Hudson Times

February 8, 2024 ◆ Volume 2 – Issue 6

A FREE Weekly Publication



Voters at the Town Deliberative, that took place at the Community Center on Saturday, vote to not reconsider a number of articles. Many of the 50 articles were moved to the ballot without amendments. Photo by Chris Paul

Hudson Opens Deliberative Session for Town Budget

PAUL CONYERS **HUDSON TIMES**

Hudson held its Deliberative Session on Saturday, Feb. 3, which included a number of budget items, and about 100 residents gathered at the Hudson Community Center for what turned out to be a seven-hour meeting.

"This ballot that we're going to face in March has 51 articles," explained Town Moderator, Paul Inder-

The first thing up for discussion was Article 2, the General Operating Budget, which included \$35,527,448 in spending, slightly higher than last year's \$35,044,662.

"The Board of Selectmen directed department heads to submit level-funded operating budgets, exclusive of labor and benefit costs," explained Budget Committee Vice Chair, Bill Cole. Labor and benefits explained why the proposed budget is slightly higher, despite an attempt to keep spending at around the same amount.

Peggy Huard of 13 David Drive continued on page 2

Lowell Road Gas Station Plan Draws Public Criticism

PAUL CONYERS HUDSON TIMES

The Planning Board oversaw a site plan hearing for a proposed gas station and convenience store on Lowell Road during their Jan. 24 meeting. The public hearing was delaying from a previous meeting, and many of the residents, present at both meetings, were there to voice their concerns about the impact this plan would have on the neighborhood, traffic, and quality of life at one of the busiest intersections in Hudson.

During the meeting, Traffic Engineering Consultant, Jason Plourde, of VHB and Project Engineer, Peter Madsen, of Keach-Nordstrom Associates

began the public hearing by giving a presentation on the proposed plan.

"The property is located at the intersection of Lowell Road and Central Street in the business district. What we're doing is proposing a gas station featuring five gas pumps with ten bays and a 4,560 square foot convenience store with a drive-thru for a coffee shop," Madsen explained.

He claimed the site would meet space and safety requirements, including a loading space for deliveries and trash pickups. The plan would include environmental standards to protect nearby water sources and had a landscaping set up Madsen promised would "fit the character" of the

The proposal would also add more driveways to the property for better access, something the Traffic Engineer took into account regarding the traffic impact.

The scope of our traffic study consisted of the intersections, the time periods, and different factors we should be looking at," said Plourde. "What we're doing is proposing to lengthen the right turn lane on the Lowell Road northbound approach."

Additionally, the traffic study took the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic into account when calculating their numbers while adjusting for what he

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Zoning Board OKs Home Office But Blocks Storing Truck There

PAUL CONYERS **HUDSON TIMES**

At the Jan. 24 Zoning Board of Adjustment meeting, a special request from Antonio Marcos Pinheiro De Carvalho of 14 Riverside Drive was heard. Carvalho wanted permission to run a business office from his home and a separate variance to continue storing his work truck outside.

"I'm a small business, just me and another guy working right now, I just wanted to use my home as an office," said the applicant regarding the home office request. "I have a construction business, I want to use my home to receive some emails, bills, and whatever."

office work was done at in another location. home and there were no signs of his home business esne, of nearby 10 Oak apart from his pick-up truck in the driveway.

There were several questions about the nature of Carvalho's truck and trailer

"What are your normal hours? What time do you start your truck in the morning?" asked Alternate Board member, Tristan Dion.

According to the applicant, the time varied, although it was often between 5-6 a.m.

"I just started last year, I want to eventually rent a big place to put all of my stuff," Carvalho clarified, adding that he already keeps heavy He confirmed only equipment like an excavator

Abutter, Mike Beauch-Avenue had issues with the variance request.

"My concern is safety on the road. It's a one-way road, heavy equipment, big truck, long trailers, I've seen backhoe type equipment and there're kids with bikes on that road a lot," said Beauchesne. "The area is zoned residential for a reason."

Beauchesne emphasized that his opposition was to the truck in the driveway and that he was "fine with having a home office."

Diana Ferreira of 16 Riverside Avenue mirrored this sentiment and noted her

continued on page 4

The VFW's Best Kept Secret: The VFW National Home

SUBMISSION VFW POST 5791

The VFW National Home is the VFW's best kept secret, but it shouldn't. Children in Eaton Rapids, Michigan was founded in 1925 as a place where the families left behind by war could remain together. Today's families face different challenges, and the Home has evolved over decades to meet those

changed to the VFW National Home to reflect these changes.

Today, the National The National Home for Home is supported by VFW Posts and Military Order of the Cootie Pup Tents throughout the US, and by donations by individuals. The National Home is remembered in the ritual of every Post meeting and Cootie Pup Tent ritual and every year, VFW

annual conference in October. Many states, including NH, have houses they support financially. The history of the VFW National Home is fascinating, and their museum on the campus is worth a visit.

The VFW National Home's Mission statement reads: "The VFW National Home assists military, veterans, and their families with children, by creating a

needs. The name has been M.O.C. members attend an foundation of services and family homes, a community viding help and hope for resources to achieve their personal and family goals in order to move forward in a positive, safe and healthy environment."

> From the VFW National Home website:

> "Since its founding, the VFW National Home has grown from an old frame farmhouse to a sprawling campus with playgrounds; park areas; and multiple buildings, including single

center and gymnasium, child care facility, guest lodge, chapel, and administrative offices. Over the years, the National Home has evolved to meet the changing needs of America's military and veterans' families. Through it all, one thing has remained constant: the National Home's commitment to honor our nation's veterans and active-duty military by protheir children and families."

The National Home is open to the families of active-duty military personnel, veterans, and relatives of VFW and VFW Auxiliary members. Families may consist of one or both parents with one or more children. If your family needs help, please contact the helpline by calling 800-313-4200.

Deliberative

continued from page 1 spoke against the proposed

increase in spending, questioning the claim of level spending.

"While I appreciate the hard work this town does, I have great concerns for the direction the financial needs of this town are going," said Huard. "The taxpayers just endured a significant, surprise tax increase this past

December, on top of many taxpayers enduring an astronomic increase the year before during a townwide assessment."

Huard expressed strong opposition to the increase in spending compared to the previous year and criticized the Budget Committee and Board of Selectmen for not taking advantage of what she called "areas available for improvement and reduction" in the budget.

She gave costs associated with excessive paperwork and voting tabulators as examples, claiming that "a number of my colleagues would perform the audit for much less money and higher quality."

There was no other debate on Article 2, but there were more concerns around the cost of several warrant articles, with several requests for financial clarity regarding the possible impact on tax rates.

