

THE Hudson Times

June 6, 2024 ♦ Volume 2 – Issue 22

A FREE Weekly Publication



WARNING ISSUED

A Cyanobacteria warning was issued last week for Robinson Pond. The New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services has advised those using the pond not to wade or swim in the water during the warning. They are also warning residents to keep pets out of the water.

Selectmen Approve Search For Town Clerk, Hire Tax Collector

ALEX MALM
HUDSON TIMES

The Hudson Board of Selectmen had a number of different personnel items on its agenda during its May 28, non-public session, according to the draft minutes from the meeting, posted online following the meeting.

One of those items was to approve moving forward with posting and advertising for the Town Clerk position,

which the Board of Selectmen unanimously approved.

Also during the non-public session, the Board of Selectmen approved the hiring of Christine Strout-Lizotte for the Tax Collector position, with a starting salary of \$63,023, according to the minutes.

Another item was approving the hiring of Nancy Lanzillo for the position of Telecommunication

Technician for the Hudson Police Department with a starting salary of \$22.42.

The Selectmen also approved the hiring of Daniel Tanner for the position of Firefighter/EMT with a starting salary of \$18.14 per hour, with the pay going up to \$22 an hour after July 1, as part of the union contract.

For the Fire Department, the Board of Selectmen

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Hudson Town Administrator Set To Retire on August 30

ALEX MALM
HUDSON TIMES

During the May 28 Hudson Board of Selectmen meeting, it was announced that longtime Town Administrator, Steve Malizia, would be retiring at the end of the summer.

During the old business portion of the meeting, it was announced during the most recent non-public session, that the Board of Selectmen unanimously approved accepting his retirement notice effective Aug. 30.

Also during the May 14 nonpublic session, the Board of Selectmen unanimously approved hiring

Municipal Resources, Inc. to conduct a recruitment search for Malizia's replacement, with a budget of \$7,000 or less.

It was also noted that since they will be looking for a Town Administrator, it was agreed on by the Board of Selectmen to suspend the hiring process for the Assistant Town Administrator until they pick Malizia's successor, and that individual is appointed.

The Board of Selectmen also approved a number of appointments for various boards and committees in town.

One of the appointments was for the reappointment

of Craig Putnam to continue as an alternate member on the Sustainability Committee.

Another appointment was for - Alyssa Hanley, to join the Sustainability Committee as a new alternate member.

Planning Board member, Ed Van der Veen, along with Planning Board member, Timothy Lyko, were also appointed as members of the Nashua Regional Planning Commission during the meeting.

Board of Selectmen Chair, Bob Guessferd, who is the liaison for the Board of Selectmen on the Plan-

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Bush Hill Subdivision Meets Opposition from Neighbors

PAUL CONYERS
HUDSON TIMES

The May meeting of the Hudson Zoning Board of Adjustment involved a pair of variance requests from Project Surveyor, Dan Barowski, from Fieldstone Land Consultants regarding a proposed subdivision at 173 Bush Hill Road.

"My ultimate goal with these variances is to subdivide the existing parcel into two residential lots," Barowski explained. "We feel a variance for the minimum, non-contiguous, dry, non-steep lot area not negatively impact the town, and would allow for more housing, which is much needed in the state."

He described the existing parcel as "large," with 7.37 acres of land with just one, single-family house

for the entire lot. Over half the lot was too steep to build on or covered in wetlands, the idea being to construct a new dwelling on the proposed subdivision in one of the dry areas. Waivers were needed because the unusual, long shape of the lots did not have 200 feet of required frontage meant to act as a buffer between lots.

"We believe Musquash Brook also provides adequate buffering between the existing house and the proposed new lot," said Barowski.

He asked the ZBA to consider the geography of the lot. The second variance request dealt with having too little contiguous, dry land for a home on a subdivision. The house already on the property was on less than one acre of connected

land where two acres would normally be required.

"There's almost 15,000 square feet of wetlands," said Barowski. "They're configured in such a way that would prevent a large, contiguous area."

The existing home has been on the lot for decades.

The public hearing session saw opposition from neighbors.

"The land's been sold to a developer who now wants to put anything wherever they can get it. I think it has a lot of impact in many ways and that's my problem." Robert Boutin of 167 Bush Hill Road, who was worried a developer being unable to build a second house did not fall under the definition of "hardship," a factor the Zoning Board

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School Board Get Briefed On FAFSA Requirement

ALEX MALM
HUDSON TIMES

The Hudson School Board was briefed on new graduation requirements, during its May 20 meeting, including about the Free Application for Federal Student Aid forms.

It was explained by Director of School Counseling, Bill Huguen, that a new law in the state made it so students would need to fill out the FAFSA form in order to graduate high

school or complete a waiver.

“Pursuant to RSA 193-26-a, each student who is at least 18 years of age or legally emancipated, who is otherwise eligible to graduate from high school, or the parent of such a student who is under the age of 18 years, as a prerequisite to receiving a high school diploma from a public high school, shall either file a Free Application for Federal Student

Aid with the United States Department of Education, or file a waiver,” the State waiver form template reads.

He said after discussing it with colleagues across the state, and their IT team, it was decided to have the requirement taken care of during the student verification process, which asked seniors if they were planning on applying for FAFSA or if they were aware of it.

and received information about it from the school.

Essentially, the idea was that in order for students to get their schedules either themselves or their parents had to check the boxes, which helped them be in compliance with the graduation requirement.

“That’s the process we implemented in the fall,” Huguen said.

Hughen said the FAFSA process is something they talk about to juniors so “it wasn’t something that was new.”

By the beginning of the school year, Hughen said they had over 90% of their seniors who either completed the electronic form or the paper form.

As of the meeting, Huguen said, "We have 32 students out of approximately 260 that have not done them yet."

He stated that the law allows a student to get their diploma if they meet

all the other requirements and the principal attests that they have done a good job of giving the students the information they need.

It was explained during the meeting, however, by Hughen that there was legislation passed this year, which would repeal the rules, and is waiting to be signed into law by the Governor.

Hughen said the legislation basically would repeal “the requirement for school districts to keep track of whether they did or didn’t [provide information to students].”

Even if the legislation is signed into law, Huguen said there would still be requirements for districts to provide that information to students about the FAFSA, and the process, but it is something they have already been doing for decades, even without being required.

"I think we are in good shape in regards to the new

requirements because we have been doing this...for 25 plus years at Alvirne," HUGHEN said.

Hughen added that they have a number of different ways that they provide information to students beginning junior year particularly. In addition, they also have over 100 colleges visit the high school each fall, to discuss what they offer, and during those visits FAFSA is often discussed as well.

School Board member, Gary Gasdia, explained that he doesn't think many people know that even if they want to get a merit scholarship, and don't think they will qualify for financial aid, they still need to fill out the FAFSA in order to qualify.

He also stated that he is thankful for the many events and programs they put on about the topic.

"Just thank you for doing them," Gasdia said.

Town Administrator

Continued from page 1

ning Board, said they have both been doing a good job on the Planning Board in town.

"I think having that representation on the NRPC is important for us," he said.

In other news, the Board of Selectmen approved accepting a donation from Walmart for the Fire Department, during the

consent agenda portion of the meeting.

“We received an unexpected visit from a representative from Walmart on May 16, 2024, and they dropped off a variety of items,” Hudson Fire Chief, Scott Tice, wrote in a memo to the Board of Selectmen.

Those items included cases of water, Gatorade, K-cups, ground coffee, a

Keurig, and a sleeping bag.

“The value of this donation is approximately \$300.00 based on the price tags adhered to some of the merchandise and values listed on their website,” Tice wrote in the memo. “We ask the Board to accept this donation with thanks. We intend to utilize the majority of these items during our upcoming recruit school.”

The Board of Selectmen are set to meet again on June 11 at 7 p.m.

