

THE Hudson Times

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Traveling along Lowell Road in a timely fashion is sometimes a challenge for local residents and the Transportation Chapter of the Hudson Master Plan was recently adopted by the Planning Board with some ideas on how to manage traffic issues in town.

Photo by Chris Paul

Transportation Section to Master Plan Gets Adopted

CHRIS PAUL
HUDSON TIMES

During a Public Hearing of the Transportation Chapter of the Hudson Master Plan, at the Wednesday, Jan. 10, Planning Board meeting, members voted to adopt the document with minor changes made.

Members and the planning department have been working on the document for several months and it will be used in the town's Master Plan.

The introduction to the draft of Chapter V - Transportation states,

"Land use and transportation are integral elements in the spatial layout and growth of a community. The dominant use of the automobile contributed to the transformation of the character of Hudson from rural to suburban during the latter part of the twentieth century. The rise in motor vehicle use has enabled residents to commute longer distances, businesses to improve services for their customer base, and communities to broaden their tax bases through economic growth. The rise in motor vehicle use has also created

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School Spending Cuts Proposed to Maintain Level Budget

PAUL CONYERS
HUDSON TIMES

The Hudson Committee came together on Jan. 3 to discuss what Chairman, Norm Martin, called their "final wrap-up night" before public hearings on the 2025 budget and the deliberative session.

"The current operating [school] budget is \$67,533,361," said Martin, with updated numbers after several cuts to paraprofessional spending from the school budget at their last December meeting.

Concerned about ending the session on a "positive note for the taxpayers of Hudson," Vice Chairman, Bill Cole, proposed making a blanket reduction by cutting the numbers to

\$63,392,486. Last-minute contract negotiations with the Hudson Federation of Teachers and Teamsters unions brought the spending higher than many in the Committee wanted.

"I think that's a positive statement to the voters, it takes us back to the amount this current fiscal year, so we will have managed to do some real level funding," Cole argued. "I think it says the right message, I think it's something we can all get on, I think it would benefit the taxpayers, the community, and I know it seems hard to understand, but it would benefit the school district."

There was some support from other members of the Budget Committee, includ-

ing Shawn Murray, who felt that the School Board failed to make constructive suggestions on further cuts.

"I go through the budget and continually find money that is misallocated," said Murray. "I'm ready to support my budget at the recommended level."

There was concern that any budget without level spending might be voted down by the public, although School Board liaison, Gretchen Whiting, warned that the proposed cuts would not cover contractually approved salary increases.

"We can't move forward with that," said Whiting, referring to Cole's new numbers. The town of Hud-

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Town Manager Warrant Article Recommended by Selectmen

ALEX MALM
HUDSON TIMES

The Board of Selectmen were presented with a citizen petition warrant article, which would ask voters if they support changing a Town Administrator to a Town Manager during its Jan. 9 meeting.

It was explained by Town Administrator, Steve Malizia, that the Town Manager role has different responsibilities than a Town Administrator. He added that the main difference between the two forms of governments is that with a Town Manager, they have more power under RSA than a Town Administrator does.

For example, a Town

Manager is responsible for hiring and firing employees and doesn't need to get approval by the Board of Selectmen, unlike the current system.

"It's more day to day for a lack of a better word," Malizia said.

He noted that the town is the ninth largest community in NH and there are communities smaller than Hudson that have Town Managers.

Chair, Marilyn McGrath, said she has concerns about the proposal based on past experiences.

"It's too bad Mr. Oates didn't live in town at the time we had a Town Manager. It's too bad he didn't live in town when we had the

Town Council form of government. Now there is a petition warrant article to go back to the Town Manager form," McGrath said.

Malizia said the town has been under a Town Administrator form of government for over 30 years.

Selectman, Bob Guessferd, said the size of the town has a lot to do with it, and pointed out that before they had a smaller population when they had a Town Manager, and now with the size of the community they potentially would be large enough to have various different types of government, including potentially a mayor, but said, "I'm not sure they would be the right

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Commissioners Plan for Musquash Upkeep Through Winter

PAUL CONYERS
HUDSON TIMES

The Conservation Commission came together for its first meeting of the year on Jan. 8 to make plans for a trail upkeep workday. The last workday had been delayed, thanks to the recent snowstorm. After some discussion, Commissioners decided on Feb. 11 from 9 a.m. to noon as the best possible date.

"Even if the weather is tight and it's snowy, we can always mark a few trails," said Commission Chair, Bill Collins. "I think we wanted to get across the bridge at

Musquash and lay out some trails for Spring."

Secretary, Ken Dickinson, suggested adding tree removal to the upkeep schedule.

"I was out at Tiger Road, and I think it'd be great to go in there and do a little pruning as we were hoping to do last time," he said.

The Chair emphasized a need to prioritize what they wanted to accomplish through the Winter months with the possibility of bad weather and limited resources.

"We don't have the traditional manpower to add

extra work to our already busy trail schedule," Collins warned. "Maintaining what we do have going is more important than trying to create something new."

Old business around an 11-house subdivision at 36 Campbello Street. Manny Sousa Jr. of 50 Moose Hill Road was at the meeting to talk about his request.

As this is an ongoing matter, Collins and members of the Commission took a walk through the Highland Property in mid-December to get an assessment of wetlands in the

area and how Sousa's request might impact any environmentally sensitive land.

"We're going to put forward some recommendations to the Planning Board," said Collins.

These included the construction of stormwater infiltration basins to treat any runoff, along with the addition of erosion control barriers during construction.

"It is also recommended that you install approved Do Not Cut, Do Not Disturb town conservation markers along conservation

district boundaries," added Dickinson. "It's requested you have careful excavation during construction."

Vice Chair, Carl Murphy, wanted a post-rail fence around the wetland buffer boundary to further mark the area.

One of the concerns had been the border between town property and private property. Sousa agreed to save three trees on the site while engaging in restoration work where feasible.

"We're also working on plantings, to have them on the plans before we go for approval," said Sousa. The

hope was that more plant life would reduce the risk of flooding.

The Conservation Commission unanimously voted to recommend the subdivision, sending it to the Planning Board and the Engineering Department.

With that, Collins brought up the topic of formally electing new Commission officers through 2024, asking if Carl Murphy wanted to take up the position of Conservation Chair for the year. Murphy promised to "give that some thought," deferring the choice until the Feb. 12 meeting.

Town Manager

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form for our town." With Town Managers, Malizia said one thing that could potentially happen is going through them more often than with a Town Administrator since they

have more day to day responsibilities and are able to make more decisions without the Board of Selectmen approval.

"You're probably going to go through Town Managers more often," Malizia said, explaining that they would still answer to some-

one, the Board of Selectmen.

Selectman, David Morin, said he is concerned with the voice of the community being taken away, by going to a system where one person is able to make day to day decisions more often, explaining that he thinks they should look at

having a mayor instead.

"Let them have the voice," Morin said.

Malizia explained that even with the mayor position, there are different forms. For example, in Nashua and Manchester, it's a "traditional mayor" role where some communities

have a mayor, but also have a professional Town or City Manager.

The Selectmen ultimately voted 4-1 to recommend the warrant article, with McGrath voting against it.

McGrath said she voted against it because she was

active in the community when they had other forms of government and "none of them were good."

If the warrant article passes the current Town Administrator would resume the role, until they either retire, or leave the position.

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Selectmen Recommend Approval For Voting Day Change

ALEX MALM
HUDSON TIMES

The Board of Selectmen and School Board both had the chance to review a citizen's petition warrant article, which will ask voters if they support changing the day of Town and School District elections, last week.