"We talked about the general operating fund, in order to keep context of how we're doing relative to previous years," said Craig Powers of 31 Cedar Street. "I look at the 8.1% compounded growth on my tax bill the last few years, and I'm now at 4.5% just on Warrant Article 2. Now we're starting to add a couple of pennies here and a couple of pennies there.

He claimed to be the "median house" in Hudson where roughly half of the houses had cheaper, and half had more expensive tax

"In order to provide context, is this a 10% increase relative to last year, all things considered? Or is it 5%? Or is it a 20%?" asked Powers. "I think that would be a very valuable piece of context to provide.

While Inderbitzen did

not have any such slide available, he raised the possibility of adding it to the town website before the election.

Voting for the budget will occur on Tuesday, March 12, 2024. Polls open at 7 a.m. and close at 8:00 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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Atwood Avenue Proposal for Three New Homes Clears Key Hurdle

HUDSON TIMES

The Planning Board reviewed a three-lot subdivision plan at its Jan. 24 meeting. Design and Project Engineer, Ian Ainslie, from the Meisner Brem was there with Kelly Vanti and Don Nicolls of KLN Construction to give a presentation for the project located at 26 Atwood Avenue.

"These lots are going to have municipal water, onsite septic systems, and individual driveways for each house," said Ainslie. "Underlying soils on this site are very sandy, so we Jordan Ulery.

don't expect a lot of runoffs and we have drip-line trenches along each house for roof runoff."

The subdivision of the existing, empty property would be filled with three new single-family homes.

With this in mind, the board wanted to know why a subdivision application wanted a waiver from the town on stormwater management.

"If the applicant could please go over why they wanted a waiver for the stormwater management system," said Vice-Chair,

waiver request only applied to some of the more complex calculations he thought would be unnecessary for what was essentially a small subdivision request.

"We're trying to waive the calculations demonstrating the peak flows and all that, there is a good amount of work that goes into it," the engineer responded. "These are relatively small lots that aren't going to generate a lot of tree clearing and distur-

The board unanimously voted to waive the storm-

This was not the only concern, as the lack of sidewalks included in the plan brought an objection from Board member, James Crowley.

"It says sidewalks not being proposed, do you know of any other sidewalks on Atwood?" asked Crowley. "I generally fight a losing battle, but I like sidewalks, even if they don't go anywhere. Would the applicant agree to add a sidewalk to plans, even if it's a disconnected segment?"

Both Vanti and Nicolls

indicated they would be open to the addition. The board added a stipulation for a sidewalk subject to approval from the Department of Public Works.

"I also wonder about moisture problems in the adjacent basement. Can you please explain how this would be prevented," asked Crowley. After going through the paperwork for the new homes, a secondary worry was around leakage and how it could affect the interior of any new houses.

Ainslie confirmed that trenches would have waterproof plastic barriers during construction to prevent seepage and that his plans had already taken drainage issues into account, noting that you're going to get a certain amount of water in your foundation" regardless of the design.

With concerns addressed, the Planning Board unanimously endorsed the Atwood plan with several stipulations, including clearance from the Town Engineer.

The Planning Board is scheduled to meet again on Wednesday, Feb. 14, at 7 p.m. in the Buxton Room of Town Hall.

Selectmen Discuss Policy Changes for Hudson Cable

ALEX MALM HUDSON TIMES

During the Jan. 30 Hudson Board of Selectmen meeting, one of the agenda items was in regard to a first reading for changes to the HCTV policies.

Program Coordinator, Michael Johnson, said they have been meeting for the last couple of months with the Cable Utility Committee policies saying a lot of them were outdated.

"A lot of the verbiage in our policy was way out of date," he said.

changes he noted are around political policies related to election season. "So, we have clear guidelines for candidates wanting to use the studio," Johnson said.

As part of the policy, it outlines different political programming options.

"A resident candidate, or resident supporters, may produce, and have aired on HCTV, an access program. to discuss changes to their HCTV does not accept spot video advertising (e.g. 30-60 seconds) for cablecast on public access channels," the policy reads.

For the 30 days preced-Some of the biggest ing the Town election, dates."

"HCTV shall open the studio for the 4th and 3rd week prior to the election in order to allow candidates to make an appointment and come in to the HCTV Access Center studio to record a personal announcement," with certain

One condition is "Candidates must only present themselves and their beliefs and goals for serving the Town of Hudson and its residents."

Another condition is candidates not being able to "disparage other candi-

Candidates will be able for a proper graphic to be to make one "announcement each during the preelection period, announcement to be not more than 25 minutes."

Another condition is "HCTV will not edit the candidate sessions except to add "opening and closing disclaimers with the opening title to be presented to HCTV (as needed) no less than 48 hours before the scheduled recording session insert a closing graphic statement from the candidate, said statement to be presented to HCTV no less than 48 hours before the recording session to allow created."

Candidates required to request an appointment to use the studio and crew "as early as possible and not less than 48 hours before they can be available for recording."

"It is understood and agreed that HCTV will work with the candidate to set a time and date for the announcement and HCTV retains the authority to establish the finalization of the appointment," the policy reads. "HCTV staff will do their best to accommodate appointment requests during the hours of 10 a.m. to 4

p.m. Monday through Friday. No requests for appointment outside these hours will be accepted."

The policy also states "Any other politically oriented postings, show or shows referencing issues to be voted on must be done and submitted at least 2 weeks prior to the Town Election. HCTV does not guarantee airtime or scheduling of such shows."

Johnson noted they also made different updates in order to have up to date standards for people from the community who wants to start their own program.



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Editorial

Here's Your Chance! See Below for **YOUR Community Deliberative Sessions**

The Hudson School Deliberative is Saturday Feb. 10 at 9 a.m., and the Town of Hudson Deliberative Session was held Saturday, Feb. 3 at the Hudson Community Center.

We have the privilege and opportunity as New Hampshire residents of being able to express our views in a forum that is specifically designed for that purpose. The Deliberative Sessions are YOUR opportunity as the citizens to propose changes to the articles that you and your neighbors will vote on later this year.

Plan to attend! We need everyone to play a role in one of the most participatory forms of democracy alive today. There is no greater patriotic privilege than to have a voice in our democracy, and the deliberative session is the place to be.

Articles that come out of these deliberative sessions will be voted on in March by secret ballot, and their wording, thanks to the action at the deliberative session, may hit the ballot as different than what was originally proposed, if your voice is heard! At these sessions, voters can amend most warrant articles, so long as they do not change the subject matter "The Intent".

Voters are clearly in the seat of power. That's why it's so important not only to attend, but to stay for the whole session. In some towns, that means about two hours. In other towns, it can take a whole day. In the

grand scheme of things, it's not such a time-consuming commitment to make, when you consider the other pursuits we often commit our time to.