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Rodgers Memorial Install New AC Unit for Summer Months

PAUL CONYERS
HUDSON TIMES

The Rodgers Memorial Library Board of Trustees met on May 22 to discuss technical upgrades to the building, starting with their new air conditioning unit, just in time for warmer weather.

"As of today, we have a new air conditioning unit on the roof of the library, this is one of the largest units we have," said Library Director, Linda Pilla. "The old one was the size of a VW beetle; the thing was huge. The new one is smaller,

more efficient, quieter, better, all kinds of stuff."

Installation of the new unit is expected to help Rodgers Memorial Library operate more efficiently throughout the summer months.

The library also installed a new projector last week, after ongoing problems with the old unit made it increasingly difficult to use reliably.

"It was everything we were hoping for. I used it with a group last night and you turn it on, and the screen comes up within 10

seconds!" said Pilla.

Other users reported similar, fast response times from the new projector in stark contrast to the old system.

As the Rodgers Memorial Library modernized, members continued to look for an acceptable use policy for the old Hill Memorial Library building, which has seen maintenance issues and inconsistent use in recent years.

"We're not quite at the draft stage review for the Board of Trustees," said member, Karen May Boh-

rer, who requested a delay of an official policy for the Hills building until June.

While there is a desire to rent the Hills building out for events, determining an effective process for doing that has been an issue since its closure in 2009.

The library got three quotes from Library Furniture International on options for mobile shelving units.

"The option that I'm looking at for the best fit for what we have is five, 36-inch-wide units on wheels, with an 11-inch-deep shelf, which is a typical, regular

shelf with an integral rack," the Director explained. What this does for us is it puts five display units in the main reading room that can be easily moved if we need to use the space for something else."

Currently, the shelving set up in the reading room has been difficult to move for library programs and events. Another quote from Tucker Library Interiors sent a quote for \$13,923.59 for similar equipment that would match the interior of the reading room. Pilla pushed the Trustees to

accept the Tucker quote, as that company has worked with the library before.

"Tucker does a really good job," agreed Chair, Mimi Guessferd.

After confirming they had money available, the Trustees voted to approve the Tucker bid for mobile shelving.

A push to replace worn carpeting at Rodgers Memorial was not ready for approval. Staff members were still waiting for samples to see what patterns might fit with the building.

School Officials See Success With Credit Recovery Program

ALEX MALM
HUDSON TIMES

During the May 20 Hudson School Board meeting, High School Principal, Steve Beals, gave the School Board an update regarding the success of its Credit Recovery program.

"We are very appreciative of the School Board and SAU for supporting our request at the beginning of

the school year to support student learning with a credit recovery program," Alvirne High School Principal Steve Beals wrote in a memo to the School Board. "The Edgenuity Imagine Learning Program supports individual student's pathways to completion by allowing them to make up failed course credit through an online learning plat-

form."

One highlight Beals pointed to is the fact that many of their students, who weren't able to finish school during the Class of 2023, were able to finish without going back to Alvirne.

Students are able to finish the courses they failed throughout the year, Beals said. For example, he said they have had some students who were able to finish in November, December, and throughout the year.

He also noted that the tutors, part of the school, have been very helpful.

"The Humanities and Math tutors have been very helpful in supporting students through the Academic Support Center," Beals wrote. "Students can work

on credit recovery during school and at home in the evening, weekends, and vacations. The Technology staff have also supported the program by including it in the student backpack, or Clever."

At the time of the meeting, a total of 81 credits were awarded so far, as part of the Credit Recovery program.

"I'm pleased with the 81 credits awarded," Beals said.

As the school year finishes up, Beals said they have some students who can't finish school until their done with making up credits as part of Credit Recovery, saying they are able to track their progress on a daily basis to see what percentage of the work they have finished.

"We've had some incredible success stories in the last two weeks," Beals said, noting that they had some students who weren't going to graduate to now being on pace to do so.

Long-term, Beals said the plan is to turn their summer school into a Credit Recovery type program saying "things have evolved." He explained that by doing so it would make it more flexible for both students and staff, compared to a traditional summer school model.

One question raised by School Board member, Gary Gasdia, was what do they need to do in order to

get more students interested in taking advantage of the program.

"What's going to get every kid who needs it to opt in," he asked.

Beals said the vast majority of the interest are from juniors and seniors, who are getting close to graduation, and may not be able to do so unless they get the credits.

Overall, Beals said he is happy with the success they have had so far with the program.

"The big picture is I couldn't be happier at the school district's ability to support a concept," he said.

OBITUARY

Connie (Marino) Fazio



Connie (Marino) Fazio, 81 of Hudson, NH and formerly of Burlington, MA and Somerville, MA passed peacefully at home surrounded by loved ones on May 21, 2024. Connie was born on Aug. 14, 1942, in Boston, MA to Alfonso Marino and Concetta (Tringale) Marino.

Connie's greatest joy in life was being a mother and grandmother. Her dedication to her family was unmatched. She was always there to lend a helping hand to anyone who needed it. Often times without ever being asked. She had the most kind heart, and a way of making everyone feel welcome. She loved having gatherings at her home in Burlington with family and friends. She would do all the cooking and always made sure there was enough for everyone to take home. She will be terribly missed by all who knew her and those that were privileged to be a part of her life.

She is survived by her husband of 61 years, Joseph Fazio and loving mother to Joseph Fazio and his wife Kim, Stephen Fazio and his wife Sandy, and predeceased by her youngest son Paul Fazio. She is also survived by her grandchildren Christopher Fazio, Desiree Holt and her husband Brandon, and Nicholas Fazio. Connie is also survived by her sister Joanne Alfieri and her brother Dennis Marino and his wife Donna, as well as many loving nieces and nephews and countless friends.

Following cremation, a time of visitation was held on Thursday, May 30 in the Dumont-Sullivan Funeral Home. A Mass of Christian Burial was held on Friday, May 31 in St. Kathryn Church, 4 Dracut Rd., Hudson. All may please meet at church. Burial will be private. 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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Editorial

Ethics in Government: Charting the Right Course

Before beginning a discussion of ethics in municipal government, we must understand what ethics entails. The definition of ethics according to Merriam Webster is: "The discipline dealing with what is good and bad; a set of moral principles or values, the principles of conduct governing an individual or a group, a guiding philosophy based simply upon right and wrong."

The public rightfully expects its public and elected officials to conduct themselves with honesty, respect, and integrity. Citizens should demand these standards to function effectively.

Trust is the key to an appropriate relationship between elected & appointed officials and their constituents. An elected official gains the privilege to serve only by earning the trust of a majority of the electorate. Each official must not to compromise that trust in any way once inducted to office.

The topic of open meetings and open records is of central importance to public perception of how government operates. A government functioning in secrecy behind closed doors restricts public access to full information about its operations.

Such actions discourage those citizens who wish to participate in the process. It is the duty of the people to openly communicate between citizens and with their government; equally, provisions must be allowed for reasonable constraints where necessary for the efficient operation of government.

A fair balance of communication must be struck between protecting the integrity of government while maintaining transparency with the public. The people have responsibilities as well. They must stay informed and be vigilant. After all we "the people" are the overseers of our local government.

A proper ethical standard can allow for the optimal conflict-free action in the town while protecting the people from potential misuse of government.

Voters should be able to raise concerns and participate in town process at every level, where the voice and influence of the individual citizen is strongest.

Encouraging local self-governance and accountability is critical to securing public participation in government and safeguarding our democratic institutions.

Letters

Thank You To the Police Department

To the editor,

This letter is to thank the Hudson Police Department for hosting our visit today and a tour of the newly renovated Hudson Police Department facility.

Members of the Hudson Senior Center were welcomed by Captain David Cayot and Detective Tyler Merrill members of the Hudson Police.

