

THE Hudson Times

March 21, 2024 ♦ Volume 2 – Issue 12

A FREE Weekly Publication



MUSIC MONTH

Members of the Alvirne High School Jazz Band played a number of songs during the annual “Cabaret” show at the high school cafeteria over the weekend. Three stages were set up to feature many of the school’s musical talents. See more on pages 8 and 9.

Photo by Chris Paul

Hudson Voters Pass Eight Articles on School Ballot

CHRIS PAUL
HUDSON TIMES

The Hudson School District held the annual election on Tuesday, March 12, and just over 3,000 voters came out to on nine Warrant Articles, with just one failing.

For the election of officers to serve on the School Board for three years, the only candidate to sign up for the position, Grace

Kennedy, won with 1,657 votes. A previous member of the board, Gretchen Whiting, had a write-in campaign that brought her 481 votes.

For the nine Warrant Articles, all but one passed, with the petition article to change the Election Voting Day failing 875 to 2,229.

Article 1: The Operating Budget of \$67,509,020, passed 2,375 to 764.

Article 2: The Collective Bargaining Agreement with PSRPs AFT Local #6245, of \$751.496, passed 2,090 to 1,050.

Article 3: The Collective Bargaining Agreement with AFSCME of \$155,027, passed 1,973 to 1,141.

Article 4: The Roof Replacement at Dr. H.O. Smith Elementary School, at \$250,000, passed 2,790

continued on page 2

Hudson Voters Pass Over 40 Articles on Town Ballot

CHRIS PAUL
HUDSON TIMES

There were over 3,200 voters to venture out for the Town Elections on Tuesday, March 12, most of the 50 articles on the ballot passed and residents also voted in a new comer to the Hudson Board of Selectmen.

In one of the few contested races, Heidi Jakoby and Dillon Dumont beat Marilyn McGrath and Richard J. Weissgarber for the two, three-year term seats on the Board of Selectmen. Dumont had 1,819 votes; Jakoby received 1,653; McGrath had 1,062, and Weissgarber drew 830 votes.

Three Budget Committee members were voted in

for three-year terms. Shawn Jasper got 2,053 votes, Randall Bronrigg had 1,905, and Robert Wherry received 1,849.

Christina Madden was elected to the Cemetery Trustee’s three-year term with 2,492 votes.

Ryan Andrews will take the three-year term seat on the Code of Ethics Committee with 2,389 votes.

Lisa Webber had 1,576 votes over Ruth Sessions’ 920 votes for the three-year Library Trustee seat, while Margaret St. Onge got 2,434 votes for the one-year term seat on that board.

The two-year term of Town Moderator went to Alanna Stangroom with

2,312 votes.

The two, three-year term seats on the Planning Board went to Timothy Mally (2,255) and Edward van der Veen (2,000) and the one-year seat went to Timothy Lyko (2,347).

Normand Martin received 2,343 votes and will be the Supervisor of the Checklist for the next six years.

The three-year seat on the Trustees of the Trust Funds went to Edmond Duchesne with 2,374 votes.

Article 2, the General Fund Operating Budget, of \$35,527,448, passed 1,693 to 1,451.

Article 3, the Sewer **continued on page 3**

Town Engineer Gets Okay on High Tech Crosswalks at Alvirne

PAUL CONYERS
HUDSON TIMES

The Hudson Planning Board opened its March 13 meeting with a request presented by Town Engineer, Elvis Dhima, for funds to install three crosswalk systems near Alvirne High School and Route 102.

“In late 2022, the Safety Highway Committee received a request regarding the installation of three beacons adjacent to Alvirne High School, and it was recommended to move forward with this project using Corridor funds,” said Dhima. “The reason I’m in front of you tonight is to ask you to move forward with this project and to recommend to the Board of Selectmen an expenditure of \$64,500.”

The main costs for the

new crosswalks will be labor and equipment, with delays in the initial recommendation coming from approval to put a crosswalk in a state right of way.

“For an example, would this be similar to the crosswalk on East Hollis Street?” asked Vice Chair, Jordan Ulery.

The Town Engineer confirmed this would be the case, with solar-powered equipment he called “high end” and noted that the original budget had been \$75,000, more than what he was requesting from the Selectmen. The Planning Board voted unanimously to recommend the plan.