To participate, all you need do is to register to vote, and attend! Pay attention as the moderator explains the rules, read the proposed warrant articles, listen to public comment, and vote on any changes or send the article as is to the warrant.

The articles on the warrant impact you, directly where you live, and as New Hampshire residents, we have the right to express our views in a forum specifically designed for that purpose, and to change articles if our fellow voters agree.

Deliberative sessions are the times specifically set aside under the SB2 form of government to discuss and potentially change warrant articles. Residents don't vote on whether or not to approve the warrant article at deliberative session - they vote instead to send the article to the warrant, and on Election Day, they vote the warrant article up or down.

If you missed it this year, don't worry! Your voice can still be heard. Get the information from your town hall, don't forget to vote in March, and put your town's deliberative session on the calendar for 2025. You won't regret going. But if you miss out, you might end up with a tax bill to regret later on.

Letters

Community Members Please Read

To the editor,

I have Stage 5 Kidney Disease. Over time, my disease has gotten worse causing my kidneys not to work well enough to keep me alive (they are only working at 3%). This is what I am facing now, and my treatment options are limited to dialysis treatments or a kidney transplant.

I had surgery that put a "port" in my belly, and I hook up to a machine for 10 hours every night at bedtime. This machine will help my kidneys do their job and keep me alive, but a transplant would offer me more freedom and the ability to live a longer, healthier, more normal life. A transplant would also give me more time to do the fun things I enjoy most, like spending time with my family and friends.

However, finding a kidney transplant is not easy. Time is not on our side. Some wait for years and many will die while waiting. The average wait time is 5-7 years for a kidney from a deceased donor. However, there is another option: receiving a kidney from a living donor. Unfortunately, my blood type is to help you understand the

O-, which I am told by the risks and benefits and look doctors that it is the hardest, least likely to find a match. My wait time is now increased to 10+ years.

Asking to consider donating a kidney to me is difficult, but it greatly improves my chances of getting a transplant. A living kidney donation typically lasts longer and has better func-

You might not know a lot about a living donation -I know I didn't, before kidney disease affected my life. Understandably, some people are afraid about the surgery and what living with one kidney will mean for them. Here is some basic information about kidney donation:

- You only need one kidney to live a healthy, long
- Most donor surgery is done laparoscopically, meaning through tiny incisions.
- The recuperation period is generally two weeks.
- The cost of your evaluation and surgery will be covered by MY insurance. The hospital can give you extensive information on
- You will have a separate team of healthcare professionals to evaluate you as a living donor. Their job is

out for your best interests.

You can also learn more about a living donation on the National Kidney Foundation (NKF) Website: www.kidney.org/livingdonation or by contacting the NKF's free, confidential helpline at 855.NKF.CA-RES (855.653.2273) or nkfcares@kidney.org. If you want to talk to someone who has already donated a kidney, NKF can also help.

Thank you for taking the time to read my story. If donating a kidney to me is something you would like to consider, I would be happy to tell you more about my story and explore the process of determining if you are a match for me.

I know a living donation may not be right for everyone - but you can still help! Consider being an organ donor after death. You can also help me greatly by SHARING my story with everyone you know. At the very least I want to bring awareness to kidney disease and a living donation. I am hopeful my efforts will help me receive a kidney sooner and encourage others to consider helping the many people on the wait list.

> Thank you. Malcolm Price Hudson

Hudson Times

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

Continued from page 1

approval of allowing a home office.

"We want nothing more than to see someone's business grow and prosper, it's definitely the noise ordinance with the truck," said Ferreira. "It's been quiet since the Winter has hit, however, during Spring and Summer, it's not just a Monday through Friday thing, it happens on weekends as

Overall, the ZBA was sympathetic towards the home office request.

"This would be in front of his home, in front of his computer, I have no problem with that. People do it all the time," said Board member, Marcus Nicolas.

The Board unanimously approved the home occupation special exemption, noting that it would not leave much of an impact. However, they were wary of the second variance request.

"Other than home occupation signs, there shall be no exterior display nor other exterior indication of the home occupation," said Vice

Chair, Norm Martin, reading from Hudson's Zoning ordinance, implying that allowing the branded company truck could not be allowed even without the noise issues. "It's not been established that there's really a hardship on the property."

While Carvalho promised not to bring any new equipment and to watch the noise, and there was some discussion over whether a middleground position was possible, the board voted to reject allowing the company truck to remain on the property.

Hudson Police Announce New "Lock Box Program" to Seniors

HUDSON TIMES

During last week's Coffee with a Cop series offered at the Hudson Senior Center, a new program was introduced that will make it easier for first responders to enter a resident's home without having to use excessive force.

Hudson Police Captain, Dave Cayot, and Sgt. Cody Lambert gave attendees a "soft" rollout to the communities new "Lock Box Program" that is currently being offered to local residents at the age of 60 and

Community members, Kathy and Steve Martinek, originally suggested to program to local law enforcement, after being made aware of the program by cousin living on Cape Cod. Kathy told the group that she thought it was a great way for seniors in town to

have the security of know- an area to contain the keys home in an emergency situation, without having to break down the door.

The program started by using donations made by local citizens, through which the police department was able to purchase 20 boxes.

Cayot told attendees to the meeting that the boxes that were initially bought with the donations came in four different styles and he brought each of those with him and explained the different types.

He also said the police would be installing the boxes, but added they would only be performing simple installs, if something complicated is necessary, they would be referring homeowners to a professional.

ing someone, besides a resto the home and can only be ident, could get into their opened by fire responders with a code or combination that would be kept in a secure database. Police would also keep the location of the box in their data-

> He explained that the program would allow police to have an option outside of breaking down a homeowner's door, which would be an expensive repair.

> Cayot also mentioned that in an emergency situation the department would gain entrance to those enrolled in the program by the quickest means possible. He said, "This is like a courtesy if we can use it, but it doesn't guarantee we're going to use it."

In order for residents to receive the free lock box, people are required to fill out a waiver form. The form All boxes would have basically states that the



Hudson Police discuss new Lock Box Program to seniors.

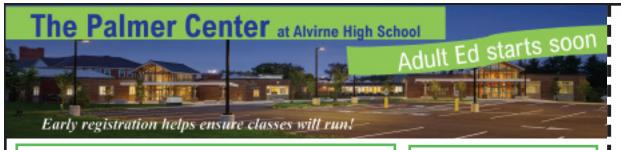
the property of the Hudson Police Department and are available to seniors, 60years of age and older or those with a potentially incapacitating medical condition.

The form also states: "The Lock Box program is offered as a courtesy to the

boxes are still technically residents of Hudson. In the time permits." event of a time-sensitive situation (person not breathing, fire, etc.), emergency personnel (police or fire) may not have the time to use the lockbox system and will gain entry with the fastest means possible. Every effort will be given to

utilize the lockbox when

The lock boxes are available in a limited supply originally, but more boxes will be purchased if there is an additional need. For more information, call the Hudson Police Department at 603-886-6011.