The "Coffee with a Cop" group meets monthly at the Senior Center with officers from our Police team to discuss current local happenings and important safety issues that affect Seniors and all citizens of Hudson and the surrounding areas.

With the help of Captain Cayot and his staff, this is the group that is responsible for creating and launching the Lock Box Program in the Town of Hudson for its citizens.

We got to meet many of the administrative staff and Police officers during this

wonderful tour. It was very impressive to see what the Police Department has now created for our Town of Hudson and its citizens. We were very glad to be a part of the viewing of this facility and enjoyed meeting the team that keeps our Town and its citizens safe. Many questions were answered and several interesting topics were presented as we walked thru the facility. We all left feeling very proud to have such an impressive group of professional men and women working for us.

The Hudson Senior Center welcomes new members to join this very productive "Coffee with a Cop" Group on the last Tuesday of every month for lively and interesting discussions.

Kathleen Martinek
Hudson

Looking for Veterans' Stories

To the editor,
National Wreath Day is Dec. 14 this year. Soon,

we'll be six months from Wreath Day. This year, we'd like to highlight the stories of veterans buried in Hudson Cemeteries in the days leading up to Wreath Day. If you have a story you'd like to tell about a veteran buried in one of Hudson's Cemeteries, please share it along with a photo if you have one at jvmadden-23w@comcast.net. Please include what cemetery your veteran is buried in so I can find him/her on my list and include a photo of their headstone on our Facebook page. In addition, we plan to share one or two stories during the Wreath Day Ceremony at the Hills House, and there will be an exhibit of all the stories and photos on display inside after the ceremony. You can include stories for veterans buried in St. Patrick's and Holy Cross Cemeteries even though we can't place wreaths there.

Best Regards,
Christina Madden
Location Coordinator,
Hudson, NH Cemeteries

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.

Selectmen

continued from page 1
men approved the hiring of Ryan Richard for the position of Firefighter/EMT. He will also be starting out with a salary of \$18.14 until after July 1.

It was also unanimously approved by the Board of Selectmen to allow Fire Chief, Scott Tice, to extend the probation period for Firefighters, James Sheldon and Gavyn Torres, for an additional three months or "the completion of their probationary requirements with a completion date of no later than Sept. 11, 2024," according to the minutes.

In other news, during the regular portion of the

Board of Selectmen meeting, the Board of Selectmen was asked to approve funding from a grant.

"The Police Department would like to meet at the next scheduled Board of Selectmen meeting on Tuesday, May 28, 2024 to request approval to accept the NRA Law Enforcement Range Fund grant in the amount of \$15,750," Police Chief, Tad Dionne, wrote in a memo to the Board of Selectmen. "The focus of this grant is to moderate cost associated with lead mitigation efforts at the HPD Firing Range. This grant is awarded on a 50/50 matching basis with 50% of the project cost being provided by the HPD and 50% awarded through the NRA Law

Enforcement Range Fund."

Dionne explained that they needed to have a public hearing in order to accept the grant funds. No one from the public spoke on the topic during the public hearing.

Selectman, Dillon Dumont, said it is good to be able to get grant funds for different things, especially from the private sector.

"It's not going to cost the taxpayers anything," Board of Selectmen Chair, Bob Guessferd, said.

It was unanimously approved by the Board of Selectmen to accept the grant funds.

The Board of Selectmen are set to meet again on June 11 at 7 p.m.

THE Hudson Times

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CTE Program Success

On Thursday, May 23, Deputy Commissioner of Education, Christine Brennan, spoke with the CTE Ambassadors at the Wilbur H. Palmer CTE Center. She joined in celebrating the students' successful year and inspired them to continue developing their leadership skills with a personal story about her career path.

Courtesy photo

Zoning Address Belknap Hardship Question at May Meeting

PAUL CONYERS
HUDSON TIMES

The Hudson Zoning Board of Adjustment met on May 23 to hear a requested variance for an above-ground pool in the side yard of 152 Belknap Road against setback rules. The Engineering Department wanted to know where the applicant would discharge and deal with water when draining the pool. Applicant, Ryan Burke, was at the meeting to give his presentation.

"I am seeking a variance due to the makeup of my property and the hardship it creates. Each of us on the hill of Belknap Road are dealing with a yard that kind of slopes with the decline of the street towards Central," said Burke. "Unique to my lot is my

driveway and garage is lower than street level, directing rainwater from the street directly to my building's drainage system that pumps out to the backyard."

He explained that due to the layout of the neighborhood, many homes in the area were technically non-conforming, some with similar pools already in place.

"The pool location is optimal for the following reasons: minimal leveling and earth retention will be required, it's a short distance for electrical work, it doesn't interfere with the existing water drainage that I have going on with the property, it's not in danger of falling trees from the woods or limbs from my maple, and it's semi-private," he added. "

Burke argued that even if the pool location technically violated setback requirements, there was no other practical spot on his land where he could put it without causing more trouble. He expressed flexibility in any requests the ZBA might have regarding pool drainage.

"The September timeframe is when I would be draining, and I think that's comparable to full-blown summer, when we're all running our sprinklers and trying to keep our backyards lush," Burke added, referring to highlighted photos of his property, indicating that the chosen spot is "the flattest" part of his yard. It also highlighted a large maple tree, further limiting available land.

Denise Beausoleil of 150 Belknap Road spoke in favor of the application.

"They've been our neighbor for six years now, and I have no problem whatsoever as an abutter to have their pool set should you grant the variance," said Beausoleil.

Members of the Zoning Board were generally supportive, although Alternate, Tristan Dion, wondered if

others living in the area would need to go through the same process or whether the situation fell under the legal definition of "hardship."

"Based on the testimony, every single house on that street or within the neighborhood has the exact same slope and is dealing with the exact same thing," said Dion. "Is having a tree in your backyard considered a hardship?"

Vice Chair, Normand Martin, responded by saying the hardship "was not the tree, but the slope."

After some debate, the Zoning Board agreed the slope counted as a hardship and unanimously voted to grant the waiver.

The Zoning Board of Adjustment is scheduled to meet again at 7 p.m. on Thursday, June 27, in the Buxton Room of Town Hall.

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Selectmen Approve Contract For Town Hall Feasibility Study

ALEX MALM
HUDSON TIMES

During the May 27 Hudson Board of Selectmen meeting, one of the agenda items was in regards to the Town Hall Feasibility study. "In 2023, the Board of Selectmen held a public meeting regarding the need for a new Town Hall, and the feedback from the public was that the existing building needs to first be further evaluated before a new Town Hall is justified," Town Engineer, Elvis Dhima, wrote in a memo to the Board of Selectmen. "Based on that feedback, a Request for Proposal was

advertised with the purpose of analyzing the existing building, potential for an addition, better flow and functionality, and better handicap access throughout the first floor of building." He said the budget originally for the project was \$40,000, which he explained is the estimate of what they wanted to spend when they put it out to bid. They ultimately received two bids, one from Dennis Mires, The Architects, in Manchester for a price tag of \$38,500, and NorthPoint Construction, Hudson, for a total of: \$42,000. "Both companies are

qualified to do the work and they provide a different level of scope of work for the proposed fee," he wrote. "The lowest bid, from Dennis Mires, provides a basic look at what we need, however, NorthPoint provides a more in-depth evaluation and approach, based on the scope of work provided by both firms." He said when taking into consideration that "this is the first assessment ever done and it will be considered the baseline moving forward," it was recommended to go with NorthPoint. It was explained by

Dhima that the idea is to be able to get a cost estimate of what different things would cost, which would give them time to examine things during the budget season. Selectman, David Morin, agreed with spending a little more money, to get more information. "We might as well do it right," he said. Selectman, Heidi Jakoby, said she was opposed to the assessment based on the March election results, saying that based on the results, voters said, "that they preferred having an infrastructure study and that's where I stood when

this came forward." The Selectmen voted 3-1 in favor of giving the contract to NorthPoint Construction, with Jakoby voting against it. Also during the meeting, the Board of Selectmen was asked to approve the allocation of the funds for the assessment. "During the Fiscal Year 2025 budget deliberations, the Board of Selectmen discussed funding a Town Hall feasibility study to determine if it would be more economical to renovate the current Town Hall before considering building a new Town Hall," Town Adminis-

trator, Steve Malizia, wrote in a memo. "The Board decided to not include the funding in the FY 2025 budget but voted to use any remaining funds in the current (FY24) budget to conduct the study." He said he was recommending to transfer "funds from the Selectmen's Contingency account in the amount of \$37,600 and \$4,400 from the Accrued Payout Contingency account to cover this over expenditure." On a 3-1 vote the Board of Selectmen approved allocating the funds, with Jakoby voting against it.