“We’re shooting for the first week of August, Old Home Day,” said Dhima, referring to the target instal-

lation date.

The Board heard a reconsideration for a recently approved, three-lot subdivision plan at 26 Atwood Avenue. The focus of the request was stipulation seven, which required the lot owner to contribute payment towards having a sidewalk built in front of the property.

Despite initially agreeing to the stipulation, Don Nicolls of KLN Construction had a “sticker shock” after the cost of a sidewalk proved to be much higher than initially anticipated.

“From our perspective, the sidewalks will go nowhere, it’s a neighborhood with no sidewalks on the left and no sidewalks on the right. Essentially, you’d

continued on page 5

School Board Reject Changes To Expense Reimbursement Policy

ALEX MALM
HUDSON TIMES

The Hudson School Board in a 3-2 vote rejected a proposed policy rewrite for the expense reimbursement policy, during its March 11 meeting.

"We currently have a very different policy than districts around us," Business Administrator, Jen Burk, said at a previous meeting. She previously explained that when they get employees from other districts, they have some

who are confused and possibly concerned "with the board component to this." Burk explained that traditionally the travel requests just go up the chain of command to the assistant superintendent or superintendent level, noting that they are part of the budget.

As part of the proposed policy, "Any employee wishing to be reimbursed for travel expenses incurred under this policy must complete a travel expense reimbursement form, to be sub-

mitted along with the pre-approved purchase requisition, all original, itemized receipts, and approval confirmations for all expenses, to the SAU Business Office within 15 days upon returning from the trip."

"When official travel by personally owned vehicles has been authorized, mileage payment shall be made at the rate currently set by the Internal Revenue Service," the proposed policy reads.

Any travel outside of the state, or that would require an overnight stay "must have the prior approval (written or electronic) of the Superintendent or designee, and such approval shall accompany the request for reimbursement as outlined above."

"All expense reimbursement forms, and travel expense vouchers must be approved by the employee's supervisor and

administrator and must include all associated receipts for requested reimbursement including flights, hotel, meals and other related expenses," the proposed policy states. "In the event that reimbursement is being made for multiple employees on a single receipt, the senior supervisor/administrator in the traveling party must charge that expense and submit the receipt for reimbursement in accordance with this policy. Receipts covering multiple employees must include a list of the employees covered by that expense. In no case shall an employee pay for the expenses of his/her supervisor."

Burk explained that as part of the process, the superintendent would report to the Board what they have going on for conferences and other professional development, and if

the Board was interested in hearing about their experience they could come forward after.

She told the School Board at its previous meeting "I've had people tell me specifically they felt physically ill having to come to the board to ask to go to a conference," and she also noted that they don't bring other purchases back to the Board if they are part of the budget.

School Board member, Gary Gasdia, argued that he never understood why they were going to the Board in the first place for the requests, but liked the idea of people either coming back to the Board after to explain what they learned, or to have the superintendent give them a report.

Vice Chair, Maureen Dionne, said she had the same concerns from the original meeting.

"I in no way want to

hinder anyone's professional development at all," Dionne said.

She said that since she has been on the School Board she only remembers a couple of people who had to go in front of the School Board in order to get approval.

Ultimately, she said she thinks it's important to know what's going on, by hearing from people attending conferences.

"I think it's an important piece of the current policy," Dionne said.

School Board member, Ethan Beals, said he agreed and that if someone really was uncomfortable with presenting to the School Board that he would approve it anyway.

Superintendent, Dan Moulis, said he would come back to the School Board with an updated draft, for their consideration.

School

continued from page 1
to 342.

Article 5: Science Labs at Hudson Memorial School, at \$200,000, passed 2,736 to 400.

Article 6: To Renovate Checkers Kitchen, at Alvirne High School, for \$250,000, passed 2,567 to 565.

Article 7: To Replace Hallway Flooring at Hudson Memorial School, for \$94,000, passed 2,701 to 426.

Article 8: To Establish a Capital Reserve Account for Alvirne Farm, for \$150,000, passed 2,664 to 476.

Note: Election results information obtained through the School District website.