MONDAY NIGHTS

March 4, 11, 18, 25, April, 1

Intro to Guitar

Learn some basics of playing guitar, and a song in each genre, rock, blues, country, pop & jazz. Also discussion around writing & singing.

5 Weeks 5 - 6:30 p.m. Tuition \$50 (guitars not provided)

Welding 1 The Fundamentals

This popular beginner's class is taught by Hudson's own Dave Anger. Learn the basics! No experience necessary.

5 Weeks 6 - 8:30 p.m. Tuition \$100 (includes materials)

Culinary Experience

Our own Chef's Bressler and Sarno will take you on a four week culinary cooking journey showing you how to create delicious dishes!

4 weeks 6 - 8 p.m., March 4, 11, 18, 25 Tuition \$75 (includes supplies)

TUESDAY NIGHTS

March 5, 12, 19, 26, April 2

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(Pre-requisite Welding 1)

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5 weeks 6 - 8:30 p.m. Tuition \$100 (includes materials)

To register for classes, please fill out the form below, cut along dotted line and return with payment (made out to AHS) to Adult Education, The Palmer Center, 200 Derry Rd., Hudson, NH 03051

Please sign me up for the following classes

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Guitar (\$50)

Culinary (\$75)

☐ Welding 1 (\$100)

Tuesday Classes

☐ Welding 2 (\$100)

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Email:

Phone:

Selectmen Approve Reappointments, Hire, Donations

The Hudson Board of Selectmen made several appointments during the Jan. 30 meeting. One was for Benson Park Committee Chair, John Madden, and the other was for member, John Leone. The Selectmen approved the reappointments with their terms now expiring in 2027.

The Selectmen were also presented with an appointment request for an

alternate member vacancy for the Benson Park Committee. The recommendation was to appoint Nathan Muir, but he was unable to make the meeting, meaning his appointment recommendation will be taken up at the next meeting.

In personnel news, it was announced that the Selectmen approved the hiring of Jesse Dutile as a full-time police officer, with a starting salary of \$27.98 per hour, which is step 1 pay as part of the

It was also announced that the Board of Selectmen unanimously approved the hiring of Marya Figueroa as a full-time Telecommunications Technician with the Police Department, with a starting salary of \$22.42 per hour, which is step 1 as part of the union contract.

Police Chief, Tad Dionne, explained that around 2022 they decided they needed to address issues at the Police Firing Range,

and they were looking to would potentially use American range," Dionne wrote in a Rescue Plan Act funds to fund the renovation, however, it didn't work out. Some of the improvements they were looking at were resurfacing.

Another agenda item was in relation to the Firing Range.

He said they found a donor who is interested in

"A company who wishes to remain anonymous memo to the Board of Selectmen. "This [is] their way of wanting to give back to the community locally. The value [of] this donation would \$50,400.00."

He said the one stipularesurfacing of the Police tion is that they remain anonymous.

> The Selectmen approved the donation request.

The Police Department also brought a donation request from the National

resurface our Alliance on Mental Illness, which was approved by the Board of Selectmen.

> "NAMI Nashua would like to donate \$1,000.00 to be used for the mental health wellness of our community and fellow officers. The money would be donated to the Wellness Donation Account," a memo from Dionne read.

> The next Board of Selectmen meeting is slated for Feb.13 at 7 p.m.

Gas Statio Continued from page 1

called "peak month conditions" and predicting future

traffic volumes.

Several members of the public were unimpressed by the plan.

"They're putting in something bigger than really needs to be there," said Jacob Marynicz of 72 Central Street, who accused the applicant of asking for regulatory waivers based on misleading information. "No other gas station in Hudson has multiple driveways on different roads on either side of a signalized intersection."

Christopher Flemming of nearby 76 Central Street agreed with the complaints, adding that moving the lines when lengthening any lanes could be danger-

"I've already almost gotten hit a few times. I want to know how many

times the Hudson PD has stopped people from speeding on that road in the last month, let's see that on the study," said Flemming.

There was also some bafflement as to what purpose another gas station in Hudson would serve.

"My question is: gas station, why?" asked Paige Schaller of 213 Fox Hollow Drive. "At this point, if you run out of gas in Hudson, that's on you. We have gas stations like every mile!"

Heidi Jakoby of 94 Gowing Road requested that the two variances not be granted and stated. "There are lots of other businesses that can be built on this property which are not gas stations." Jakoby raised concerns about hours of operation, light pollution and school traffic in this area.

"Does not significantly deteriorate the intersection means, it will deteriorate

the reading of the traffic report Ed Thompson of 22 Burns Hill Road stated. Thompson additional raised concerns of traffic cutting through the property, the plus and minus tolerances in the traffic study are not defined. "Another concern of mine is the hours of operation and how that will affect the residents" stated Thompson.

Hours of operation, light pollution, traffic cutting through the property, and the plus and minus tolerance of the traffic study were concerns raised by Ed Thompson of 22 Burns Hill Road.

By contrast, Boyer of 2 Merrill Street declared himself "completely in favor" of the plan and admitted he had not read any of the reports or documents concerning the project.

"The applicant is going to increase the size of Lowthe intersection" based on ell Road, the applicant is going to increase the size of the section the 18wheelers have a problem with, and they are going to get traffic off Lowell Road faster to get into the store," said Boyer. "We're actually going to reduce trips on the

Central Street."

Boyer expressed his opinion that other gas stations in town had far more dangerous setups than what was proposed for the Central Gas project.

Following a long public

input session, the meeting ran out of time before getting to questions by board members.

The Planning Board voted to take up the matter again on Wednesday, February 28.

Four Candidates Run for **Two Open Selectmen Seats**

CHRIS PAUL HUDSON TIMES

The window to sign up for expired elected seats on the town and school boards closed on Friday afternoon, Feb. 2, and after that opportunity ended, just three positions will be contested in the upcoming election.

Both the Town and School elections will be held on March 12.