Library Trustees Look at Ways to Grow Building Fund

PAUL CONYERS
HUDSON TIMES

The Rodgers Memorial Library Board of Trustees had their new Selectmen liaison at a meeting for the first time during the May 22 meeting. "It's been a little slow for us, but as I get used to things over here, I'll certainly have more information for the library," said Selectman, Dillon Dumont. Trustee, Erin Henderson, thanked him for coming

as the discussion shifted towards a report from the Friends of the Library, who have a winner for this year's scholarship essay, although the winner's name was not revealed. The Friends are also supporting the NH Base Museum program, sponsoring prizes for the summer reading program, and the story walk. "We absolutely appreciate everything that the Friends do for us," said Henderson. "They are a

lovely group of people." With extra money in the library's payroll fund, there was debate over what to do with the extra money. "Can we use it to reward the staff with something like a bonus at the end of the fiscal year?" asked Treasurer, Karen May Bohrer. "It's been a particularly difficult year for the staff, a lot of illness, a lot of turnovers, it might not be a very large amount for any one member of the staff, but

it would show we appreciate them and the job they do." Director, Linda Pilla, promised to look into options, although a decision is required before June 30, before the end of the current fiscal cycle. A CD fund with TD Bank comprising unused money from an early building fund matured in April, according to Bohrer. As the Library Trustees still had no use for the money, Bohrer wanted to invest it in another account. "I'm inclined to invest in another CD with TD Bank maybe for just a few months so we would maybe

have the time to look around and do some research of other vehicles that are appropriate for us to invest in," said Bohrer. Trustee, Margaret St. Onge, opted for a slightly more complicated strategy to take advantage of higher interest rates, although it was unclear how their CD account aligned with Hudson rules for how to invest public money. "Let's just inch our way forward," Henderson said. Dumont suggested shopping around to see if other banks had higher rates. The Trustees voted to commit to a four-month CD while look-

ing into longer-term plans. St. Onge highlighted the importance of library programs, including their free notary services. "I hope people understand that's a free service, and it's so convenient to get to and get that done," said St. Onge. Other programs include an upcoming library subscription to Kanopy, starting June 1. Kanopy is a free streaming service for those with library cards for those who sign up. The next meeting of the Trustees is scheduled for June 12, at 6 p.m. at the Hills Memorial Library.



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School Board Get Update On New Civics Requirements

ALEX MALM
HUDSON TIMES

The Hudson School Board was given an update in regards to the new State requirement which requires every student to pass the citizenship test, in order to graduate from high school, during its May 20 meeting.

Alvirne Social Studies Department Head, Jeff Peterson, explained during the meeting that this is the first year they have to report the results to the state.

He said, "July 1 we have to report out to the state the students who have passed the US citizenship test."

Usually when people

take the test, it's done orally and usually consists of 10 random questions out of the 128 questions, Peterson explained.

For the high school requirement in NH, students are required to take the 128-question test, in written form, and must get 70% of those questions right or more "to get a high school diploma."

Peterson said they piloted the test a year ago. In the fall of 2022, seniors in U.S. Government classes had about a 50% success rate, on their first attempt. The test was not required for last year's class.

The Class of 2024 how-

ever, are required to pass it. In the fall, 80 out of 89 seniors in the U.S. Government classes first semester passed the test on the first try, which was an approximately 90% success rate.

"Pass rate went up substantially this year because it's required by the state," Peterson said.

For those who don't pass on their first try, Peterson said there are a number of ways that they do remediation.

Peterson said they have seen more success since then, with every senior who took the U.S. Government class first semester successfully passing the

test at this point.

For the second semester students in U.S. Government classes, Peterson said they had 76 out of 90 students pass on their first attempt, and they are working on making sure any student that hasn't passed yet does before graduation.

In addition to the citizenship test requirement, the state also passed requirements for expanded content being taught in younger grades about civics, government, and US history.

Hudson Memorial Social Studies Department Chair, Rachel Scanzani, said at the Middle School

level, the goal long term is to help prepare students for when they get to the high school level, to be able to pass the citizenship test, by changing when courses are taught.

For example, she said they are going to be teaching more about government and civics in the eighth grade.

This year they did a pilot test for eighth grade. It's not a requirement they pass at that level, but Scanzani said there was a lot of enthusiasm for it from the students.

"Their scores are looking promising," Scanzani said, noting some students

who have taken it so far have even received perfect scores.

She said that if students pass the test at the middle school level, then they aren't required to do so when they get to high school, which was motivating for many students.

"It made high school real for them," Scanzani said.

Peterson said based on conversations he has had, they don't expect that there would be any changes to the requirement since it has bipartisan support, and many people see the value in it.

School Board Approve End of the Year Funding Requests

ALEX MALM
HUDSON TIMES

During the May 20 Hudson School Board meeting, the Board once again reviewed end of the year purchase requests.

It was explained by District Business Administrator, Jen Burk, during a previous meeting, they had reached out to the different administrators about any items related to safety and security that they didn't get in time for budget season and see if they could pay for it as part of the end of the year spending.

She said one of the items being requested was to add mobile generator

transfer switches for Library Street School, HO Smith, Nottingham West Elementary School, and for the District.

In total, the quote for the different generator switches came to \$140,800.

Facilities Director, John Pratte, explained previously that they meet monthly with the town for their emergency management committee and it was explained that the town was able to bring in a portable generator.

"It was offered to us as part of the emergency management program," Pratte said.

He explained that the

only issue is that they would need to add transfer switches in the buildings that didn't already have them, and if they were added they could use it.

Pratte said there are times when they lose power at different schools for whatever reason, explaining that a recent example was at Library Street School, when they lost power in the morning, saying that they could've gone to the Town barn, got the generator, and then hooked it up.

Burk explained that it's something they could look at for FY 26 warrant articles or could include it as

part of the general fund.

School Board member, Gary Gasdia, said he thinks not having them in each school makes it limiting.

"I view it as a nice to have," he said.

He said that instead he thinks it would make more sense to have voters decide.

"I prefer to just have it as a warrant article," he said.

It was ultimately decided to wait to discuss it more during budget season.

Another year end request was for athletics repairs.

The request was for backstop repairs for the JV baseball fields at Alvirne High School, backstop repairs for the varsity baseball fields, along with the batting cages, and backstop and fence repairs for the softball field at Hudson Memorial School.

The projects in total would be \$201,700 based on the quotes they received for all the different projects.

Pratte explained previously they recently walked the fields and there has been a lot of "neglect there," explaining that part of the

backstops that they want to fix are different hazards.

School Board member, Mike Campbell, said he thinks it makes sense to use funds for it now due to safety concerns.

School Board Chair, Maureen Dionne, also agreed.

"I am too in favor of the motion both for coaches and players safety," she said.

The School Board unanimously approved using end of the year funds for the repairs.

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Friends of Benson Park Joins N.H. Gives Campaign

**BILL ZINK
SUBMISSION**

The Friends of Benson Park are participating in the statewide NH Gives campaign, the New Hampshire Center for Non-Profits “Day of Giving.” This is a 24 hour period from 5 p.m. on June 11 to 5 p.m. on June 12 when contributions may be matched by local sponsoring businesses.