The warrant article reads: "Shall the Town of Hudson and the School District change the date of the elections from the second Tuesday in March to the second Tuesday in April in accordance with RSA 40:14,

which would also change the date of the deliberative sessions to a date between the first and second Saturdays after the last Monday in February, inclusive. This warrant will only take effect if it passes on the both the town and school districts ballots."

Town Moderator, Paul Inderbitzen, said that it's something that has been discussed in the past.

"I don't think it's a bad idea," he said, noting that other communities have their elections in other

months other than March.

Mike Tranfaglia, the resident who brought the petition warrant article forward, explained in an email, that the "purpose of this warrant article is to push the election date past the threat of inclement weather that would postpone the election as it has twice in the past few years."

"Last week I submitted a warrant article to change the date of the school and town election," he wrote. He is hopeful it will increase voter turnout.

"This warrant article was also submitted to the school district for the same reasons and is worded on both submissions to ensure that it would have to pass the town ballot and the school ballot in order to take effect," he wrote. "The town lawyer and Administrator have reviewed the language and have no concerns."

Town Administrator, Steve Malizia, said one of the things it would change is when the budget process is, noting it would go into the holiday season. He

added that they also lose a month at the end of the fiscal year.

Selectman, Bob Guessferd, said they want to hear what people in town think of it.

The Selectmen voted 4-0-1 to recommend the warrant article, with Chair, Marilyn McGrath, abstaining.

On the school side, Superintendent, Dan Moulis, said they had conversations with the senior leadership team, and their main concern is how it may

impact the hiring of any new positions that are part of the budget, explaining they wouldn't be able to hire anyone until the budget passes.

School Board member, Michael Campbell, said he is concerned with potential unintended consequences, particularly with hiring. No decision was made by the School Board on recommending the warrant article.

Tranfaglia, in his email, said he would be willing to speak at the deliberative sessions on the warrant article.

Selectmen Debate Citizens Petition Warrant Article

ALEX MALM
HUDSON TIMES

One of the Citizens Petition Warrant Articles presented to the Board of Selectmen during its Jan. 9 meeting was in regard to the Southern NH RC Club, which would allow the Club to continue using the West Road Landfill for its Club activities.

The Board of Selectmen previously approved sending a warrant article to the ballot, which will ask voters to approve using the West Road Landfill, for a Solar Farm.

After the Board of Selectmen moved forward with the warrant article for the solar farm, the Club made a pitch for the Selectmen to reconsider, which didn't take

place. The Club argued that they have minutes from 1999 when the Board of Selectmen unanimously approved an agreement between the town and the Club to allow them to use the space. Selectmen, Dave Morin, argued that there still hasn't been a written agreement produced.

"I understand these people want to fly their planes, [but] there's no written agreement, there still isn't," he said.

He said the Board of Selectmen have pushed for different solar initiatives, like this one, and they have heard from the community about saving money in the budget. The Solar Farm, if approved, would produce revenue in future years. "Everything

that we have talked about could come from this," Morin said.

The petition warrant article signed by 45 voters reads:

"Allow the Southern NH Radio Control Club continued use of the West Road Landfill Wagner field, a Federal Aviation Administration Recognized Identification Area.

Per the agreement with the Board of Selectmen in July of 1999, the town of Hudson, NH will grant continued use of the West Road Landfill capped areas to the Southern NH Radio Control Club 501C non-profit organization, a fully insured and chartered member of the Academy of

Model Aeronautics. This club fosters community efforts related to the building and flying of model aircraft, STEM education, and enablement of skill creation related to employment in the aerospace industry, many past members have subsequently established careers in aviation and aerospace. The club is in need of continued access to a suitable site for flying activities; the current site is recognized by the Federal Aviation Administration and has been granted special permissions allowing for high altitude flights. For the past 24 years the club has donated time, expertise and

money to the town of Hudson NH and wishes to remain a vibrant part of the community."

Selectmen, Kara Roy, said she is concerned about the plan for solar and thinks the two could co-exist.

Morin, however, argued that if they want to get the most out of the solar project, they need to use all of the land since it's not a large piece of property.

Selectman, Bob Guessferd, said he supported allowing the RC Club to continue there and he needed to be consistent. "I supported them before and I need to be consistent with that vote," he said. He also

felt they could look at it further and possibly have both in town.

Chair, Mairlyn McGrath, also said she needed to be consistent in her stance. "I am not going to recommend for this to be approved," she said. She added that she is concerned about potential damage that could be done to the site.

The board ultimately voted 3-2 to not recommend the warrant article.

Since it is a citizen's petition warrant article, it means that it is automatically sent to the Deliberative Session, and eventually to the ballot.



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Editorial

Why Newspapers Are Still Important

Newspapers play a far more complex role in the civic life of communities than many might believe.

On the surface, most people do not feel that their local newspaper is a key source that many rely on for local information. When asked about specific local topics and which sources they rely on for that information, it turns out that many adults are quite reliant on newspapers and their websites.

Local newspapers continue to be a key source for factual, reliable, and accountable information.

Newspapers are cited as the most relied-upon source of information for crime, taxes, local government activities, schools, local politics, local jobs, community/neighborhood events, arts events, zoning information, local social services, and real estate/housing.

To all Hudson residents, we are calling on you to help us create the best community newspaper for your town. The Hudson Times is now your hometown newspaper and we are asking you to help us get the information you want to see every week. We are asking you to send us your stories, tell us what is going on along with sending us your photos. Sending us your letters is also a great way to let your thoughts be heard. We care and want to do our very best for you and your town.

What happens in your community will have the largest impact on your life. It is your local government that impacts your property taxes, your water and sewer rates, and decides what you can and can't do at your place of business or

your home. Few people have the time or the desire to sift through their agendas and attend endless hours of meetings each week. Our publication puts these meetings into an easily digestible two-minute reads or a "cliff notes" version of the items covered.

Local newspapers are showcases for local businesses through advertising. This provides businesses the opportunities to tell their customers why they are still relevant and important in a way that is affordable and continues to support the local economy.

Your advertising dollars help pay for in-depth, factual reporting, that uses official sources as its basis in our pages.

No other businesses support a community to the extent that its local newspaper does.

While the internet supplanted some aspects of newspapers, there is no accountability. There are many benefits that hyper-local; community-oriented newspaper brings to their community in general.

The local newspaper is also a local business. We depend on advertising to be able to produce our newspapers for the benefit of the community each week. As our advertising grows, our hope is to be able to mail to everyone in town free of charge.

Residents can also submit articles, letters or photos for consideration to be published. It's easy, just send them to HudsonTimes@nutpub.net or to the publisher at dpaul@nutpub.net.

Publisher, Deb Paul, can be reached at dpaul@nutpub.net or (603) 537-2760.

THE Hudson Times

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Letters

Hudson BLVD is a BAD Solution

To the editor,

The Hudson Planning Board just completed its Transportation study and is looking at the Hudson BLVD as one of the solutions to the traffic situation in Hudson. We all know that our main roads are a mess, and our back roads are getting busier all due to very poor development planning. The study looks at the current and projected traffic based on a stable development situation. This is a flawed study.

The goal of the Hudson BLVD is to relieve traffic congestion and ease the flow to major connecting roads. However, what this is not talking about is the development that will occur when this is completed.

This is not about traffic, it is about development in my opinion. Look at the BLVDs path. It opens hundreds, if not a couple thousand acres of Hudson land for development. Several developers own hundreds of acres along the sides of this proposed road waiting to develop when completed. It is all zoned G/G1 so get ready for more commercial/industrial development. All of this will add significantly more traffic and bring us right back to where we are today if not worse. I do not see anything in this study that addresses that.

Who owns all that land? They will help push this along for their own benefit.