The list of candidates is as follows:

TOWN Board of Selectmen Two, Three-Year term seats

are being contested by:

- Dillon Dumont
- Heidi Jakoby
- Marilyn McGrath

• Richard J. Weissgarber **Budget Committee**

Three, Three-Year term seats are being sought by:

- Randall S. Brownrigg
- Shawn N. Jasper
- Robert Wherry

Cemetery Trustee

One, Three - Year Term

• Christina Madden

Code of Ethics

One, Three-Year term

• Ryan Andrews

Library Trustee-

One, Three-Year term

- Ruth Sessions
- Lisa Weber

Library Trustee-

One, One-Year term

• Lisa Weber

Town Moderator

One, Two-Year Term

• Margaret A. St. Onge

• Alanna Stangroom

Planning Board

One, One-Year Term

• Timothy Lyko

Supervisor of the Checklist

One, Six-Year term

• Normand G. Martin

Trustees of the Trust Funds

One, Three-Year term

• Edmond A. Duchesne

SCHOOL

School Board

One, Three-Year term seat

• Grace Kennedy

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Zoning Board Fill Empty Secretary Position in Officer Election

PAUL CONYERS HUDSON TIMES

The Zoning Board of Adjustment opened its first meeting of 2024 with an election of new officers. Gary Daddario was quickly re-elected as ZBA Chair for another term without much debate, and Norm Martin was also re-elected as Vice Chair. However, the main focus was electing a new Secretary.

There was some confusion over the nomination of Tristan Dion, who serves as

nent member of the board. As the name implies, Alternate members are generally seated when a regular member is absent, and it was not immediately clear whether it was possible to elect Dion as Secretary.

"We can appoint Mr. Dion, but if he's not seated during the meeting, then he wouldn't be voting, he'd just be doing the minutes," Martin clarified. "It's not so hard to do minutes, he would be calling the attendance and the roll call and an Alternate, not a perma- all that. He would still be

able to sit when he's clerk-

After some debate, Dion accepted and was elected to the Secretary position, starting the next meeting.

The first public request was for an Equitable Waiver of Dimensional Requirement. George and Diane Ultrino of 5 Deer Run. The couple asked the ZBA to let them keep a shed on their property at its current location. The shed issue was the result of a court case against a previous property

owner, where a lot line relocation moved the property line closer than the legally required setback.

"I just moved to the town in October, and this was not an issue at all, I have a record of the lawsuit, and it didn't say anything about the shed," said George. "The shed has been up since 2017, it wasn't even installed by who I bought it from."

He also noted that the shed was "pretty large" at 360 square feet, making it expensive and time-con-

"I don't know why this is coming up after I bought the house, but it certainly wasn't disclosed during the sale and I don't know what else I could do."

The Zoning Board was relatively sympathetic to the Ultrino's situation. Board members confirmed that the neighbor was okay with keeping the large shed in place, despite its location close to the property line.

"From my point, I've reviewed this case, and I find that it existed prior to

this homeowner. I believe it was discovered too late." said Martin. "There's no nuisance. I believe there would be a high correction cost, especially the way it was built today."

Without much debate, the ZBA unanimously voted to grant a waiver, mainly due to the high cost required for a shed relocation.

The next regular meeting of the Zoning Board is scheduled for Thursday, Feb. 22, at 7 p.m. in the Buxton Room of Town

Selectmen Give OK For Liquor Sales at Golf Center

HUDSON TIMES

During the Jan. 30 Hudson Board of Selectmen meeting, one of the agenda items was in regard to whether or not the Board of Selectmen had any objection to liquor being sold outside at the World Cup Golf Center.

"The liquor commission is the one who asked if the town has any objections," Town Administrator, Steve Malizia, said.

"The World Cup Golf Center has applied to the New Hampshire Liquor

enjoy food and beverages outside in their new covered practice stalls which are directly adjacent to their dining room," a memo from Malizia to the Board of Selectmen read. "Before granting the permit the NH Liquor Commission is requesting a letter from the town stating that the town has no objection to the World Cup Golf Center serving alcohol in their outside area."

Malizia said he reviewed the request made by Hudson Police Chief, Tad Commission for a permit to Dionne, and he had no rea-

request. "We didn't see any issues with it," Malizia

Malizia said they have other examples of this type of proposal, and added, "this is a little bit of a deviation," and is rare, which is why the Liquor Commission asked if the town had any objections first.

One question raised by Selectman, Kara Roy, was whether or not they have the ability to have licenses taken away for misconduct by businesses in town.

Dione explained that in the past they have worked

son for objecting to the with the New Hampshire mission saying they have no Liquor Commission to take away licenses from businesses who have issues. "We still submit reports from time to time," he said.

> Dione explained that in this case, they aren't going to another area like a parking lot, but since it's outside of where the restaurant is, that's why the request was made for the town to weigh in on it.

The Board of Selectmen ultimately approved sending a letter to the New Hampshire Liquor Comobjections to the request made.

Also during the meeting, the Selectmen discussed an email sent by Roy, asking about anniversaries of both the town and for the Fire Department.

"It has come to my attention that Hudson will celebrate its 250th anniversary, the fire department will celebrate its 100th anniversary and the library's 15th anniversary," Roy wrote in an email to the Selectmen.

Selectmen, Morin, explained that the Fire Department had its 100-year celebration in 1992, which was when the department became part privately paid and part town paid for, and they celebrated the 250th anniversary in 1996, to celebrate the anniversary when they became part of New Hampshire, although the Town of Hudson wasn't officially created until 1830.

The next Selectmen meeting is slated to take place on Feb. 13 at 7 p.m.





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The Wilbur H. Palmer Career & Technical Education Center at Alvirne High School welcomed area community members to an Open House on Wednesday night, Jan. 31. with students and staff explaining to vistors what the school has to offer. Attendees had the opportunity to tour the Palmer Center and speak to teachers and students from the 13 career programs that the Technical Education Center has to offer, incuding: Accounting; Air Force JROTC; Computer Science; Construction; Culinary Arts; Digital Media; Engineering; Health & Human Services; Heavy Duty Mechanics; Marketing; Natural Resources; Veterinary Science; and Welding & Fab-Photos by Chris Paul rication.





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HUDSON SP

Admirals Go 2-1, Lower Playoff Magic Number to Three

BLAKE SANTANA HUDSON TIMES

The Alvirne-Milford Admirals' chase for the playoffs gained momentum this week despite a heartbreaking 3-2 loss to Oyster River on Saturday thanks to 4-3 victories over St. Thomas Aguinas last Wednesday and Nashua North-Souhegan on Monday.

Heading into last week, the Admirals' magic number, or total number of wins and/or losses by then St. Thomas Aguinas Portsmouth-Newmarket, was 7. It has now lowered by a full two games down to 3. This means that if Alvirne-Milford (A-M) wins their game against Portsmouth-Newmarket on Wednesday, as well as beating Timberlane on Saturday, as long as St. Thomas Aquinas doesn't beat both Somersworth-Coe-Brown Spaulding, the Admirals will earn a spot in the DII playoffs. It's a simple formula. Keep winning, and the cards should fall into place.