Natalie Newell, the fundraising coordinator for the Friends of Benson Park says, “This is the third year we have participated in this statewide event which allows donors to enhance the value of their gifts through matching gifts generously provided by our ‘Matching Sponsors.’ Our goal this year is \$15,000 and 150 online donors. One hundred percent of the money we raise goes to our mission

which includes conservation of the park; help with coordinating the volunteers for the monthly park cleanups and weekend park store coverage; and the preservation of its unique history by building and operating the Benson’s Museum and Discovery Center. We also provide community events at the park such as concerts and our annual Family Fun Day to be held on September 14th this year.”

The Friends of Benson Park are very excited about the progress made toward creating the Benson’s Museum and Discovery Center. This museum will house memorabilia collected over the 60 years that “Benson’s Wild Animal Farm” was a magnet for families from all over New England. Certainly the items to be displayed

will bring back a lot of fond memories for a lot of people!

The “Discovery Center” part of this project will feature a children’s interactive play area with a tree house, stationary train, and other fun and interesting attractions for the kids.

The Friends of Benson Park are looking for area businesses interested in becoming “Matching Sponsors” and also “Team Lead Champions” who would form a team (friends, etc.) and compete with other teams for the chance to win a retro Benson Park T-shirt.

If interested, email Natalie Newell at: natalie.newell@friendsofbensonpark.org

The Friends of Benson Park sincerely hope you will consider making a con-



Thanks to Gold Sponsor ,The Good Place in Hudson, for their \$1,000 contribution to The Friends of Benson Park spring fundraiser. Pictured (L-R) are Heather Lane (managing partner), Tristan Lindsay (busser), and Natalie Newell.

tribution this year, no matter how big or small. Mark your calendar! The 24 hour window begins at 5 p.m. on June 11. To make your contribution on June 11 after 5 p.m., go to: nhgives.org/organizations/the-friends-of-benson-park-inc.

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Robinson Pond Warning Issued

According to the town of Hudson website, updated on May 29, a Cyanobacteria warning has been issued for Robinson Pond.

The cyanobacteria warning was issued by the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) and advises lake users not to wade or swim in the water during a warning. They also advise keeping pets and livestock out of the water.

The NHDES is expected to resample the water in a week.

To view all current cyanobacteria advisory statuses, residents can visit the Healthy Swimming Mapper on the NHDES website. When you CHECK THE MAP you can access current advisories and alerts issued by the NHDES Beach Inspection Program and Cyanobacteria Harmful Algal Bloom Program as they are posted and updated on this map daily.

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HUDSON SPORTS

HMS Baseball Finishes Second in Regular Season, Fall in Semis

BLAKE SANTANA
HUDSON TIMES

Taking a look back at the middle school baseball world, when last we checked in, Hudson Memorial had reached a milestone in their program. For the first time in school history, the roster included a young woman-sixth grader Gabbie Nichols. Now, the Colts have made their way into the playoffs, finishing the regular season at 9-1 and earning themselves the second seed in the Tri-County Division I playoffs and a bye directly into the semifinals.

Hudson Memorial made their schedule look like a cakewalk for much of the season, opening up with a quick 3-0 win over the Windham Wildcats in just an hour and 27 minutes. Their Opening Day victory was mainly thanks to Jasper Workman's six shutout innings on the mound where he scattered just two hits by striking out 11 batters. Gavin Baviello, who had two hits and a run scored on the night, came on in the seventh inning for the save.

In their second game of the season, the Colts traveled to Nashua to take on the Elm Street Eagles in what was the two teams' second-to-last-ever matchup with Elm Street being slated to close at the conclusion of the school year in favor of a new middle school in Nashua a few years down the road. HMS made quick work of the Eagles, defeating them 4-1 on the road. Baviello picked up the win for Memorial, going five innings, scattering a hit and a walk as well as making a pair of errors into a moot point. The Eagles were held without a hit until there were two outs in the fourth when Baviello allowed the first hit against him. Cam St. Clair came on in the sixth inning and pitched a scoreless inning in relief of Baviello on just 14 pitches. Kylar Cox pitched the seventh, allowing the lone Eagles' run to score on a one-out single.

HMS had to bounce back quickly, playing host to the Timberlane Tigers the next day. Hudson came away with a 10-6 victory at home



thanks to their bats this time, as they picked up ten runs on nine hits and were helped by five Tiger errors and five walks. On the mound, Jasper Workman didn't have his best stuff, but was also not helped by his defense, who committed three errors behind him in 6.1 innings of work. Workman did allow nine hits and three walks in the process of allowing six runs with two of them being earned.

Playing their third game in as many days, Hudson Memorial

played Merrimack at home and finished them off in five innings, winning 12-2 by way of the mercy rule. The game entered its fifth inning of play with the Colts up 4-2 before the wheels fell off on the mound for Merrimack as they allowed eight runs on four walks, a hit batter, a double, a triple, a single, and an error that ultimately finished the game for the Colts.

The Colts came out of April vacation riding a four-game winning streak and taking on top contender Ross Lurgio Middle School in Bedford. They were handed their lone season loss on

a rainy afternoon in that contest in just five innings as Ross Lurgio came out on top 10-0. Walks and errors were HMS' undoing in that contest, as Jasper Workman walked five batters and the Colts' defense committed a pair of costly errors in the field that led to six unearned runs.

Angered by the blowout loss in Bedford, Hudson Memorial started the month of May with a trip to Goffstown to play Mountain View Middle School, and they got back to what the team excels at in that contest, winning 4-2 behind six innings from

Cam St. Clair who allowed two runs, both earned, on two hits and three walks while striking out five and getting the win. Memphis Beach picked up a hold and Gavin Baviello got the save, eventually shutting the door on Mountain View.

The next afternoon, Hudson Memorial played host to Londonderry in their penultimate regular season home game and got the win 6-2, again behind solid pitching. This time in the form of a complete game from Gavin Baviello who allowed two runs, just one of

continued on page 10

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Alvirne Tennis Feeder Program Halted by District's Decision

BLAKE SANTANA
HUDSON TIMES

As Alvirne's athletic programs spent the 2023-24 school year taking a step forward overall from the beginning of the school year to the end, the Broncos' girls' tennis team was one of few that took a major step in the wrong direction.

The biggest reason for this is a sheer lack of players. Alvirne had just eight girls on their tennis team, and this led the Broncos to go from Division II champions in girls' tennis just two years ago to 2-7 in 2024.

While you could make an argument that the Broncos graduated a number of talented seniors, teams have to recover from graduating players constantly.

Alvirne's girls' tennis coach has seen this need and is looking to create a feeder program for Al-

virne's tennis program that could potentially turn the Broncos into a powerhouse in tennis for years to come.

Coach Moe Leclerc has approached the Hudson school board and is actively looking to create this feeder program, while providing both junior and adult lessons at a minimal cost.

So if Alvirne has this opportunity to better their athletics program, why not take that step? Especially in a year that the program has advanced so far to begin with.

It's no secret in town that Alvirne hasn't been a perennial powerhouse in the NHIAA since the days of Class LIMS subdivisions as opposed to the current Division I, II, III, IV setup that exists today and has since the 2010-11 school year when LIMS was discontinued in NH. The Broncos,

however, have been presented with an opportunity to change that, in one sport at least by Coach Leclerc, and despite approval from Athletic Director Karen Bonney and initial approval from the school board, the feeder program, as well as several other clinics, have been shut down by Superintendent Dan Moulis.

Why has the program been shut down? Because of "non-compliance with requests made by the school board". What are those "non-compliances"? A lack of signage indicating that there shall be no parking by the tennis courts and only in the main lot and the unfortunate circumstances of people outside of these programs, that ran in the spring without apparent issue, parking by the tennis courts.