Finally, where is the study that should be associated with this that considers the impact to our services? Any roadway expansion

and development lead to incidents and additional work for our Police, Fire and DPW. Also, the additional residential developments that will arise will certainly impact our schools and add traffic. Our departments are not prepared for all of this.

This town has issues, and they are being caused by poor planning. Before any of this should be accepted, I encourage residents to demand an overall infrastructure analysis along with a short-term building moratorium, so we are not in a worse situation in a few years.

Finally.... has anybody reviewed induced traffic demand in this transportation study? Look it up if you have never heard of it.

Jim Dobens
Hudson

The Hudson Times welcomes letters of up to 500 words on topics of local interest, and prints as many letters as possible. Please e-mail your letters to the Hudson Times at hudsonTimes@nutpub.net. 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.

Town of Hudson Open Elected Positions

The town of Hudson recently released the Open Elected Positions that will be voted on in the March Elections.

The filing period for Town/School Election starts on Wednesday, Jan. 24 until Friday, Feb. 2, 2024

Anyone interested in declaring candidacy for these positions shall

file with the Town Clerk during regular business hours: Monday - Friday, 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Interested candidates must be registered voters in Hudson.

On Feb. 2, the last day of the filing period, the Town Clerk's office will be open until 5 p.m., per RSA 652:20.

OPEN TOWN POSITIONS:

Selectmen: Two Three-Year Term seats will be open
Budget Committee, Three, Three-Year Term seats open
Cemetery Trustee: One, Three-Year Term seat.
Code of Ethics Committee: One, Three-Year Term
Library Trustee: Two, Three-Year Term seats
Town Moderator: One, Three-Year Term position
Planning Board: Three, Three-Year Term seats
Supervisor of the Checklist: One, Two-Year Term position
Trustees of the Trust Fund: One, Three-Year Term seat/

OPEN SCHOOL POSITIONS:

School Board, One, Three-Year Term seat available.

Elections for for these positions will be held March 12.

Planning Board Chooses Not to Recommend Three Petition Articles

PAUL CONYERS
HUDSON TIMES

The Planning Board heard three citizen-petitioned warrant articles regarding changes to Hudson's zoning code at their Jan. 10 meeting.

The first petition was Article 18, which would ban the operation of a snow dump or the construction of a gasoline station near certain aquifers. Ruth Sessions sent a general statement in

support of the initiative, which was read aloud.

"Most groundwater, including a significant part of our drinking water, comes from aquifers," wrote Sessions. "Oil, diesel fuel, and gasoline that inevitably leak from containers at gas stations, frequently contaminate the soil and surrounding aquifers."

She argued there are already ten gas stations in Hudson at a time when elec-

tric cars are becoming more popular.

John Dubuc of 11 Eagle Drive supported all three petitions, calling article 18 "a very simple ask" while noting that the Board of Selectmen recently asked the state to test for so-called chemicals in Hudson. He encouraged the Planning Board to give their support for the article.

No one present knew what the precise definition

of "snow dump" meant in a legal context for the town. Interim Town Manager, Jay Minkara, referred to "an area where plowed snow was stored." He clarified this was more of an "assumption" than an exact definition.

"Words matter," said Vice Chair, Jordan Ulery. "The language is imprecise, and it needs to be precise." He was informed the board lacked the power to change any wording.

The Planning Board unanimously voted against recommending Article 18, although several members expressed sympathy with its intent and asked for more clarification in the future.

Article 19 would require that any new lot with a store selling gasoline be at least 3,000 feet from a similar lot.

"There's no place to go here, there are some small venues, but most people go

over to Nashua," said Dubuc, speaking in support of the article. He argued that there was too much focus on business and industrial projects.

"We want to cut down on the possibility of new gas stations, what's the rationale? That we have too many?" asked alternate Board member, George Hall. "That seems arbitrary."

Board members generally agreed, with Tim Malley pointing out that a similar, 800-foot restriction previously existed in Hudson zoning regulations before being repealed by voters in 2018.

The Planning Board unanimously voted not to recommend Article 19.

Article 20 would place a one-year moratorium from March 2024 on new building permits, subdivisions, and site plans across much of Hudson. It would not

include ongoing projects.

"It's out of control, the amount of development going on here is crazy," said Dubuc.

He added that other towns in NH have put similar development moratoriums in place and that the article has a clause to end the moratorium earlier with a zoning update to Hudson's Master Plan, which is currently under review.

Representing Etchstone Properties, Nahua lawyer, Brad Westgate, questioned whether the article went into "significant definitional detail" on what counted as an "ongoing" project.

Questioning the need for a moratorium and whether it would hold up in court, the Planning Board voted not to recommend Article 20.

Regardless of the boards vote, all petition articles will appear on the ballot as originally worded.

School Cuts

Continued from page 1

son is required to raises and benefits of any employees covered in the recent collective bargaining agreement with school unions.

Other suggestions included eliminating some new positions with targeted line-item cuts, instead of a blanket cut. Some suggestions included calling in the NH Department of Educa-

tion to look for cheaper ways to transport students with special needs, although the end goal of the discussion was to keep spending at the same level as last year.

"When the Selectmen did their budget, we told our people to come in at a zero increase and that anything extra was out of the budget that had to be reviewed," said liaison, Dave Morin. "My only concern is the contracts, I would agree to cutting some of the money,

but we know we're already having problems getting employees as it is now, and we can't afford to lose any more."

He added that the town would be "in a world of hurt" if they couldn't cover worker contracts, which were approved by Hudson voters last year.

Ultimately, the motion narrowly failed in a six-to-four vote over the concerns related to blanket reductions.

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Budget Committee Recommend Agreement with School Employees

PAUL CONYERS
HUDSON TIMES

The Budget Committee came together on Jan. 3 to discuss how to make the upcoming budget more appealing to voters before the first public hearing.

I think we need to take a look at the budget and make the appropriate cuts," said Chairman, Norm Martin.

Members of the Budget Committee were hoping for input from the School Board on the issue, with Shawn Jasper encouraging the School Board to take a more active role in identifying

where cuts would have the least impact on students.

"I do believe there are more teaching positions than we need, and the School Board has the total flexibility within the budget to make choices, said Jasper. "This, I think, is an easily defensible position to say that we simply can't afford new positions while recognizing that the School Board has full authority to look at classroom sizes, to look at other factors and say 'alright, these positions are more important'."

Specifically, committee

members hoped to get a "laundry list" of what money might be saved by cutting certain full-time positions in the school district. There was some frustration from the Budget Committee, as member, Shawn Murray, accused the board of dragging their feet on making suggestions for what spending reductions were feasible.

"The School Board had every opportunity to make suggestions at their last meeting," said Murray. "Are we going to see an updated budget from the

school district on the cuts that we made?"

The Chairman confirmed those numbers would be available at the next meeting.

Despite a desire to cut costs, there was support for salary increases found in warrant articles two and three, which were recently approved by the School Board following collective bargaining negotiations. Pay increases covered many existing part-time employees and school food service staff.

"I sort of feel obligated

to support this, even though it's a lot of money. All of these people are probably the most underpaid," said Jasper. He added that such pay increases agreed to in a recent collective bargaining agreement would be less than recently proposed spending cuts.

The Budget Committee overwhelmingly voted in favor of recommending both warrant articles. Town officials are waiting to hear back from the School Board on warrant article one.

So far, there are 49 warrant articles attached to the

2025 budget, a number that raised a few eyebrows. While public hearings start mid-January, nobody in the Budget Committee has time to review every article. Selectmen liaison, Dave Morin, confirmed that every large monetary item had been reviewed by town officials. He further noted that not every warrant article has a cost attached to its proposal.