The Admirals helped themselves on Wednesday night beating St. Thomas Aguinas 4-3 with the help of the return of solid goaltending from sophomore Kian Corcoran, coupled

with goals from Braydon with a minute and 29 sec- prior to this matchup. Atwood, who scored two onds left on the clock. A goals on the night, Dylan MacLeod, and Mason Tomkins. A-M played a suffocating style, with the 4-3 final not necessarily being as telling as the play on the ice was as to how dominant the Admirals were.

This win, thanks to the help of Lebanon-Stevens-Mascoma, who beat Portsmouth-Newmarket just before the Admirals and Saints took the ice, lowered the Admirals' magic number to 5. Timberlane's loss to Dover and Monadnock-Fall Mountain-ConVal's loss to Winnacunnet helped the Admirals, as well.

On Saturday, the Admirals finally returned home to play host to the Oyster River Bobcats, and after falling behind 1-0, Alvirne-Milford quickly got two goals back in the first from Bryce Larco and Braydon Atwood to make it 2-1 in favor of the home team.

After a scoreless second frame, Liam Eddy would tie the game for the Bobcats just over halfway into the third, and they would simply carry that momentum through the remainder of the third period, scoring the game-winning goal off the stick of Cayden Giordani tough loss for the Admirals, but they knew they had to bounce back quickly in order to keep their playoff hopes alive.

It was a concern whether the quick turnaround from Saturday to Monday would be detrimental to the Admirals or not, especially facing off against a squad that beat them so handily in the Holiday Tournament back at the end of December. Fortunately for the Admirals, Nashua North-Souhegan's arguably best player, Jacob Landry, was out for a second straight season in regular season play, as he had earned himself a suspension

Alvirne-Milford came out firing, with captain Ceddy Beaulieu scoring the opening goal on a beautiful feed from Bryce Larco to make it 1-0 Alvirne-Milford. The lead wouldn't last long, however, as junior Brody Sice scored his first varsity goal to even things at 1-1 going into the second period.

After taking a penalty, A-M would answer back with a short-handed goal off the stick of Brandon Ganas, who was the second Admirals player to be left wide open in the slot with the puck, and both found the back of the net, with Beaulieu being the first. The Sabre-Titans would get

that goal back just 1:03 later chances at the open cage, with just three seconds remaining on the penalty to Cade Bouchard, making it 2-2, which is where the two teams would go to the lock-

In the third, it was Brandon Callahan scoring his eighth and ninth goals of the season to make it 4-2 in favor of the Admirals before the Sabre-Titans would make things interesting, as John Joyce scored on the powerplay with just 1:34 remaining to make it 4-3.

The Sabre-Titans pulled their netminder Zach Veilleux shortly thereafter, and the Admirals had a few

and although they were unable to find the back of the net, they were still able to find a way to hang on, allowing Trent Scarbro to even up the Scarbro-Veilleux rivalry at 2 apiece with a tie mixed in. A fitting way for these two netminders to finish off their headto-head high school records against one another. 2-2-1.

Alvirne-Milford will play Wednesday against Portsmouth-Newmarket at Dover Ice Arena at 5 p.m., and then at home, with a chance to clinch a playoff berth on Saturday at 6 p.m. at Skate 3 Arena.



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Broncos Girls' Basketball Drop Two, Boys' Split a Pair



Alvirne junior forward, Ella Hartson, was only able to tally 9-points against Londonderry.

CHRIS PAUL HUDSON TIMES

After putting together an impressive four-game winning streak to reach the halfway point of the Divi-

sion I season at 5-4, the Alvirne High School Girls' Basketball squad dropped two games last week and dropped below the .500 again.

team's troubles started after a long road trip to Keene High School on Tuesday night, Jan. 30, where they 49-47 nail-biter.

Two days later, in a Londonderry Lancers, the AHS girls played a makeup game that had been postponed from the prior week where scoring was a real

The Londonderry squad's defensive strength kept Alvirne's basket attempts to a minimal and the Broncos finished with their lowest score of the season

To Alvirnes credit, they were also able to keep the Lady Lancers basket total down, with the game finishing at 44-27.

Alvirne's entire offence was stymied throughout the contest, scoring single digits in every quarter.

They trailed 6-5 after 23-12 by halftime. The Blackbirds at home on

The Lady Broncos scoring troubles continued in the second half, with just 15-points put on the board by the home team.

Junior forward, Ella fell by just one basket in a Hartson, put up nine-points to lead the Broncos scoring.

Sophomore guard, home contest against the Alexis Floyd, and senior guard, Rachel Allard, were held to just three-points each in the loss.

> The Alvirne girls will try to get back on the winning path this week with games against two teams with losing records.

> The Broncos traveled to Spaulding High School on Tuesday, Feb. 6, to take on the 2-10 Red Raiders and on Friday night, the team will host a game with Nashua North (5-8) starting at 6:30 p.m.

BOYS

The Broncos Boys' squad had a two game split last week, winning 59-44 on Friday night, Feb. 2 at Bishop Guertin, but losing one quarter and were down to the Keene High School

Broncos seniors, Courtney Anderson and Sadie Rogers double-team Lancers top scorer Sammy Sullivan Photos by Chris Paul

Tuesday night, Jan. 30.

Last week's two-game split put the Alvirne Boys' record at 5-6 with seven games left in the season.

The AHS boys are scheduled to play three games this week.

On Tuesday, Feb. 6, they played the Spaulding Red Raiders (5-8).

On Wednesday night, Feb. 7, they play in Londonderry in a make-up game against the Lancers (4-7) rescheduled from twoweeks prior.

On Friday night, Feb. 9, the team will head over to Nashua North High School to take on the 9-4 Titans, starting at 6:30 p.m.

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Winners Named at Hudson Middle School Spelling Bee

SUBMITTED BY MELISSA L DIETZ, M.Ed., RWS HUDSON MEMORIAL SCHOOL

In the age of spellcheck, does spelling still count?

Faculty and students at Hudson Memorial School in Hudson, say, "Yes! Spelling still counts!"

Middle school - a time in life where it's important to fit in. But, our social media culture also asks us to stand out. If someone is not sports-minded or teamoriented, the spelling bee can provide an enriching opportunity to polish focus, work ethic, an

Many strived. Few qual-

ified. But, only one student seen leaning forward in subscription to britanmoves on to the NH anticipation of the nica.com. Another 6th gradstatewide semi-final rounds sequence of each letter. er, Sohayla Stump, took first spelling beein March. They slouched in mutual runner-up which included a

At Hudson Memorial School, after weeks of minibees and elimination rounds starting in November, 12 middle school spellers lined up in front of a crowd of faculty, friends, and family in the HMS Library Media Center to spell such words as voracious and gastritis.

Participants from 6th, 7th, and 8th grade alternated rounds of spelling challenges and vocabulary challenges.