According to Coach

LeClerc, "they didn't belong to any of us. A lot of them came for softball practice on the near field or to walk their dogs, but they weren't anything to do with our programming."

There was also an issue with a supposed list of documents that were to be submitted to the school board to revisit the issue as originally intended, but as Coach LeClerc resolved the issue repeatedly, this should be a non-factor.

The programs Coach LeClerc was looking to institute are ones that he ran last summer under a mutual understanding agreement with Karen Bonney, and the programs ran without issue. He had set out to run a program for younger kids as a basic introduction to tennis, as well as a course for those who were in late elementary through early middle school age to get slightly more in-

depth training, as well as summer training for the high school aged kids, which could potentially benefit Bronco tennis for years to come. Coach LeClerc also had plans in place to run a "Cardio Tennis" course that was geared more towards the adults in Hudson and surrounding communities. He also had plans to eventually start a middle school tennis program with Tri-County Athletics that is on hold due to Dr. Moulis' decision.

"Alvirne tennis has taken a major step back since the team won it all two years ago. I want to get us not only back to that place, but somewhere that we can compete every single year in both boys' and girls' tennis for state championships. This program, if given the opportunity, could get Alvirne on the map," said Leclerc when asked

where the benefit of these programs come in for the school. "I want this to be something that out-lives me. I want Alvirne tennis to be good for a very long time."

There is no doubt that Coach LeClerc has the passion to not only make this program run and make it benefit the Hudson community, both young and old, yet he is being stopped from doing so.

Alvirne and the Hudson School District as a whole, needs more people who are willing to invest their time and effort into bettering their programs, and is trending in the right direction for sure, but to deny a coach the opportunity to better their players when doing so has little to no negative impact on the town is not a good look for the school, nor the SAU.

HMS Baseball

Continued from page 9

against Elm Street in what turned out to be the final meeting the two teams will ever have. HMS also picked up seven hits on the night with Heath Haynes leading the way for Memorial, collecting two hits and two RBI on the afternoon. Cole Baker also had a hit and two RBI for HMS.

The Colts then played their final home game of the season, eighth-grade night, in what became the first of three shutouts to finish the regular season, picking up the win 7-0

against Elm Street in what turned out to be the final meeting the two teams will ever have. HMS got 5.2 innings from Gavin Baviello and 1.1 from Memphis Beach in the win. The two combined for nine strikeouts while only allowing one hit, a single with one out in the top of the seventh, and walking four batters with all four walks coming off Baviello. Offensively, HMS picked up 11 hits on the night two from Baviello, one from Beach, three from both Cam St. Clair and Cole Baker, and one from

both Jasper Workman and Chris Carey. St. Clair and Baker also each drove in three runs in the Colts' seventh win of the season.

HMS finished off their regular season with two road games, one that was scheduled against the Woodbury Warriors, and another in Merrimack that was a makeup game from a late-season rainout. The Colts picked up wins against both squads, beating Woodbury 10-0 on May 17 and Merrimack 11-0 to close out the regular season on May 21. Cam St. Clair picked up the abbreviat-

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Alvirne Boys' Lax Falls to Oyster River-Newmarket in Preliminary Round

BLAKE SANTANA
HUDSON TIMES

On Thursday, Alvirne's boys' lacrosse team traveled to Durham to take on the Oyster River-Newmarket Bobcats in the preliminary round of the Division II playoffs. Alvirne came into the game fresh after six days to prepare for the Bobcats, still healing from the wounds of a tough 8-6 loss to Winnacunnet to close out the regular sea-

son. Unfortunately, Alvirne's final hope at a team state title in 2023-24 was shut down as the Bobcats beat the Broncos 12-2, eliminating Alvirne from the tourney.

After having lost to the Bobcats 14-2 on their home field back on April 19, Alvirne knew that the Bobcats were a legitimate threat to end their season, and had hoped to do what Alvirne's hockey team was unable

to do just under three months prior: beat the Bobcats in the playoffs. It would be a tall task for the Broncos, and ultimately, one that Alvirne was unable to overcome, once again.

For the Broncos, Cedly Beaulieu and Jonovan Santana picked up goals for the Broncos in the loss. Ayden Kelly, who has been excellent for the Broncos all year, and helped lead Alvirne

to this point, let up 12 goals on the night.

This loss, with every home team winning their preliminary round matchup, secures the Broncos with a tenth-place finish out of 21 total teams in Division II boys' lacrosse, just making the top 50% of teams. While a tenth-place finish isn't terrible, and is certainly better than most of Alvirne's spring sports teams can say they fin-

ished, the Broncos fell short of their ultimate goal, and doing so against Oyster River stings just a little bit more for both Alvirne sports fans, as well as a number of players on the team considering the Bobcats spoiled Alvirne's best team run of the school year back on March 6 in the Division II boys' hockey semifinals.

The Broncos finish 2024 with an overall re-

cord of 10-8, earning 42 points during the regular season. They will graduate ten seniors this year. Cam Drohan, Sam Fortin, Cedrik Beaulieu, Brandon LaVarnway, Ryan Tobin, Aiden Mills, Ayden Kelly, Jonovan Santana, Preston Ball, and Aidan Malloy, all of whom have been major contributors for Alvirne with some being louder contributors than others on and off the scoresheet.

HMS Baseball

Continued from page 10

ed five-inning shutout for the Colts against Woodbury, just allowing two hits while striking out two and not walking a batter while his team scored 10 runs on six hits and were helped by 13 total walks by the Woodbury pitching staff.

Their final regular season matchup against Merrimack was a similar story with Jasper Workman picking up a two-hit shutout of his own, striking out ten and walking just one while his team scored 11 runs on nine hits, and earning eight walks on the offensive

side of the ball.

The Colts finished the regular season 9-1, good for a second seed, and after Woodbury upset third-seeded Windham in the first round, the Colts played the sixth-seeded Warriors in the semifinals with a trip to Bedford on June 4 on the line.

HMS was unable to pick up the win on Friday, losing a tough battle 10-5 to the Woodbury Warriors, who will continue their Cinderella run as the sixth seed on the road against fifth-seeded Mountain View on Tuesday in Goffstown.

Cam St. Clair got the ball to start things off for the Colts, and, despite not having his best stuff, St. Clair managed to get through five gutsy innings, allowing eight runs on six hits, only four of the runs being earned.

He also struck out five and walked two. Jasper Workman pitched the final two innings of the Colts' season, allowing two runs on four hits while striking out one batter. Neither run charged to Workman was earned.

Offensively, Hudson Memorial jumped out to a 3-0 lead in the bottom of the second and looked to be poised to run away with the game as Nick Mitchell had a two-out double, Chris Carey followed that with a single to put runners on the corners, Gavin Baviello hit an RBI double, and Cam St. Clair helped himself out with a two-RBI hit. HMS also picked up a run in the fourth and the seventh, but unfortunately, it wasn't enough as the Warriors got five in the third and five in the sixth to put the game on

ice.

HMS finishes fourth in Tri-County Division I with their loss after the top-seeded Ross Lurgio Lions lost to Mountain View in another upset on Friday. Thus far in the Division I tournament, the visiting team has won all four games with Mountain View beating

Elm Street on the road and Woodbury beating Windham in Windham in the first round, as well as Mountain View beating Ross Lurgio in Bedford and Woodbury coming to Hudson and shocking the Colts on their home field, the team's first home loss of the season.



Gavin Baviello connects at the plate.

Courtesy photo

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EPA Finalizes Rule to Cleanup PFAS Contamination Under Superfund

GABRIELE CROGNALE
SUBMISSION

EPA action designates two widely used PFAS as hazardous substances under the Superfund law, improving transparency and accountability to clean up PFAS contamination in communities.