A public hearing with the Budget Committee is tentatively scheduled for Tuesday, Jan. 16, at 7 p.m. at Hudson Community Center (if needed).

Maps, Trails, and Open Space Update Planned for 2024

PAUL CONYERS
HUDSON TIMES

The Conservation Commission set its annual priorities at its January meeting.

"As we move into 2024, we do have some outstanding projects that are still in process," said Conservation

Chair, Bill Collins.

He singled out the push to update and distribute new town maps, some of which are currently available online. Another was to create brochures to go with historic pieces of property like the Colburn Town Forest

and the first meeting house at Musquash.

"We want information for the trails, the complexity of the trails, or just different, interesting facts about the property," said Collins. "I don't think it has to be a long, drawn-out booklet, but a couple of paragraphs."

Another possible project was bringing the open space Master Plan up to date. The Plan has an inventory of all undeveloped properties in town over a certain size either owned by Hudson or which might be purchased for preservation at a later date.

"Some of those properties we've purchased, a couple of parcels have been checked off the list, and some of them have been developed and are not available anymore," said Secretary, Ken Dickinson. "There's a lot of data there, and it's over a decade old."

The update will likely take three to four years.

"A simple one for projects would be getting out there to finish trail markings, things like that. There are still a lot of things we need to do, unfortunately. It's been busy," said Collins.

One target was a trail extension to Gumpus Pond,

something Dickinson specifically singled out as significant after failing to complete the project in 2023.

"I look forward to getting the trail extended over to Gumpus this year if we can," the secretary added. "That would be a good project to finish."

Collins asked other members to email him with any other ideas for the year.

According to Town Engineer, Elvis Dhima, a planned boat ramp at Robinson Pond is still in its earliest design stage and with "no plans" for construction this year. He did not say when the design process would finish.

The NH Association of Conservation Commissions (NHACC) sent correspondence to Hudson about four upcoming training webinars

for interested Commissioners over the next few months. The Hudson Conservation Commission is a paid member of the NHACC and regularly gets updates from the organization on statewide changes to conservation issues.

Commissioners got their final financial report from the Rangers Town Forest Tree Harvest form last November. The event raised \$28,185.45 for their forestry account. The Conservation Commission gained access to their account after a public vote last year and will be able to use some of the money to help with future projects.

The Hudson Conservation Commission is scheduled to meet again on Monday, Feb. 12, at 7 p.m. in the Buxton Room of Town Hall.



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Amendments to Zoning Code Move Forward to Ballot

PAUL CONYERS
HUDSON TIMES

The Planning Board opened its first meeting of the new year on Jan. 10 with a public hearing on adopting the Transportation Chapter of Hudson's Master Plan.

Ultimately, there were no public comments and limited discussion from members of the board, who were satisfied with several small, recent edits to the wording.

"We've discussed this, there have been some minor corrections, those we heard earlier have been undertaken," explained Vice Chair, Jordan Ulery. Some

changes discussed over the past few months have revolved around electric vehicle infrastructure and road layout.

The Planning Board unanimously voted to adopt the Transportation Chapter.

Another topic was to address more than a dozen amendments to the Hudson Zoning Code approved by the Board of Selectmen. According to Chair, Tim Malley, the exact number but not the "substance" of the amendments will change before appearing on the March ballot in the form of warrant articles.

"Just to make sure it's very clear, if these warrant

articles are adopted, if the town votes for them, what effect do they have on current site plans and current properties?" asked Selectman, Bob Guessferd.

According to Interim Town Planner, Jay Minkarah, everybody townwide would be bound by any rules approved by voters. As an example, he singled out Article 2, which would increase the existing wetland buffer near wetlands and surface water from 50 to 75 feet on nonresidential units.

"If you have an existing

commercial site, and you have your parking area or buildings that are closer than 75 feet, that would now be nonconforming," said Minkarah. "It could potentially have an impact on your ability to expand or approve your property. If you have a vacant lot, it could have an impact on the potential of that property in the future."

He added existing, non-compliant properties would be grandfathered into any new regulations, and owners would be allowed to maintain that property.

Anybody with a previously approved or currently active property with a site plan would also be exempt within a four-year window.

The Planning Board voted to send zoning articles 2, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, and 17 forward to the ballot as written by the Board of Selectmen.

The Board also voted to send article 4 forward to the ballot after changing the word "trade" in the proposal to "trades."

Article 3 was delayed after board members asked for more clarification on the

impact its wording would have on the town. Articles 14, 15, and 16 were delayed due to what Malley called a "notification error."

All deferred articles will be addressed at the next meeting of the Hudson Planning Board, scheduled for Wednesday, Jan. 24, at 7 p.m. in the Buxton Room of Town Hall. All amendment warrant articles are available on the Planning Board town site. The approved Transportation Chapter of the Master Plan is also available on the site.

Board of Selectmen Vote to Oppose Proposed Lobbying Legislation

ALEX MALM
HUDSON TIMES

The Board of Selectmen discussed writing letters to legislators, encouraging them to vote in support and against pieces of legislation, during its Jan. 9 meeting.

"House Bill 1114 extends the commission to investigate and analyze the environmental and public health impacts relating to releases of perfluorinated chemicals in the air, soil and groundwater in Merrimack, Bedford, Londonderry, and Litchfield," Town Administrator, Steve Malizia, wrote in a memo to the Board of Selectmen, regarding one of the pieces of legislation.

Senator, Sharon Carson, who represents Hudson, is one of the sponsors of the bill. Malizia said he was recommending that they write a letter to her, in order to get Hudson included, as part of the legislation.

"Staff has attempted to

contact her requesting that she add the Town of Hudson to the bill," he wrote. "She has not responded to several requests to add Hudson to the bill. As you are all aware, Hudson is affected by these chemicals and has been working with St. Gobain relative to our wells in Litchfield."

Malizia said he thinks they should amend it with Hudson being included as part of the legislation, and they should send a letter asking that the town be added.

Selectman, Dave Morin, agreed. "We are affected by this," he said.

The board unanimously approved writing a letter encouraging that they be added to the legislation.

Another proposed piece of legislation was in regard to no longer being able to use any public funds to lobby for anything.

It was explained by Malizia that the The NH Municipal Association requested that the Selectmen "send a letter opposing House Bill 1479, which would regulate the use of public funds for lobbying activities and establishes certain additional enforcement mechanisms."

"As you are aware, the Town of Hudson is a member of NHMA and has been for many years. If this bill were to pass, the Town and all the other member communities in NH would lose NHMA's legislative advocacy services," Malizia

wrote in a memo to the Board of Selectmen.

It was explained by Malizia that aside from the NHMA, other advocacy groups like the NH Police Chiefs Association, the NH Fire Chiefs Association, and the Town Clerk's Association "would also lose their legislative voice."

Malizia said he thought that the potential punishments for anyone who gets caught violating the law if it passed, including someone facing a Class A Misdemeanor and termination, was extreme.

"It seems a bit heavy handed," he said.

The Board unanimously approved sending a letter of opposition for the legislation.

OBITUARY

Robert Joseph Lemieux



Robert Joseph Lemieux, 81 of Hudson, NH, passed away on Wednesday Jan. 10, 2024 at the Southern NH Medical Center in Nashua with his loving wife and son by his side.

He was born April 18, 1942 in Canada, son of the late Roger and Bella (Lessard) Lemieux. He was also predeceased by a sister Micheline Goddard.

Robert was the beloved husband of Aline (Dutil) Lemieux of Hudson with whom he shared 61 years of marriage.

He was a career shoe pattern maker throughout New England and was very proud to have made everything from hand.

Besides his loving wife, Aline, he is survived by his devoted son; Daniel Lemieux of Nashua, a sister; Louise Lemieux and two brothers; Marcel Lemieux and Michel Lemieux all of Canada as well as many nieces and nephews.