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Sustainability Committee Get Approval for Roadside Cleanup

ALEX MALM
HUDSON TIMES

The Hudson Board of Selectmen was presented with a request from the Sustainability Committee to allow a roadside cleanup for Musquash Road, during its March 5 meeting.

"This road was chosen after consultations and suggestions from members of the Sustainability Committee, the Hudson Police Department, and the Department of Public Works," Sustainability Chair, Debbie

Putnam, wrote in a memo.

Putnam explained that her husband and herself drove on the road recently "to identify specific areas needing attention and two areas where volunteers can safely park their cars."

She said that the Committee would be supplying all the supplies needed, including safety/reflective vests, bags, and "grabbers."

"The DPW will position orange road signs as appropriate prior to April 20," she wrote in a memo. "Those

signs will be set upright the morning of. DPW staff will then pick up all filled bags plus any larger items on the following Monday."

She said they spoke with the Town's DPW department and that they will have signs on both sides of the road, so people know about the upcoming event and when it's going on.

"This project will not move forward until at least 8 adult residents (preferably 10) commit to helping

out from 9 a.m. - 12:30 p.m., on April 20," Putnam wrote in a memo. "Should there not be sufficient volunteers signed up by the Wednesday prior, the Committee will notify the DPW, HPD and post on social media that same day. Also, should the weather forecast not be suitable for Saturday, the project will be canceled."

Putnam said with approval of the project, the committee would begin to promote it, utilizing the

Town's website, this newspaper, and social media "to promote this project and solicit volunteer engagement."

"I, as Chair, will reach out to Paul Inderbitzen about putting a sign at each voting location on March 12. Some of the promotions will be reaching out to those who live along Musquash... as such an approach has been effective in the past," Putnam wrote. "Residents are then cleaning up along 'their road' with full sup-

port from the Sustainability Committee, the DPW and the HPD."

Selectman, Bob Guessferd, who serves as the Liaison for the Sustainability Committee, said there was a lot of thought that went into what road they should pick.

"We had to pick a road that was safe, as safe as possible," Guessferd said.

The Board of Selectmen unanimously approved the request to allow the roadside cleanup.

Town

Continued from page 1
Fund Operating Budget, of \$2,375,172, passed 2,459 to 685.

Article 4, the Water Fund Operating Budget, of \$4,371,665, passed 2,490 to 642.

Article 5, the Hudson Public Works Union Contract of \$90,267 passed 2,220 to 938.

Article 6, the Firefighters IAFF Union Contract of \$230,106 passed 2,244 to 905

Article 7, the Funding for One Fire Capt. Training Officer at \$164,891 passed 1,627 to 1,504.

Article 8, Town Wide Paving at \$100,000 passed 2,345 to 797.

Article 9, the Melendy Road Bridge Rehabilitation cost, of \$100,000, passed 2,608 to 577.

Article 10, the Circumferential Highway Feasibility Study, of \$1,000,375,

failed 1,014 to 2,132.

Article 11, the Police Safety Equipment, of \$105,000, passed 2,510 to 595

Article 12, Property Revaluation, of \$25,000, passed 1,667 to 1,412

Article 13, VacCon Truck Replacement, of \$30,000, passed 2,041 to 1026

Article 14, Fire Apparatus, of \$50,000, passed 1,638 to 953.

Article 15, Fire Apparatus Refurbishment/Repair, of \$100,000, passed 2,116 to 964.

Article 16, Fire Equipment, of \$25,000, passed 2,139 to 940.

Article 17, Generator Replacement/Repair of \$30,000, passed 2,092 to 977.

Article 18, Benson Park Renovation, of \$10,000, passed 2,204 to 883

Article 19, to Establish a Drainage Fund, of \$100,000, passed 1,874 to

220.

Article 20, to Discontinue the Ambulance Fund, passed 2,590 to 521.

Article 21, Revised Property Tax Exemption for the Elderly, passed 2,755 to 377.

Article 22, Revised Property Tax Exemption for Disabled, passed 2,159 to 365.

Article 23, Revised Property Tax Exemption for Blind, passed 3,770 to 349.

Article 24, to Establish Fire Alarm Master Box Revolving Fund, passed 2,447 to 605

Article 25, Ratification of Lease Agreement on South Water Tank, passed 2,600 to 465.