The spectators supported each and every student. Friends and family could be

seen leaning forward in anticipation of the sequence of each letter. They slouched in mutual defeat when a letter or sequence was incorrect. Everyone appreciated the delicate energy required for a public performance.

Finally, after 18 rounds of either spelling or defining everything exactly correctly, two 6th graders won the competition and placed first runner-up. Sixth grader Adithi Gundagathi won first place which included a honey bee bookmark, a handmade blue ribbon to commemorate this annual event, and a one year's free

subscription to britannica.com. Another 6th grader, Sohayla Stump, took first runner-up which included a bookmark, a commemorative handmade red ribbon, and a free Britannica subscription.

The winner, Adithi Gundagathi, will now progress to the semi-final online test and then the NH Regional qualifier in March. The HMS community will be cheering her on all the way!

Keith Bowen, HMS Principal, said he was very proud of each participant for putting forward their spelling skills and strong mindset. He described the 6th graders' performances as "Stunning and noteworthy!"

How is a Spelling Bee Still Relevant?

The traditional spelling bee doesn't only challenge students to memorize letters and their sequence; it challenges students to understand vocabulary, grammar, and the whole English language. And, it's all done in front of peers and adults.

In this age of texting and instant messaging, some might say that spelling is a dying art. Others could argue that for student's to text comfortably, they have to learn a whole separate language and rapidly changing pop culture. Students today are learning the traditional core academic skills such as spelling and grammar which we all learned. Plus, they are learning and

Adithi Gundagathi, left, took first and Sohayla Stump was runner-up at the Hudson Middle School Spelling Bee.

Courtesy photo creating the new texting app that will quiz spellers

lingo and spelling. Maybe we should have sympathy or even respect for what Gen Z and Gen Alpha are faced with?

Still Going Strong Promoting Literacy

Scripps provides schools with over 4,000 words divided into grade levels. All words on the list are curated from an array of books that reflect grade levels one through eight. The chosen words have been deemed interesting and meaningful. They are definitely challenging for a variety of reasons - difficulty, rarity, word history, and usage. Faculty at school then secretly choose 20 words to test the participants at each grade level. There is an ebook students can use to get familiar with the word bank. There is even a smartphone

and sharpen their skills.

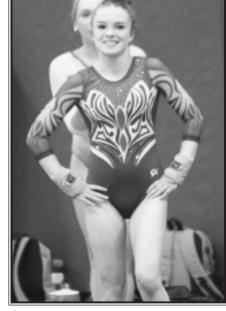
Schools all around the country signed up to participate in the annual Scripps National Spelling Bee. Beginning in the fall, each state has students compete in mini-bees and elimination rounds. Soon, each state will send just one super speller to the Washington, DC, area in May of this year to compete on live television.

Since 1925, long before spell check lulled us into spelling slumber, newspaper publishers have promoted literacy by creating this competition for the best speller in the US Students compete for many months before descending on the Washington, DC, area for the granddaddy of all spelling bees - the annual Scripps National Spelling Bee.

Broncos Gymnasts Compete in Final Regular Season Meet



Olivia Baptista



Leanna Carroll

CHRIS PAUL HUDSON TIMES

The Alvirne High School Gymnastics team has a fairly small contingent this year with just sophomores Olivia Baptista and Leanna Carroll competing. Both girls have been practicing and competing with Londonderry and last week, they were entered as independents at the final home meet of the Lancers.

Baptista scored an 8.0 in the Vault and Carroll was

given an 8.2.

Both girls also performed Floor Routines, where Baptista finished with a 6.3, while Carroll received a score of 7.3.

On the Bars, Baptista scored an 5.4

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Hills Garrison Elementary School Holds Annual Winter Stroll

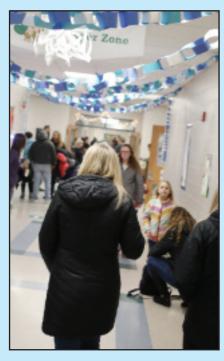


On Thursday night, Feb. 1, Hills Garrison Elementary School held its fourth annual Winter Stroll. The event was held both outdoors and indoors with the exceptional weather and it did not disappoint. The event included a variety of activities: a bonfire, courtesy of the Hudson Fire Department, a calf visit from students at Alvirne High School, Franky's Concessions, tractor rides, cake walks, hot cocoa, family crafts, gingerbread decorating, photo stations, bowling, face painting by Alvirne students, and story reading. According to Principal Theo Tufts, "It was truly a community event. The Hills Garrison staff put in the time above and beyond their school day to make this event happen. The proceeds are going to cover an author visit planned for this coming April. It was wonderful to see Hudson families in a fun and friendly atmosphere. Can't wait till next year!" Photos by Chris Paul













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AROUND TOWN

Around Town Policy: This section is meant to be used to announce free events to the communities. All Around Town/Calendar Items will be held to 100 words maximum. All free announcements in the Around Town/Calendar section can run a maximum of three weeks. The deadline for a submission is each Monday at 5 p.m. Please send items to hudsontimes@nutpub.net.

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 prewalkers and babies not yet steady on their feet.

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 for 13+.

Drop In Stitchers

Come to the Rodgers Memorial Library every Friday in Feb. 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 in Feb 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.

Dungeons & Donuts

Are you looking for people to play Dungeons & Dragons with? Are you new to the game or have you been playing for decades? Te come play and grab a donut at Rodgers Memorial the Library Saturday, Feb. 17, at 9:30 a.m.

this year the 400th anniversary of the landing of the Mayflower, join the Rodgers Memorial Library for a workshop on William Bradford's journal "Of Plimoth Planta-

Stitchers Circle

On Saturday, Feb. 10, at 9:30 a.m., come Stitch/cross stitch, blackwork, embroider, knit, crochet, hand craft etc. at the Rodgers Memorial Library.

Movers & Shakers

at 10 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. there

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Secondhand Prose Sale

Come Sunday, Feb. 11, at 11 a.m. for a Book Sale Sponsored by the Friends of the Library at Hills Memorial Library at 18 Library St. (downstairs). Books, CDs, DVDs, for all ages. \$2 or less

Blood Drive

American Red Cross will host a Blood Drive on Wednesday, Feb. 14, at 1 p.m., at Rodgers Memorial Library. Visit www.redcrossblood.org or call 1-800-RED-CROSS to make an appointment.

Cookbook Club

On Tuesday, Feb. 13, at 11:30 a.m., join the Rodgers

Memorial Library to sample and discuss recipes from popular cookbooks and food themes! Prepare a recipe from this month's topic, Pho, then engage with others about your recipe adventures.

Afternoon Book Group

Tuesday, Feb. 20, 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. Registration requested. This month's book: "Between the World and Me" by Ta-Nehisi Coates

Friends of Library Donation Event

Do you have gently used books in excellent condition vou wish to donate to the library? Bring them to All-Day Book Donation Event on Thursday, Feb 15, all day at Rodgers Memorial Library! Conditions and exceptions apply. See events.rodgerslibrary.org for details.