A time of visitation was held on Tuesday, Jan. 16 with a Prayer Service in the Dumont-Sullivan Funeral Homes, 50 Ferry St. in Hudson. A burial followed in Woodlawn Cemetery. In lieu of flowers the family encourages donations be made in Robert's loving memory to the American Cancer Society at www.cancer.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.

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Transportation

continued from page 1

traffic congestion problems, especially along major highway corridors. The key to preserving and enhancing Hudson's transportation network is to ensure that roadway capacity and regional connections are enhanced and maintained and that incremental improvements to the complete transportation network that includes transit, sidewalks, and bicycle routes, are implemented."

The purpose of the Transportation Chapter of the Master Plan is to discuss strategies for an efficient and safe transportation system that will preserve the community's character, accommodate growth, and increase the availability of transportation choices. This chapter includes a discussion of: 1) the existing transportation network, including the roadway classification system, existing traffic conditions, highway capacity, crashes, bridge conditions and travel patterns; 2) future traffic projections; 3) transportation solutions, including regulations, access management, community character guidelines, traffic calming and scenic road designation; 4) alternative transportation, including transit,

bicycle and pedestrian facilities; and 5) recommendations.

One of the subjects touched on in the transportation chapter, which was presented as a nearly 75-page document, was the plan for Hudson Boulevard, a road that has been discussed for over a decade that would alleviate traffic issues that have evolved in the southern part of Hudson, along Lowell Road from Nashua.

According to the document, "Hudson Boulevard has evolved as a scaled down southern segment of what was formerly known as the Circumferential Highway. Although this project was removed from the N.H. Ten Year Transportation Plan programming in 2005, it has since been re-added with preliminary engineering slated to start in 2024-2025. In contrast to the limited-access, high-speed expressway once envisioned, the project now is seen as an approximate 40 mph, controlled access roadway (no frontage) along the southern Circumferential Highway right-of-way between N.H. 3A and N.H. 111 with at-grade intersections and a parallel, separate multi-use path for bicycles and pedes-

trians. The estimated project cost is about \$56 million as of the 2023-32 plan, increasing to \$60 million in the 2025-34 draft. Traffic impacts of the project are presented later in the future year traffic forecast."

A map provided in the document shows the proposed Hudson Boulevard roadway beginning on Lowell Road, directly across from the Old Sagamore Bridge from Nashua along the Circumferential Highway, crossing Burns Hill Road, Bush Hill Road, and Speare Road to Route 111.

The chapter also discusses the total miles of roadways in Hudson.

It says, "Based on the New Hampshire Department of Transportation (N.H. DOT) road mileage inventory, there are 194.4 miles of roads in the Town of Hudson.

The State of New Hampshire classifies roadways in two ways. The first is by a state funding category (the State Aid classification system) and the second is by federal funding category (the Functional classification system). The State Aid classification system was developed by the State of New Hampshire, as defined by RSA 229-231, to determine responsibility for construction, reconstruction, and maintenance as



A recent image of Lowell Road in Hudson.

Photo by Chris Paul

well as eligibility for use of state aid funds."

In the Planned Intersection Improvements section, the document states, "At the request of the Towns of Hudson and Litchfield, a traffic study was completed to determine future impacts of the Circumferential Highway on traffic operations at various essential intersections within the local road network. The Hudson-Litchfield Traffic Study, 2002 was funded through a grant from the NH DOT. The engineering consultant firm of Vollmer Associates was contracted to evaluate existing and future traffic conditions at those intersections. The main purpose of the study was to evaluate traffic conditions over a twenty-year horizon and to consider improvements needed as a result of the impacts of the Circumferential Highway

and the Airport Access Road in Manchester. The study identified specific needed improvements at the study area intersections. A number of these improvements have since been implemented. Table V-6 summarizes the remaining recommended improvements that have yet to be implemented. In 2019, the Planning Board commissioned design studies for the Belknap Road/Birch Street/N.H. 3A area but no construction has been planned."

The recommended intersection improvements include:

Belknap Road - Extend Belknap Road from County Road to a new four-way signalized intersection with NH 3A and Birch Street; and construct sidewalk along the northern side of the Birch Street extension.

N.H. 3A/Birch Street -

Add a left turn storage lane on the NH 3A southbound approach at the newly signalized intersection; and install raised island at the southwest corner of the intersection to better define driveway openings.

County Road - Convert the southern end of County Road to one-way northbound; and maintain existing two-way traffic from ball fields to Belknap Road.

Other areas cover in the document were: Existing Traffic Conditions, Trends and Level of Services, Bridge Conditions, Vehicle Crashes, Travel Patterns, Through Traffic, Impact Fees, Road and Sidewalk Layout, Community Character Guidelines, Non-Motorized Transportation, Roadway Design and Safety, Passenger Rail, Connected and Autonomous Vehicles, and Improvements to Key Corridor.

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HUDSON SPORTS

Admirals Hockey Tie Green Wave 4-4 , Top Huskies 4-0



BLAKE SANTANA
HUDSON TIMES

While most spent this past weekend huddled around their TV sets, the Admirals took to the ice and were looking to snap a three-game losing skid on Saturday against the Dover Green Wave. This wouldn't be an easy task, though, as they were the defending state champions. The Admirals, however, had beaten the defending champs last season in overtime, what would be in store for them this time around? A 4-4 tie.

In the first, it was a bit of rough sailing for Alvirne-Milford, Green Wave captain Owen Culcasi scored just 13 seconds into the game to make it 1-0 Dover.

Caleb Marasca would tack on another goal for

Dover just under 7 minutes later on a breakaway that came off a turnover to make it 2-0 in favor of the visitors. Marasca would tack on a second goal just as time expired to make it 3-0 as the teams headed for the locker room for the first intermission.

In the second period, the Admirals went back to what had worked for them at the beginning of the season: physical play, strong breakouts, and shooting the puck whenever a lane was open. It also helped that senior goalie Trent Scarbro came in and took over for Kian Corcoran, who has had a

rough go of things after starting the season strong.

Landon Briand would get the first marker for the Admirals, just tapping the puck into a wide-open cage on a rebound from a shot from Brandon Callahan.

Zach Grigg would answer back for Dover, though, making it 4-1. That goal, however, did not deflate the sails of the Admirals, as the captain, Caddy Beaulieu would answer just seconds later with his first goal since getting the "C" on his jersey.

The Admirals would have two quality chances to tie the game up with Calla-

han just missing an open net and then James Nemeth having a goal wiped away after kicking the puck to his stick and shooting it in, and the refs deeming it that the puck was kicked into the net itself. 4-2 was certainly not insurmountable for the Admirals, though.

In a third period that was dominated by Alvirne-Milford, Cade Bouchard and Braydon Atwood would score the third and fourth goals respectively with Bouchard's goal coming with 8:49 remaining in the third period, and then Braydon Atwood 15 seconds

continued on page 10

Admirals, Cade Bouchard takes a slapshot to beat the Dover goal keeper J.P. Alander during the team's tie game.
Photo courtesy Luca DeRosa

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Broncos Basketball Squads Win Against Winnacunnet

CHRIS PAUL
HUDSON TIMES

Both of the Alvirne High School varsity basketball teams had success last week against the Winnacunnet Warriors.

The Lady Broncos won in Hampton, at Winnacunnet High School, Thursday night, Jan. 11, scoring nearly double of what their opponents put on the board, winning 51-26.

Junior Ella Hartson was the top scorer for Alvirne with 20-points.

The Broncos boys' had a similar outcome the night before.