Article 26, Ratification of Lease Agreement West Road Land Fill, passed 1,719 to 1353.

Article 27, Study Needs for New Town Hall (by Petition) failed 1,479 to 1,615.

Article 28, Required Public Input (by Petition) passed 2,200 to 566.

Article 29, Comprehensive Infrastructure Study (by Petition) 1,789 to 325.

Article 30, Change Election Day (by Petition) failed 906 to 2,206.

Article 31, West Road Landfill for Southern N.H. Radio Control Club (by Petition) passed 2,034 to 1,064.

Article 32, To Adopt a Town Manager Form of Government (by Petition) failed 1,044 to 2,031.

Article 33, Zoning: Amend Wetland Conservation District Boundaries, passed 2,357 to 732.

Article 34, Zoning: Amend General Regulations-Flood Damage Prevention, passed 2,440 to 539.

Article 35, Zoning: Amend 334-6 Contractors Yard Definition, passed 2,308 to 692.

Article 36, Zoning: Amend Table of Permitted Uses-Religious Purposes, passed 2,115 to 594.

Article 37, Zoning: Amend Table of Permitted Uses-Farm Stands, passed 2,698 to 341.

Article 38, Zoning: Amend Table of Permitted Uses-Auto Fuel Stations, passed 2,119 to 796.

Article 39, Zoning: Amend Table of Permitted Uses-Car Washes, passed 2,165 to 818.

Article 40, Zoning: Amend Table of Permitted Uses-Mobile Food Services, passes 2,536 to 484.

Article 41, Zoning: Amend Table of Permitted Uses-Outdoor Recreation, passed 2,419 to 592.

Article 42, Zoning: Amend Table of Permitted Uses-Itinerant Vendors, passed 2,112 to 875.

Article 43, Zoning: Amend Table of Permitted

Uses-Remove References, passed 2,311 to 667.

Article 44, Zoning: Rezone Parcels from General to Residential, passed 2,133 to 857.

Article 45, Zoning: Rezone 48-50 Firiars Drive to Industrial, passed 1,492 to 1,460.

Article 46, Zoning: Rezone West Road Parcels to Industrial, passed 1,523 to 1,399.

Article 47, Zoning: Rezone Friars Drive on Lowell Road, passed 1,540 to 1,425.

Article 48, Zoning: Petition to Amend Town Code 334-38, passed 1,570 to 1,375.

Article 49, Zoning: Petition to Amend Town Code 334-15.1, failed 1,436 to 1,534.

Article 50, Zoning: Petition One Year Temporary Building Moratorium, failed 1,393 to 1,613.

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Editorial

Free and Easy, That's the Hudson Times

We all take things for granted, it's human nature to do so. Unfortunately, one of the things people often take for granted is their hometown newspaper.

If people want to know what happened at a town or school meeting, how the local sports teams did in every varsity sport, what club meetings and social gatherings are coming up, or what's for sale, they can open the paper and find out. Our readers have an expectation that they'll get the information they want and need in their local weekly newspaper whether they choose to look inside or not.

Easter egg hunt? We have the time and place. School play? It's here, often with photos. Senior gathering? Check. You can see your children photographed at sporting or school events. You can find out your neighbors' opinions on the letters page, and you can check the police log to see what the ruckus was all about. Yet, we hear all the time that people don't read newspapers anymore.

No one has the time or the interest in local papers anymore, well no one has time to watch the meetings, and go to every event, but we do and give you the short version so you are informed.

No one has the time or the interest, tell that to our readers who call

to ask us to include a notice in the weekly calendar at the last minute, or to get information out there on a club that's forming. Those things matter because people do indeed read the newspaper.

We know what happens if we miss an item you wanted to read. And better yet, remember what it was like with the Hudson-Litchfield News, and how it was without a local newspaper. Imagine how hard it would be to find out what is going on in town, and how the flavor of community life was absent. Local newspapers bind the community and make the residents proud of where they live.

One of our readers recently wrote us asking for something to be included in the paper, and added, "Thank you for the Hudson Times. It is invaluable. I don't know how Hudson citizens got along without it. I know I would not know what was happening in my town if I did not receive the paper each week."