In a long-awaited move to help protect people from the health risks posed by long-term exposure to the so-called “forever chemicals” the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) finalized on April 19, 2024, a critical rule to clean up per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA), commonly known as Superfund. The timing could not have been more fortuitous, given that Earth Day this year was April 22. As noted in previous articles in this series, PFAS has been linked to cancers, impacts on the liver

and heart, and immune and developmental damage to infants and children. This final rule will designate two widely used PFAS chemicals, perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) and perfluorooctanesulfonic acid (PFOS), under CERCLA, better known as Superfund, and will help ensure that polluters pay to clean up their contamination.

In greater detail, this final action will address PFOA and PFOS contamination by enabling both the investigation and cleanup of these harmful chemicals and ensuring that leaks, spills, and other releases are reported to the appropriate Superfund agency, whether EPA or NHDES if NHDES has primacy in New Hampshire under Superfund. This action builds on the recently finalized standards to protect people and communities from PFAS contamination in drinking water and represents the latest step the Biden-Harris Administra-

tion is taking to protect public health and welfare and the environment under EPA’s PFAS Strategic Roadmap and to prevent cancer before it starts through the Biden Cancer Moonshot. Both of these topics were covered in our previous articles in this series.

In addition to the final rule, EPA is issuing a separate CERCLA enforcement discretion policy that makes clear that EPA will focus enforcement on parties who significantly contributed to the release of PFAS chemicals into the environment, including parties that have manufactured PFAS or used PFAS in the manufacturing process, federal facilities, and other industrial parties.

This is an interesting point being made by this final rule, given that the affected residents of Londonderry have been subject to PFAS contamination by the Saint Gobain Company

of Merrimack of their public water supply wells, for which a Consent Order with NH DES has already been issued. Readers are encouraged to refer back to our previous series looking into Saint Gobain’s actions and how several activists affected residents responded to the company’s lack of transparency and accountability. The question that should be on these affected residents’ minds, is whether Saint

Gobain will also be on the hook under CERCLA for the damage its processing actions caused to area residents’ public water supply. It might be something these same activists may need to explore with the EPA’s Regional Office in Boston. It’s worth a “moon”-shot.

Gabriele Crognale, PE, is a freelance environmental specialist and author. His specialties include: evaluating environmental, health,

and safety (EHS) issues; and as a writer, delves into complex EHS issues with an investigative focus. His previous works include his signature work, *Environmental Management Strategies: The 21st Century Perspective*, Prentice-Hall, 1999, along with contributions to *Business and the Environment*, *Safety Management*, and *Property Casualty360*

Bush Hill

Continued from page 1

must consider. “I’ve been there for over 20 years now, the wildlife is just amazing in that area, it’s going to have a big impact on that.”

Abutter, Chris Cambrils, of 9 Woodland Drive sent an email to the Board to express concerns that new housing in the area would destroy the “privacy and seclusion” of neighbors.

Dominic Jarry and Kay Nash of 175A Bush Hill Road also wrote to the ZBA expressing opposition to the subdivision plan, pinpointing the lack of acreage and poor road conditions as incompatible with another house in the area.

Barowski responded by saying he would be flexible

with the location of the new house to alleviate any privacy concerns while confirming he planned to meet all environmental regulations.

Chair, Gary Daddario, reminded residents that some factors, like the location and length of the driveway, were not exactly relevant to what the Zoning Board was there to address.

“Sometimes, because this is the first stop, people mentioning concerns that are really going to be discussed more at a different board, at a different time,” said Daddario. “It’s all conceptual here.”

The ZBA was only looking at the two variances, not the location of the house or driveway, factors that would be overseen by the Planning Board.

Board members were uncertain about how to move forward.

“This is a tough one. Overall, it’s a big enough piece of property that it seems like there should be two houses, and the property owner should be able to do something with this space,” Daddario admitted. “At the same time, we’ve heard legitimate concerns about the proposal, it’s a tough case.”

There was discussion as to whether the shape of the property, which made a legal subdivision difficult, should be taken into account.

“The hardship is that I can’t develop it if I can’t get a variance, that argument, it strains me some,” said Board member, Dean Sakati. “It’s a choice to want to build and do something.”

The Zoning Board unanimously voted not to grant either variance request.

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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.

Benson Park Saturday Cleanup

Please join the Friends of Benson Park on the third Saturday of each month to make the beautiful park even more beautiful! Donate whatever time you can between the hours of 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. Tools are available but bring your own shovels, rakes, pruners, loppers, etc. if you have them. Great people. Great fun. Great exercise. Lunch provided. Sign up online by going to the Friends of Benson Park

website (friendsofbensonpark.org) and providing your email address in the "Contact Us" section.

Flag Retirement

The VFW Hudson Memorial Post 5791 & Auxiliary is holding a Flag Retirement Ceremony on Flag Day, June 14. In Hudson, there are collection boxes at the Town Hall (left side door area); HPD lobby, VFW Post 5791, 15 Bockes Rd., and Veterans Bingo Hall 14 Melendy Rd.

In Londonderry, there is a box at their Town Hall, and in Litchfield, there is one at the Transfer station.

Field of Flags

The annual Field of Flags at Library Park is set up. The Flags will remain up until just after Flag Day. Thanks to the Town of Hudson for their continued support and Alvirne High School AFJROTC Cadets for their assistance in setting up. The Field has grown to almost

200 flags this year. Over the next few days weather permitting you will see our members adding more lights to cover the flags, and inspecting them daily over the next month.

Party Affiliation Change Deadline

The Supervisors of the Checklist will be meeting in Town Hall Tuesday, June 4, from 7 - 7:30p.m. To change your party affiliation before the State Primary Election. The public is welcome. Please use the side door entrance and proceed downstairs.

A Good Yarn

On Tuesdays at 5 p.m., come to the Rodger Library to Share tips, tricks, and stories while you work on your latest project and connect

with fellow fiber enthusiasts. Bring your own supplies and stitch the evening away.

Dungeons & Donuts

Looking for fellow people Dungeons & Dragons players? Come to the Rodgers Library and grab a donut on Saturday, June 15 at 9:30 a.m.

Family, Memory, Place: Writing Family Stories

Come to Rodgers Library on Tuesday, June 4 at 6:30 p.m., for his interactive workshop led by Maura MacNeil. It explores how the landscapes of our lives shape the stories that we tell.

Rodgers Readers

On Thursday, June 6 at 7 p.m., Come join the Rodgers Library for a book discussion on "Murder Your Employer:

Stitchers' Circle

On Saturday, June 8 at 9:30 a.m., come to the Rodgers Library and stitch/cross stitch, blackwork, embroider, knit, crochet, hand craft with Oonagh Williams. Not a formal class, but people willing to help.

Story Safari

Come to Benson Park for songs, stories, and bubbles. It will take place on Tuesdays, June 11, and 25 at 10 a.m., Thursdays, June 13, 20, and 27 at 10 a.m. All ages welcome. Geared to ages 3-8.

Cookbook Club

On Tuesday, June 4 at 11:30 a.m., join the Rodgers **continued on page 15**

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Around Town

Continued from page 13

Library to sample and discuss recipes from popular cookbooks and food themes. June's cookbook is "Treasures Of The Mexican Table: Classic Recipes, Local Secrets" by Pati Jinich.

Native Wars: The Untold Story

New England history is full of confrontations between Native people and the settlers. Join Rodgers Library Circulation Librarian Dana Benner on Wednesday, June 12 at 6:30 p.m., to take a look at a few of these confrontations and try to separate the truth from the story.

Preschool Water Play

Preschoolers ages 2-5 are invited to play with water tables and toys on the Rodgers library lawn on Wednesday, June 12, and 26 at 10 a.m.