On Wednesday night, Jan. 10, AHS hosted the Warriors in a game that concluded with a 66-48 victory for the home squad.

Junior forward, Charlie Crawford, had a team-high of 20-points. Sophomore forward, Garrett Hall, scored 19-points. Junior guard, Sam DeWitt, came away with nine assists in the victory.

Each of the starters helped in the scoring with 22 assists on 28 made field goals.

Both teams now have season records of 3-4 with a mini winning streak of two games.

This week, the boys are scheduled to take on the Pioneers (5-3) at Trinity High School on Friday night, Jan. 19, starting at 6:30 p.m.

The Lady Broncos will face Trinity (0-7) at home on Friday night.



Broncos junior forward, Charlie Crawford, had a team-high of 20-points against Winnacunnet.



Junior Ella Hartson came away with 20-points against the Warriors. Photos by Chris Paul

Hockey

Continued from page 9

later would take a faceoff to the right of Allander, and Atwood took the shot off the draw and beat the Dover

goalie clean to tie the game at 4-4.

The overtime period was dominated mostly by the Green Wave, and it felt as if, had any goaltender not named Trent Scarbro been in net for some of the

chances Dover had, the Green Wave would have likely won it. Fortunately, the Admirals have probably the best goalie tandem in Division 2, and Trent was finding his groove at a perfect time.

Owen Marasca had a chance about two minutes into the extra frame to end it on a breakaway, but Scarbro, as he has so many times in his four years in navy and maroon, shut the door with his blocker and kept the game alive.

Again, Marasca and Owen Culcasi got into the Admirals' end about halfway through overtime,

and Scarbro, in the spread eagle, managed to keep the puck out of the net.

At that point, Scarbro couldn't help himself but celebrate, "It was a bit out of character, for sure. Honestly, I thought it was warranted, though. Keep those two shots from one of their best players out of the net," Scarbro said when asked about his OT performance.

While nobody came out of the game with the win, this game was critical for the Admirals to at least tie in, and they did just that, finding a way to get a tie before heading to Keene to play the Monadnock-Fall

Mountain-ConVal Huskies in a game that was played on Monday and saw the Admirals taking care of business 4-0 in what was a quick game with very few penalties. Scarbro would keep his hot streak going and earn a 22-save shutout, his first since Timberlane last season. Ceddy Beaulieu, Bryce Larco, and Cade Bouchard would keep the scoring going, with Bouchard getting two tallies in the win.

"I went to Scarbro [on Saturday] to get the ship righted. He responded with fire in his belly as we stormed back to tie the

game at 4-4. I was waiting for Trent to show some fire and grit, and then to add the shutout against the Huskies," fifth-year head coach Dave Thibeault said, singing the praises of his senior netminder. "James Nemeth continues to be an unsung hero with his hard-hitting style of play. He's the type of player that shows up when things are tough," Thibeault added of his gritty winger.

The Admirals will next take to the road to play the Spaulding Red Raiders in a crucial matchup on Saturday at Rochester Ice Arena at 7:30 p.m.

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State Suggests Safe Snowmobiling This Winter Season

Snowmobiling is a popular winter pastime in NH. While it is a fun way to explore the state and shake the winter blues, there are a fair amount of regulations and guidelines to ensure safety for everyone involved and for the maintenance of snowmobiling trails.

In the state of NH, a snowmobile must be registered prior to being operated anywhere other than an owner's own property, according to the website for NH State Parks. Registration can be obtained in person at any authorized registration agents throughout the state, at the NH Fish and Game Headquarters, or by calling the NH Fish and

Game Department at (603) 271-4300.

Fees for registering a snowmobile vary based on how many are being registered, residency status, and whether or not a registrant is a member of a snowmobile club. A comprehensive list of snowmobile clubs is available on the NH State Parks website.

These registration fees are divided between the NH Fish and Game Department and the NH Department of Resources and Economic Development, Division of Parks and Recreation's Bureau of Trails, says NH State Parks. Additionally, one dollar from each registration goes into the Fish

and Game Search and Rescue Fund, three dollars goes to the registration agent, and two dollars goes to the vendor of the electronic registration system.

According to nhstateparks.org, about 70% of NH land is privately owned, ergo the majority of trails fall on private land. These private land trails are maintained by local snowmobile clubs, which are responsible for obtaining landowner permission to have them open to riders, as well as maintaining the trails based on the landowners' wishes.

Snowmobilers are advised to respect the wishes of any private trail landowners' wishes and their

land. "No Respect = No Trails," says NH State Parks.

In addition to registering a snowmobile and adhering to trail etiquette, it is strongly recommended that potential snowmobilers take a certified snowmobile safety course. This will help riders learn how to operate their snowmobile safely and what to do in the event of emergencies.

State law requires that all operators 12 years of age and over must possess either a valid driver's license or must have successfully completed an approved OHRV or Snowmobile Safety Education Class when operating off of their own property.

The official online NH OHRV/Snowmobile Rider education course is available on the NH Fish and Game website.

NH State Parks advises riders to familiarize themselves with snowmobile trail signage to keep from getting lost in the trails, avoid possible crash hazards such as gates and bridges, etc. A copy of snowmobile trail signs is available on the NH State Parks website.

The State of NH OHRV and Snowmobile Digest of Regulations advises riders to be cautious when riding across ice. Though all ice could potentially be dangerous, the Army Cold Regions

Research and Engineering Laboratory in Hanover, NH states that there should be a minimum of six inches of hard ice before foot travel, and eight to ten inches of hard ice for snowmobile or ATV travel.

It also states that riders should be aware that ice can be weakened by objects that have been frozen into it, such as docks, fallen trees, and large rocks, as they will retain heat from the sun. The digest also cautions riders to avoid areas with springs or moving water underneath the ice.

For more information on snowmobile safety and guidelines, visit nhstateparks.org, or wildlife.state.nh.us.

Free IRS-Certified Tax Preparation in Nashua & Hudson

Free tax preparation services will be available starting in early February for Greater Nashua residents through a partnership led by United Way of Greater Nashua, the IRS and other community partners and volunteers.

Tax preparation will be done by trained and IRS-certified volunteers at four sites in Nashua and Hudson: United Way of Greater Nashua, 20 Broad St., Nashua; Nashua Senior Activity Center, 70 Temple St., Nashua; Hudson Senior Center, 19 Kimball Hill Rd., Hudson; and Rodgers Memorial Library, 194 Derry Rd., Hudson.

The two sites in Nashua and Rodgers Memorial Library in Hudson will prepare taxes in person at the preparation site. The Hudson Senior Center site will allow taxpayers to drop off their tax forms to be processed, then return later to pick up their completed

return. Drop off services will also be available on specific dates at the Nashua United Way office.

The United Way tax prep site will be available for appointments on Tuesdays from 10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., and Thursdays from 9:45 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. Tuesday is for tax document drop off only. On Thursday, volunteers will be available for in-person tax preparation.

The Nashua Senior Center will be available from 9 a.m. to 12:45 p.m., on Wednesday. Rodgers Memorial Library will schedule appointments from 9:15 a.m. - 2 p.m., on Monday and 9:15 a.m. - noon on Saturday. The Hudson Senior Center will be open for drop-off on Friday between the hours of 9:30 a.m. - noon. Rodgers Memorial Library and the Hudson Senior Center will not accept any walk-in clients.

The tax filing deadline

is April 15. The United Way of Greater Nashua site opens on Feb. 1 and closes on April 11). The Nashua Senior Activity Center opens on Feb. 7 and closes on April 10.

The Hudson Senior Center opens on Friday, Feb. 2; Rodgers Memorial Library opens on Saturday, Feb. 3.