It may be exciting when a big daily newspaper or a TV crew comes in for a quick look at a town event. But for consistent news reporting of events, week in and week out, your hometown newspaper fills the bill.

We won't go the way of the dinosaur. There's far too much going on to keep us busy for years to come.

THE Hudson Times

The Hudson Times is a weekly publication covering Hudson related news and information, it is available at a number of drop-off locations throughout the town.

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Letters

Thank You

To the editor,
I would like to thank you for your Hudson Times.

It is so nice to have a paper again with local information to keep us all informed about what is going on in town.

Sincerely,
Joan MacSweeney
Hudson

Thank You All

To the editor,

I have been a Ballot Clerk since 2020 and just wish to express my own thanks to the registered voters who came out on March 12 to participate in the democratic process of Town Elections in Hudson. Yes, the Ballot was long and the Warrant Articles complex. Those who made their voices heard had taken the time to do research which enabled them to make the decisions they indicated on both the Town and School Ballots. Hopefully one source of information was the Hudson Times over the past months and the Town wide edition the week before voting. The establishment of a town wide free newspaper is extremely important to keeping communication lines open between the Town, Committees, Boards, and the residents themselves. Thank you to the Supporters of Heidi

Jakoby for Selectman for working with Nutfield Publishing, LLC to assist in supporting the mailing of the March 7 edition to every address in Hudson. As the notice in the Feb. 29 edition of the Hudson Times stated: "This will be a one-time occurrence, although we are hoping to make this happen on a weekly basis." In my opinion the Town of Hudson needs the Hudson Times!

Respectfully,
Debbie Putnam
Hudson

Thank For Support

To the editor,

I am truly humbled and honored to be your new selectman. Thank you to all my supporters, and more especially to all those who took the time to vote on March 12. Local elections have the greatest impact on our daily lives. I commend you for taking the time to participate in your local government.

Congratulations to all those who chose to run. It is a commitment just to put your name on a ballot for public office. To those who won, congratulations on being selected to serve our beloved community.

My hope is that all the elected officials, appointed individuals, volunteers, and employees of the town can come together as a team. It is with understanding and respect we

can serve Hudson to the best of our ability, continuing the goal of keeping "Hudson a Great Place to Call Home."

Leadership begins with understanding and teamwork. The Board of Selectmen is a team charged with leading this town. My hope is that as a team, we can set a direction for Hudson that meets the needs and expectations of its citizens today and into the future.

May you and your family have a year filled with understanding and joy.

Sincerely,
Heidi Jakoby
Selectman, Hudson

Thanks from Firefighters

To the editor,

I want to thank the voters of Hudson for their approval of the firefighter's contract and all of the other fire department warrant articles. The support of the Board of Selectmen, Budget Committee and our citizens does not go unnoticed and is greatly appreciated by all of our members. We are very lucky to serve in such a great community, and the approval of this year's warrant articles will allow us to continue to serve you to the best of our abilities.

Thank you,
Brian Clarenbach
President
Professional
Firefighters of 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.

Have an Announcement?

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



Maple Weekend Phil Peron opened his doors for visitors at the LMP Sugar House on Saturday to celebrate the state's Maple Weekend. Friends, family and neighbors were there to explain the maple process, play music and hand out ice cream covered with syrup. *Photos by Chris Paul*

Crosswalks

Continued from page 1

have three lots with sidewalks that serve no purpose," said John Bisson, who was providing legal representation for KLN. "It seems to us that the proper response would be to simply delete the condition imposed."

Todd Boyer of 2 Merrill Street spoke in support of the stipulation removal.

"We don't even have a fund that is in place to hold money for sidewalks, our Town Engineer has even stated that they can't main-

tain them, you have a dead-end road that has no sidewalks," said Boyer. "As far as I'm concerned, I believe the applicant is more than justified in asking for the reconsideration."

Board member, James Crowley, expressed his frustration on what he called "a lack of policy" on how to manage sidewalks in Hudson. He called for a new set of regulations to fix some of the problems.

By contrast, board member, Victor Oates, disagreed that there was no fund to collect money from the stipulation, saying the

town could collect and earmark money from similar projects through impact fees.