Access Wisdom Book Club

On Thursday, June 13 at 7 p.m., at the Rodgers Library, certified life coach Diane MacKinnon leads a club highlighting books that help us gain more access to our own wisdom. This month's book is "Braving the Wilderness: The Quest for True Belonging and the Courage to Stand Alone" by Brené Brown.

Genealogy Club

This month, on Friday, June 14 at 1:30 p.m., Rodgers Library will have a research jam session. Either join from home on Zoom or bring your device and do some research in the community room with fellow genealogists whom you can ask for advice.

Library Birthday Party

Rodgers Memorial Library's 15th Birthday Party will take place on Saturday, June 15 at 11:30 a.m. Please join for a lunchtime party celebrating 15 years of reading, learning, making friends, and inspiring ideas. The festivities will include music and dancing, food, laughter, and fun while reminiscing about the past and look forward to

exciting chapters yet to come.

Mystery Lovers Book Club

You know you love it - murder, mystery and mayhem all in one place. This month's book pick is "Death by Cashmere" by Sally Goldenbaum. The club will meet on Monday, June 17 at 1 p.m., at Rodgers Library.

Tween Anime and Ramen

On Monday, June 17 at 3 p.m., come to Rodgers Library to relax, color, and snack with us while watching anime and talking about your favorite manga and animated series. For students entering grades 5-8.

Concert: Let's Play Music

On Monday, June 17 at 6 p.m., come hear young local musicians from Let's Play Music share their musical talents with you at an outdoor concert at Rodgers Library.

Steve Blunt at Benson's

On Tuesday, June 18 at 10 a.m., Mr. Steve will be under the pavilion near the pond. Bring chairs or blankets and be prepared to move and groove.

Guiding Eyes for the Blind

On Tuesday, June 18 at 6:30 p.m., join the Rodgers Library for this information session with Guiding Eyes for the Blind and learn how dogs are trained.

Family Candy Bingo

On Monday, June 24 at 10 a.m., come play BINGO with the whole family and win candy at Rodgers Library.

Rolling Video Games

On Thursday, June 20 at 5 p.m., 6 p.m., and 7 p.m., the Rodgers Library will host a video game trailer equipped with widescreen high-def TVs and speakers in front and back! For students ages 9-12 at 5 p.m., and 6 p.m., 12-18 at 7 p.m.

Teen Candy Bar Bingo

On Friday, June 21 at 1:30 p.m., Play BINGO and win candy at Rodgers

Library! For teens entering grades 9-12.

Lithuanian Cooking

On Saturday, June 22 at 10 a.m., join Chef Oonagh Williams for a program on Lithuanian cooking at Rodgers Library. She will demonstrate several Lithuanian dishes.

Tween Candy Bar Bingo

On Monday, June 24 at 1:30 p.m., Play BINGO and win candy at Rodgers Library! For teens entering grades 5-8.

Read 'Em & Eat

Come to T-Bones on June 24 at 7 p.m., to discuss books over good food and drinks! You can pick up a copy of the book from the library. May's book is "The Guncle" by Steven Rowley.

Afternoon Book Group

On Tuesday, June 25 at 1:30 p.m., Join the Rodgers Library for the third Tuesday of every month for an in-depth discussion of quality best-selling fiction and non-fiction books including biographies. This month's book is "Hell of a Book" by Jason Mott

.Characters & Cocoa

Come to the Rodgers Library on Thursday, June 20 at 5:30 p.m. for Characters & Cocoa. This is a monthly group for writers to socialize and talk about the craft. The emphasis will be more on discussion than workshoping. Hot chocolate will be served.

The Silver Circus

On June 25 at 1:30 p.m., Andrew Silver explores the concept of perseverance as he is faced with the daunting task of presenting a full circus show all by himself at the Rodgers Library. Featuring tons of audience participation.

True Crime Podcast Club

Crime & Cookies! True Crime Podcast Club will meet on June 27 at 7 p.m., at the Rodgers Library. This month podcast is "American

Scandal Season 56: Aaron Hernandez: A Football Tragedy" and "Root of Evil: The True Story of the Hodel Family and the Black Dahlia."

Teen Paint Night

Hang out and paint with watercolors or acrylic on June 27 at 6 p.m., at the Rodgers Library. Try out new tools and techniques. No experience required. Ages 13-18 only.

Brunch Bunch

Eat pancakes and talk about books you love (and books you love to hate) on June 28 at 11 a.m., at Rodgers Library. For students entering 5th-12th grades.

Family Movie

Come watch Shrek on June 28 at 1:30 p.m., at Rodgers Library. Enjoy snacks and coloring pages while watching.

Red Cross Blood Drive

The ETZ Hayim Synagogue will hold its 3rd Annual Red Cross Blood Drive on Monday, June 17, from noon - 5 p.m., at 1-1/2 Hood Rd., Derry. You can donate at age 17 with parental permission, it is (almost) painless, and what a MITZVAH! Blood supplies are dangerously low! Your donation is needed and appreciated. Questions? Contact Beth at ETZHAYIM-GIVEBLOOD@GMAIL.COM. Please Make Your Appointment At Redcross.Com Or 1-800 Red Cross.

Buy-A-Brick

Buy a memorial brick in honor of that special someone for this Friends of the Library fundraiser. Details are available at the Rodgers Memorial Library website rogerslibrary.org

Surviving, Thriving, and Finding Purpose

On Thursday, June 6, at 7 p.m., Beth Hudson will tell her story of Surviving, Thriving, and Finding Purpose, at Etz Hayim Synagogue. Beth Hudson was involved in a near-fatal accident on June 29, 2017. She spent a year

hospitalized and then had a left-below-knee amputation two months after arriving home. This is a story of courage, determination, and resilience. The talk is in person at Etz Hayim Synagogue, 1 1/2 Hood Rd., Derry, NH 03038. There is no charge, but donations are encouraged. For more information, please contact Stephen Soreff, MD, at soreffs15@aol.com or 603-895-6120.

Library Fundraiser.

Buy a memorial brick in honor of that special someone. Details are available at the Rodgers Memorial Library website <https://rogerslibrary.org/buy-a-brick>

Book Sale

The Friends of the Library of Hudson will be holding their monthly book sale - Second Hand Prose (SHP) the second Sunday of each month from 11 a.m. - 3 p.m., at the Hills Memorial Library location. Upcoming date is June 9. Your purchases support the friends to help the library - summer reading program prizes, museum passes, and also our annual High School scholarship awarded to a graduating senior living in Hudson.

Book Donation

The Friends of the Library of Hudson will hold a book donation day each month at Rodgers Memorial Library from 9 a.m. - 9 p.m. It's the Thursday immediately following Second Hand Prose (SHP). Upcoming dates June 13. Books are dropped off at Rodgers in a study room. Do not use the donation bin in the parking lot, the bin donations do not go to the friends. In May they will accept games. No missing pieces and good condition please.

Adventurers Storytime

On Tuesdays in June at 10 a.m., join Ms. Tanya for stories, songs, games, and activities at the Rodgers Memorial Library. This event is for ages 3-5. There will be a different theme each week. Caretaker participates with their child or children. Chil-

dren should be able to sit through a story. Siblings welcome.

Drop In Stitchers

Come to the Rodgers Memorial Library every Friday at 9:15 a.m. for this craft group. If you love to craft, whether it be quilting, knitting, crocheting, rug making or plastic canvas, you will LOVE this group! If you're starting a new skill or brushing up on an old one or even if you just like to chat while pretending to work, this is a judgment free zone.

Dino the Therapy Dog

Every Tuesday at 2:30 p.m., come meet Dino, the therapy dog at the Rodgers Memorial Library. Dino is a St. Bernard who loves to make new friends.

Teen Hangout

On Tuesdays in June at 2:30 p.m., the Rodgers Memorial Library will have a Teens only time for snacking, playing board games and video games, doing crafts after school, and just hanging out. Ages 13-18 only.

Songs & Snuggles

On Thursdays 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.

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.

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