All sites will require that the taxpayer schedule an appointment in advance to have their return processed by the trained volunteers. Those wishing to make appointments at United Way or the Nashua Senior Activity Center should call 2-1-1. Contact Rodgers Memorial Library at (603) 886-6030 or the Hudson Senior Center at (603) 578-3929 to schedule an appointment at either of those locations.

Those wishing to have their taxes prepared by the volunteers are asked to have all their documents

available when making their appointment. Information on the documents that are needed can be found on IRS form 3676-B located at <https://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/p3676bsp.pdf>. The form also contains information on the types of tax returns the trained volunteers are able (or not able) to process in the VITA and TCE programs; please refer to the list to see if you qualify.

Volunteers have been trained to assist taxpayers for both the VITA (Volunteer Income Tax Assistance) and the TCE (Tax Counsel-

ing for the Elderly) Programs. They will assist taxpayers in identifying any credits (Earned Income Tax Credit, Child Tax Credit, etc.) they may be entitled to.

The VITA program offers free help to people who generally earn \$64,000 or less, people with disabilities and limited English-speaking taxpayers. The TCE program is generally for people aged 60 or older and focuses on tax issues unique to seniors. While there is no income limit on TCE prepared returns, priority is given to low-to-moderate income. The sites

in both Nashua and Hudson can prepare tax returns for both programs.

Additional information about the tax preparation services available in Greater Nashua will be provided as it becomes available and posted on the United Way website at www.unitedway-nashua.org. Anyone with questions can contact United Way at (603) 824-0205 or email vita.uwnashua@gmail.com.

For information on tax preparation services available in other NH communities, call 2-1-1 or go to <https://nhtaxhelp.org>.



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Jason Stecchi Jr. Requires Help After Lung Transplant

Hudson resident, Jason Stecchi Jr., is fighting for his life and his mother, Caroline Stecchi, is hoping to raise money to assist in expenses associated with his lung transplant.

Jason was born with a tumor in his throat that paralyzed his left lung and vocal cords.

Twenty-four hours after birth, the tumor was removed, and Jason stayed in the neonatal intensive care unit for quite some time.

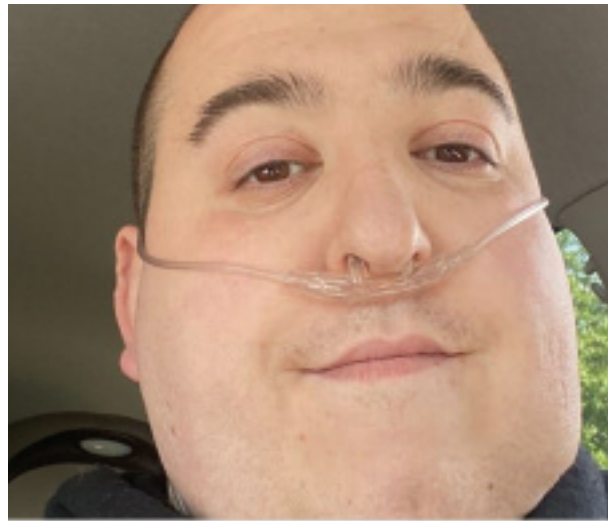
Soon after he was released from the hospital, Jason contracted RSV, a respiratory virus that can be extremely dangerous for infants. Jason was very sick and doctors did not think he would survive. Thankfully, he was a fighter. However, his childhood was difficult. He was unable to play sports and do all the things

most of his friends could due to his lung issues. Jason is now 25 and still struggles

with his lung function. He relies on supplemental oxygen to help him breathe. Doctors say a lung transplant is critical to his survival.

During such a challenging time, Jason is thankful for the love and support of his family and friends. Jason has a fiancée who has two children, ages two and seven, and his illness prevents him from being as active with them as he would like. He looks forward to receiving a transplant that will allow him to breathe freely and give him the chance at a normal life. Jason wants nothing more than to be healthy so he can live his life to the fullest, get married, and be an active husband and father. But right now, he needs your help.

The average lung transplant costs approximately \$861,000, and that's only the beginning. Even with



health insurance, which will cover the cost of the transplant, he faces significant expenses related to the

surgery. For the rest of his life, he will need follow-up care and daily anti-rejection medications.

Post-transplant medications are very expensive, and they're as critical to his survival as the transplant itself.

Jason lives 55-miles from his transplant center. When he receives his transplant, he will have to stay nearby while he recovers, incurring substantial expenses for travel, food, and lodging. His health issues prevent him from working, further adding to

his financial burdens.

You can help by making a tax-deductible donation to NFT in honor of Jason. If you'd prefer to send your gift by mail, please send it to National Foundation for Transplants, 3249 W. Sarazen's Circle, Suite 100, Memphis, TN 38125.

Please be sure to write "in honor of Jason Stecchi, Jr." on the memo line.

There has also been a GoFundMe page set up for raising funds, titled "Lung Transplant Fundraising - Jason Stecchi Jr."

Town Report Dedicated to Five Residents

ALEX MALM
HUDSON TIMES

During the Jan. 9 Hudson Board of Selectmen meeting, the board needed to decide to whom the Annual Town Report would be dedicated.

"I am recommending that this year's Annual Town Report be dedicated to Bob Clegg, who served many roles in the community, James Hetzer who served as

a Selectman, member of the Hudson Budget Committee and Assistant Moderator, George Fuller Jr., who was a Captain in the Hudson Fire Department, and Cherie Hebert, who was a Senior Accounting Clerk for the Town," Hudson Town Administrator, Steve Malizia, wrote in a memo to the Board of Selectmen.

Malizia said he was also asking that they consider

adding Bill Tate, who recently passed away after the memo was written.

"I think we should also honor him," Malizia said noting, that he made a number of contributions to the town during his life.

Chair, Marilyn McGrath, towards the end of the meeting, said she accidentally skipped over having a moment of silence for Tate during the beginning of the meeting.

"I need to apologize to the friends and family of Mr. Tate," she said.

A moment of silence was held for him towards the end of the meeting.

The Board of Selectmen unanimously approved the dedication of the five

individuals for the annual Town Report.

Selectmen also voted unanimously to write a letter in support of a bill in honor of Clegg,

"Chief Assessor, Jim Michaud, has brought Senate Bill 468 to our attention. Senate Bill 468 proposes to designate a portion of route 111 in Hudson as the Senator Robert E. Clegg Memorial Highway," Malizia wrote in a memo. "I am recommending that the Board of Selectmen vote to send a letter to the Chair of the Transportation Committee, with a copy to Senator Carson and Hudson's legislative delegation, in support of this bill."


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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.

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.

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@com-cast.net. Applications are due by April 12.

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/>.

Hudson Election Dates/Deadlines

Monday, Jan. 22, 2024 - The Town Clerk's Office shall be open to receive applications for absentee ballots, to provide voters the opportunity to complete absentee ballots, and to receive returned ballots until 5 p.m. [RSA 657:1, II (c)]

Monday, Jan. 22, 2024 - Last day for Town Clerk to accept completed absentee ballots; clerk or clerk's designee, must be available at least between 3 - 5 p.m. Absentee ballots must be received by the Town Clerks Office by 5 p.m. No absentee ballots may be accepted after 5 p.m. [RSA 669:29; 657:22; 652:20; 40:13, VII]

January 23, 2024 Presidential Primary - Important Dates/Deadlines

Polls open at 7 a.m. and close at 8 p.m.