"The applicant agreed to this, it was the sticker shock. I understand the sticker shock, I'd be amenable to coming down to a smaller figure just to offset it," said Oates.

After some debate, the Planning Board voted to remove the stipulation in a five-to-two vote.

The Hudson Planning Board is scheduled to meet again on Wednesday, March 27, at 7 p.m. in the Buxton Room of Town Hall.

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Party Rental Company Request Relief for Home Use

PAUL CONYERS
HUDSON TIMES

Greg McAdams of 7 Saint John St., asked for a Home Occupation Special Exception on Feb. 22 from the ZBA. McAdams was looking to operate an office for his business while using part of his home for storage.

"I'm the owner of UFO Party Rentals, basically we're a complete event rental company. I'm looking to be able to use one half of a two-car garage to store some inflatables," said McAdams.

More problematic from a zoning perspective was a request to park trailers on the, something McAdams hoped would not be a long-term solution.

"We are trying to find a

warehouse and it's been extremely difficult," he explained. "We do have storage units in Pepperell and that's our main thing, but that is quite a trip, so there are mornings where we have to leave pretty early. Being able to grab the inflatables and go saves me a bunch of time, I get to see my kids a little bit more, that sort of thing."

The business runs May through October, and despite using several trailers, McAdams claimed that a company food truck would be on the property during his off-season. He assured the ZBA that no customers ever come to his house.

"How many pieces of rental equipment do you

have in one part of the garage?" Asked Board member, Dean Sakati.

McAdams estimated that his company had about 80 pieces, with most in the Pepperell storage units and around ten of the most popular in the garage.

Two abutters were at the meeting to express opposition to the requested exception, including Andrew Cloutier of 6 Grigas St., who complained that the number of vehicles on the Saint John St., property has steadily increased over the past year.

"First, it was one truck and one trailer. Then it became two trucks, two trailers, and three employees," said Andrew. "Mr.

McAdams is parking in the street as his driveway is being used for storage, none of his employees live at this house, and they end up parking on the street during visits. This has increased activity in the neighborhood with these two trucks and trailers coming and going multiple times a day."

Sue Cloutier of 25 George St., expressed a similar opinion and wanted the area to remain "comfortable" in keeping with its residential zoning designation.

"What the maps don't show is how tight everything is, it's smaller over there," she said, referring to limited space on streets in the neighborhood. "When he has his equipment out

there, it's hard for people to get around. I question whether there's a safety issue when he has trailers parked on the road."

McAdams claimed that the ZBA meeting was the first time he had any serious problem with either neighbor and reiterated his eventual desire to find a warehouse large and cheap enough to keep equipment off his property. There was some uncertainty over what had previously been discussed between the neighbors.

Zoning Vice Chair, Norm Martin, warned that there were a few possible issues beyond the purview of the ZBA that could lead to trouble, including having

an improperly parked truck towed. He also mentioned possible advertising issues in a residential area by parking trailers labeled with a business name on the street and expressed a separate issue with on-site storage.

"I would like to see some promise to the town that everything will be stored inside with no washing on the property," said Martin. "Otherwise, this is not a proper home occupation."

Home occupation exemptions are typically smaller in scale.

After extensive debate, the ZBA voted to defer the matter to the next meeting, deciding that an in-person site walk was needed.

School Board Get Briefed By Local DECA Chapter

ALEX MALM
HUDSON TIMES

The Hudson School Board received a presentation from the district's local DECA Chapter during its March 11 meeting.

Avery Willard, a DECA officer, explained that there were about 500 students who competed in the state competition in NH, and they had 24 participants from their Chapter compete in the competition out of the 36 people who are in their Chapter. She added

that some weren't able to make it due to different scheduling conflicts. "Eight qualified for nationals," she said.

While only eight students originally qualified for nationals, she said four students moved up, due to some students not being able to attend it. "We have 12 students who are going to go to nationals," Willard said.

In addition to the 11 Alvirne students, Willard said an additional student

part of their Chapter, from Hollis Brookline also qualified. "It's pretty cool to bring her on our trip as well," Willard said.

