, despite out-shooting the Spaulding High School Red Raiders 35-26, the Admirals fell 3-7 to that opponent at the Rochester Ice Arena.

Alvirne-Milford took an early lead in the game, when Milford senior, Bryce Larco,

put an unassisted shot into the Raiders net 2:50 minutes into the contest, but that would be the only lead the Admirals would see that evening.

Spaulding came back with two quick goals at the 10-minute mark of the first period for the 2-1 lead.

Spaulding got on the board three more times to start the second period before the pair of Brandon Ganas and Braydon Atwood gave the Admirals their second goal. Ganas had the goal with the assist going to Atwood.

Milford senior, Logan Howard started the third period with his team's final goal of the night, just 25-seconds into the final period, assisted by Ganas, putting the game at 5-3.

The Red Raiders were able to score two more times to finish with the four-goal

victory.

Alvirne sophomore goaltender Mason Komarek had 19 saves on 26 shots in the game.

Penalty minutes were even between the two teams with both sides serving eight-minutes on four infractions.

The Admirals dropped to 12-4 while Spaulding improved to 14-3 to put them in third in the DII standings.

Three days later, at the team's final regular season home game, the Admiral took the lead early, but fell 4-3 to the Green Wave in the final period on the team's Senior Night.

Despite the loss, the Admirals had good reason to cheer to start the game.

At 12:58 in the first period, Atwood put his team on the board and officially broken the school record for goals in a single season to

give his team a 1-0 start. Fellow forward Ganas had the assist.

The pair of Atwood and Ganas paired up again at 5:32 in the first for the 2-0 start.

At 12:16 in the second period, Milford senior Bryce Larco got his first goal of the week, making it 3-0 at 12:16, assisted by Milford sophomore Dylan Macleod

and Alvirne senior Ryan Ricard.

Dover came back with one goal in the second, then three more unanswered goals in the third period for the come-from-behind victory.

Komarek had 27 saves on 31 shots for the Admirals, while the Alvirne-Milford squad had 18-shots and three goals.

The Admirals will be losing six players to graduation this year.

The Admirals started this week at 12-5 with just one game left to the regular season.

The team will play Lebanon-Stevens-Mascoma (5-11-1) on Wednesday, Feb. 26, on the road, before heading into the Division II playoffs.



Cheer Champs! The Hudson Memorial Middle School Cheerleading squad took first place over the weekend at the Tri-County Championships held at Concord High School on Saturday, Feb. 22. *Courtesy photo*

POLITICAL ADVERTISEMENT

Article 32

Establish Mixed Use District (MUD)

Would your quality of life be better with a business as your neighbor? **NO**

Would you enjoy having a business less than 100 feet from your back door? **NO**

Would dumpsters, deliveries and extra traffic improve your backyard family time? **NO**

Would you like to redefine Hudson as an urban area instead of a suburb? **NO**

THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT ARTICLE 32:

- Removes 100ft buffer between a business and residence!
- MUD zone removes the power from a homeowner to say **NO** and says **YES** to a business!
- All cities have a MUD zone, it's what makes them a city

Homeowners unite and vote **NO** on Article 32



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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.

Easter Basket Drive

The Hudson Lions Club will be holding an Easter Basket Drive on Saturday, March 8 at the Dollar Tree, 68 Derry Rd., Hudson from 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. Items to fill Easter Baskets for ages 10 to Teens such as candy, ear buds, shampoo, conditioner, hair scrunchies, sketch pads, color pencils, soccer balls, football, wiffle ball, frisbees. Small gift cards for Dunks, Gas, & MacDonalds. Monetary donations are also accepted. Easter Baskets will be distributed by the Hudson Community Food Pantry.

Library Scholarship

The Friends of the Library are eager to assist area high school seniors in their quest for higher educa-

tion by offering the \$1,000 Leonard A. Smith Memorial Scholarship. High school seniors must be Hudson residents for at least six months and plan to attend a college, university, or vocational/technical school. Applications need to be submitted by May 1, with an essay explaining how participation in the library community aided their high school success. Visit High School Guidance Departments, Rodgers Memorial Library and Friends of the Library webpage for applications and guidelines.

Lions Club Scholarships

The Hudson Lions Club will award multiple scholarships consisting of four individual \$1,500 scholarships, two \$1,500 memorial schol-

arships, honoring Lion Al Rodgers and Lion George Philip Rodgers, a \$2,000 memorial scholarship in memory of Lion Joe Kasper, and a single \$1,500 scholarship for an Alvirne Leo's Club Member. Applicants must be a Hudson resident, graduating from any high school and have been accepted at a school of higher learning. Applications are available at Alvirne High School Guidance Department or by email: dgroger@comcast.net or online at: www.NHLions/Hudson. Application deadline April 11, 2025

Legion Meet

The next Monthly General Membership Meeting for Post 48 will begin at 6 p.m., followed at 6:30 p.m., for Squadron 48 on March 3.

Adventurers Storytime

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

Digital Navigators

On Tuesdays at 1 p.m., Digital Navigators provide personalized, one-on-one support to help you with your tech needs at the Rodgers Library.

Movers & Shakers

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

Teen Hangout

On Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays at 2 p.m. (except last week of month) at the Rodgers Library Teens are invited to relax in our teens only space. Snacks, games, crafts, and Nintendo Switch available. A different theme each week.

Engineering Lab

On Friday, Feb. 28, at 10 a.m., Families with children are invited to build a bridge, a tower, a city, a castle, or whatever you can imagine using the blocks provided at the Rodgers Library.

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. 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 25 fixed-mount or handheld water-saving showerheads, making your contribution to clean water even more rewarding.

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)

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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