- Ward One: Votes at the Hudson Community Center, 12 Lions Ave., Hudson
- Ward Two: Votes at Alvirne High School Cafeteria, 200 Derry Rd., Hudson

Wednesday, Jan. 24, 2024 - First day to file declaration of candidacy with Town Clerk. [RSA 669:19; 652:20; 40:13, VII]

Local Election Dates

Wednesday, Jan. 24, 2024 - First day to file declaration of candidacy with Town Clerk. [RSA 669:19; 652:20; 40:13, VII]

Friday, Feb. 2, 2024 - Last day to file declaration of candidacy with Town Clerk. Town Clerk's Office will be open until 5 p.m. [RSA 669:19; 652:20; 40:13, VII]

Saturday, Feb. 3, 2024 - Town Deliberative Session (First Session of Town Meeting) [RSA 40:13, III] 9 a.m. Hudson Community Center, 12 Lions Ave, Hudson
Saturday, Feb. 10, 2024 - School Deliberative Session (First Session of Town Meeting) [RSA 40:13, III] 9 a.m. Hudson Community Center, 12 Lions Ave, Hudson

/Alvirne...hs-penguin-plunge. Donations to the team or an individual plunger can also be made on the page.

Dino the Therapy Dog

Come meet Dino, the therapy dog at the Rodgers Memorial Library on Tuesdays, Jan. 23, and 30, at 2:30

p.m. Dino is a St. Bernard who loves making new friends.

Movers & Shakers

Come to the Rodgers Memorial Library for this Toddler Storytime for kids that don't sit still for long on Wednesdays, Jan. 24 and 31,

at 10 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. Songs, stories, games, and activities for ages 1-3.

Mystery Lover's Book Club

On Monday, Jan. 22, from 1 - 2:30 p.m. in the Children's Programming Room of Rodgers Memorial Library. If

continued on page 15

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Nashua Road Crash Results in Death of Recent Graduate

CHRIS PAUL
HUDSON TIMES

On Tuesday evening, Jan. 9, during hazardous weather conditions, a accident involving two motor vehicles on Route 102 resulted in the death of a recent Londonderry High School graduate, of the Adult Education program, and serious injuries to two others.

According to the press release by Londonderry Fire

Department Battalion Chief, Jonathan Camire, the incident occurred at approximately 6:09 p.m. on Tuesday evening when the Londonderry Fire Telecommunications Office received a call and dispatched Engine II and Medic III for a motor vehicle accident with unknown injuries.

It was reported that information was received from multiple people calling 911 reporting a two-

vehicle accident with entrapment. This information prompted the additional response from Rescue I and Battalion III. At which time, a Derry engine and a Derry medic were also requested to respond to the call.

Engine II was first to arrive on scene and confirmed the accident had happened and Nashua Road and Parmenter Road were immediately closed to all

traffic to allow for emergency operations to proceed.

According to the report, two people were extricated from one of the vehicles, the first was extricated in 14 minutes, the second, five minutes later. Both were transported by ambulance to a local hospital.

The Derry Engine's response was canceled prior to arriving on scene.

A third individual, from

the second vehicle, was pronounced dead at the scene.

The Londonderry Police Department is currently investigating the accident. Crews remained on scene for approximately 3.5 hours assisting with the investigation.

The following day it was revealed, through social media, that the person who lost his life in the accident had graduated just one-day earlier, through the London-

derry Adult Ed Program.

Chase Arnold-Picard, 17, of Hooksett, lost his life in the tragic incident.

A GoFundMe account was set up last week that had reached over \$75,000 of its \$80,000 goal as of Monday, Jan. 15.

The identity and condition of the two other people involved in the accident had not been released as of Tuesday.

Around Town

Continued from page 13

you are looking for a book group where everyone joins in with the conversation and opinions are welcome, this is the place for you. Come and give it a try. This month's book pick is *The Maid* by Nita Prose.

Teen Hangout

It's teens only time at Rodgers Memorial Library! Ages 13+ are welcome to play Mario Kart and eat snacks on Thursday, Jan. 18 at 2:30 p.m.

Songs & Snuggles

Enjoy time together with other caregivers and their babies as you learn, play, and develop language and motor skills At the Rodgers Memorial Library on Thursday, Jan. 18 at 10 a.m. For pre-walkers and babies not yet steady on their feet.

Elementary Craft

Grades 1-5 are invited to join Miss Marissa once a

month to do a craft/art project at the Rodgers Memorial Library on Thursday, Jan. 18 at 6 p.m. This month's craft is Calm Down Jar.

Characters & Cocoa

Characters & Cocoa is a new monthly group for writers to socialize and talk about the craft at the Rodgers Memorial Library on Thursday, Jan. 18 at 5:30 p.m. The emphasis will be more on discussion than workshopping. Hot chocolate will be served.

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? Come to the Rodgers Memorial Library on Saturday, Jan. 20 at 9:30 a.m., to play and grab a donut!

Drop In Stitchers

If you love to craft, whether it be quilting, knitting, crocheting, rug making or plastic canvas, you will LOVE this group! Meeting at

the Rodgers Library on Fridays, January, 19 and 26 at 9:15 a.m. Welcome to old friends and new. 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.

Mystery Lovers Book Club

You know you love it - murder, mystery and mayhem all in one place. Come join this club at the Rodgers Memorial Library on Monday, Jan. 22 at 1 p.m. This month's book pick is *The Violin Conspiracy* by Brendan Slocumb.

Adventurers Storytime

Join Ms. Tanya for stories, songs, games, and activities at the Rodgers Memorial Library on Tuesday, Jan. 23 at 10 a.m. For ages 3-5. Come engage in a Train Track Skee Ball Activity. Caretaker participates with their child or children. Children should be able to sit through a story. Siblings welcome. Registration required. Please indicate

the number in your party when you register including adults and infants.

Afternoon Book Group

Join on the third Tuesday of every month, Tuesday, Jan. 23 at 1:30 p.m., for an in-depth discussion of quality best-selling fiction and non-fiction books including biographies at the Rodgers Memorial Library. Registration requested. This month's book: *The Librarian of Auschwitz* by Antonio Iturbe

19th Century European Painting

Art movements and styles were born. Some were short lived and only flourished in small districts. Others were widespread and had a profound effect on the evolution of art. This event showcases how artistic freedoms translated from 1800 - 1900. Held online on Wednesday, Jan. 24 at 10 a.m. The Zoom link for all programs will be: <https://rivier.zoom.us/j/91015599005>

Chalk Pastel

Children in grades K-5 are invited to create this messy art project at the Rodgers Memorial Library on Wednesday, Jan. 24 at 6 p.m.. Use chalk pastels to draw a mug of hot cocoa. Ms. Tanya will lead everyone through this project step by step.

Candy Poker

Come to the Rodgers Memorial Library for a monthly game of Texas Hold' Em poker on Thursday, Jan. 25 at 6:30 p.m. 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 we will certainly help you.

Read 'Em & Eat

Books & Booze @ Luk's is now Read 'Em & Eat @ T-Bones Great American Eatery! New name, same fun book group. Come on On

Monday, Jan. 29 at 7 p.m., to discuss books over good food and drinks! You can pick up a copy of the book from the library. T-Bones is located at 77 Lowell Rd., Hudson, NH. January's book is *The Paris Library* by Janet Skeslien Charles.

Tween Anime Club

Come watch anime and eat ramen at the Rodgers Memorial Library on Friday, Jan. 26 at 3 p.m. Drawing and coloring materials also available.

Free PFOA Water Test

You can request a water sampling here: Southern NH PFOA Investigation Private Well-Testing Request Form Survey (survey.monkey.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

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SALES HOURS

Monday	9:00AM - 8:00PM
Tuesday	9:00AM - 8:00PM
Wednesday	9:00AM - 8:00PM
Thursday	9:00AM - 8:00PM
Friday	9:00AM - 6:00PM
Saturday	9:00AM - 5:00PM
Sunday	10:00AM - 3:00PM

SERVICE HOURS

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