Crime & Cookies Podcast Club

On Wednesday, Feb. 21, at

7 p.m., join the Rodgers Memorial Library as to discuss this month's listen while enjoying a tasty dessert. This month will discuss select episodes from Wondery's "The Generation Why" podcast.

Candy Poker

On Thursday, Feb. 22, at 6:30 p.m., join Rodgers Memorial Library for a monthly game of Texas Hold' Em poker! Play for candy and take your winnings home. Beginners welcome. If you haven't played before, you may wish to do a little online research first on how to play though the staff will help you.

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.

Tween 3D Printing Lab

On Wednesday, Feb. 21, at 6 p.m., come to the

continued on page 15

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Around Town

Continued from page 13 Rodgers Memorial Library to learn to use Tinkercad to create a keychain, and print it on

Read 'Em and Eat at T-Bones

the Librarys 3D printer.

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.

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.

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 10 a.m., in the Function Room. Coffee will be served.

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. Applications are due by April 12.

Valentines Breakfast

There will be a Valentines Day Breakfast on Feb. 13, \$5 per person, at 10 a.m., in the Senior Center Function Room, 19 Kimball Hill Rd., Hudson. Don't forget to wear Red. RSVP required by Feb. 1.

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.

Book Sale

The Friends of the Library of Hudson will hold the Second Hand Prose (SHP) Book Sale at Hills Memorial Library (Basement) the second Sunday of each month from 11 a.m. - 3 p.m. Upcoming dates are: Feb. 11.

Penguin Plunge

The Special Olympics of NH Penguin Plunge will take place on Feb. 10. The Alvirne team has already started to form and over the next two months will continue to grow. If you are interested in joining the team, apply online at https://fundraising.sonh.org/.. ./Alvirn.../hs-penguin-plunge. Donations to the team or an individual plunger can also be made on the page.

Free PFOA Water Test

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

Home Energy Tips For The Winter Heating Season

season approaching, the NH Department of Energy (DOE) and the NH Department of Safety's Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management (HSEM) encourage NH families to discuss heating their homes this winter.

"While national policies have driven up the cost of heating fuel, it's important families know of the steps they can take to manage costs," said Governor Chris "While Sununu. New Hampshire cannot control the cost of energy, we encourage families to apply for the assistance available this year."

Home Energy Tips

- Call your fuel vendor and ask about setting up automatic delivery. Automatic delivery adds convenience by eliminating the need to monitor your tank and can add peace of mind as winter weather approaches and prices shift.
- If you prefer paying for fuel on demand, make sure to keep an eye on your fuel gauge and call your vendor at least 10 days in advance of needing fuel.
 - Call your fuel vendor

and ask about fuel payment with home energy costs budget plans. Budget plans might help a household make heating costs more manageable. Families should make sure to clearly understand their agreement with their fuel vendor.

- Make sure your heating system receives professional maintenance each
- Clean any warm-air registers, baseboard heaters, and radiators as needed and make sure they're not blocked by furniture, carpeting or drapes.
- Clean or replace filters on forced hot air systems regularly.
- Consider installing programmable thermostats to turn your heat up and down automatically to match the hours when you are home or away.

For more home energy tips, visit Energy Efficiency Managing Your Energy Usage, NH Department of Energy, Information on NH energy efficiency programs can be found at https://nhsaves.com/.

Assistance Programs

NH has a variety of opportunities for households in need of assistance

both heating and electric. Learn more about assistance programs, including how where to apply, at CAPNH.ORG or by calling

- The Fuel Assistance program provides benefits to qualified NH households to assist with heating costs throughout the winter sea-
- The Electric Assistance Program provides eligible customers with a discount on their monthly electric bills all year.
- The Gas Assistance Program provides eligible customers with a discount on their natural gas winter heating bills.
- · Utilities have other resources for their customers. Customers of Eversource, Liberty, and Unitil can learn more about Neighbor Helping Neighbor while customers of the NH Electric Co-op can learn more about Project Care.

Home Safety

- Remember to keep any exhaust vents on your home clear of snow, ice, and other debris.
 - Falling ice and snow

can damage your gas meter when sliding off the roof. Be sure to clear snow and ice off your roof above your gas meter and other gas service equipment and keep the area around your meter and other equipment clear from snow and ice.

• Make sure that your driveway and the path to the tank are clear of snow.

- Keep anything that can leaving the room or going to burn at least three-feet (one meter) away from heating equipment, like the furnace, fireplace, wood stove, or portable space heater. Have a three-foot (one meter) "kid-free zone" around open fires and space heaters.
- · Remember to turn portable heaters off when

• Burn a hot fire - not a smoldering - fire, with clean and dry wood in woodstoves and fireplaces to prevent creosote build-up in chimneys. You want to reach 1,100 degrees Fahrenheit to make sure the gases burn efficiently and completely.

Aviation Museum Open Extra Days

During winter vacation, the Aviation Museum of NH at Manchester-Boston Regional Airport will open from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 27 through Thursday, Feb. 29 in addition to its regular open hours of Fridays and Saturdays from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. and on Sundays from 1 p.m. - 4 p.m.

The Aviation Museum of NH offers activities and exhibits for kids of all ages; from a real Embraer 110 cockpit which future pilots can play in, to scavenger hunts and a collection of aviation-themed toys that visitors are encouraged to interact and have fun with.

The museum's Elite Flight Simulator will operate on Tuesday, Feb. 27 from 1 - 4 p.m. and again on Thursday, Feb. 29 from 1 - 4 p.m., giving young pilots aged 12 and up a chance to experience flying a singleengine plane.

Families with children aged 12 and under are invited to Story Time on Wednesday, Feb. 29 at 10 a.m. Participants will enjoy reading several aviationthemed stories as well as additional activities.

Visitors can also see a display of the museum's collection of vintage uniforms from Northeast Airlines, a Boston-based carrier that served the region until merging with Delta in 1972.

There's also a display featuring the museum's high school student planebuilding program. Started in 2019 at the Manchester (NH) School of Technology, the program recently expanded to include planebuilding programs at Lebanon High School in Lebanon, NH, and Farmington High School in Farmington. NH.

Museum admission for children under the age of 6 is free, and kids ages 6 to 12 are \$5. The museum also offers \$5 admission for veterans and families Standard admission for adults (age 13 and above) is \$10.

The Aviation Museum is located at 27 Navigator Rd., off Harvey Rd., Londonderry, NH. For more information, visit aviationmuseumofnh.org or call (603) 669-4820. Follow the Aviation Museum online at www.facebook.com/nhahs



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