During the meeting, the group was looking for permission to be able to attend the International Conference. "We are requesting permission for our DECA students to attend the international DECA Career Development Conference on April 27 - May 1, 2024," DECA advisors wrote in a memo to the School Board.

It was explained during the meeting that they would either be leaving for the trip on Friday, April 26 or Saturday, April 27, depending on the costs of flights and would be returning on Wednesday, May 1. "Students participate in the annual conference with other DECA members from across the globe during a 5-day, four-night stay at the Element by Westin Anaheim Resort Convention Center in Anaheim, CA," the advisors wrote in a

memo to the School Board. "At this event, DECA members compete in various business events. These activities provide students the opportunity to gain valuable real world business experience during their role play competitions with NH business professionals."

In addition, it was explained that students "gain the chance to interact with other business students across the globe to build lasting relationships

with students with similar interests. Lastly, students that place in the top 3 of their categories are eligible for several scholarships through the national and local DECA organization."

It was noted that the cost per student is approximately \$800, and that it is expected to be paid for through fundraising efforts and by student/family contributions.

The School Board ultimately approved the travel request.

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Hudson Ponds to be Treated with Herbicide this Year

PAUL CONYERS
HUDSON TIMES

At their March meeting, Chairman, Willaim Collins, of the Hudson Conservation Commission warned that professional services funds would likely be “depleted quicker than normal” in 2024 due to more expensive herbicide pond treatments. Solitude, the company hired by the town of Hudson to maintain its lakes, used cheaper D.A.S.H. treatments last year.

“I was just wondering; do they state why they’re pursuing herbicide treatment over D.A.S.H.?” asked Secretary, Ken Dickinson. “Herbicide treatment is

so expensive right now.”

According to correspondence from the NH Department of Environmental Services (DES), there was an “excessive” amount of plant growth last year that D.A.S.H. has struggled to keep up with.

Regardless of the method, pond treatments are used by the town to control the growth of invasive plants in local bodies of water like milfoil. Half the cost of these treatments is covered by the state.

“I was curious, with Solitude, the amount we owe them. Plus, we’re paying to spray Musquash, and I want-

ed to understand whether we have sufficient funds,” said Alternate Commissioner, Linda Krisciunas.

“Unfortunately, it’s sort of like dandelions in your lawn, if you don’t treat them, they come back every year, if you treat them, they’re gone,” said Collins.

She was informed that while the Conservation Commission is committed to their pond treatment contract with Solitude, no money has yet been allocated to spray for invasive weeds in Musquash, although it is considered a

priority.

“I’m confident it will all be ironed out,” the Chair assured the rest of the body. “Some of that money can be parsed out from the Conservation fund if we need.”

On that front, nothing is expected to happen until late May or early June.

Another correspondence addressed a recent article from the NH Business Review which addressed the concept of carbon credits, or carbon mining, and how new regulations from the state might impact the region.

“It’s kind of a weird

concept where they want to keep forested lands and you can bargain on the commodities market,” Collins explained, adding that the issue was incredibly complex, especially in NH. “Forest operations are an important part of our economy in the state of NH, and it’s an even more important part of some community’s sources of revenue.”

According to the article, private landowners can earn money in the open market by maintaining “storehouses of carbon” to offset carbon emissions.

“Companies buy into it to offset their carbon footprint. Steel industry can’t be net zero, so they buy carbon offsets, and this is an avenue to buy it,” explained Vice Chair, Carl Murphy.

The Chair received a letter from Dena Hoffman inviting members of the Commission to Pelham for an Understanding Watersheds and Cyanobacteria Conference on Saturday, April 6, from 8:30 a.m. to noon at the Pelham Town Hall. The event is open to the public, and Collins invited anyone interested to register online.

School Board Discuss Strategic Plan

ALEX MALM
HUDSON TIMES

For months, the Hudson School District Strategic Planning Committee held a number of community forums, in hopes of getting feedback from stakeholders as the Strategic Plan is crafted.

During the March 11 School Board meeting, it was discussed that if the Board felt that they have gotten enough input, or if they needed to try to get more.

School Board Vice Chair, Maureen Dionne, and a member of the Strategic Planning Committee said they wanted to have a conversation about the current process and potential changes.

Dionne explained that the Committee was chosen in the fall, and they have met many times. She said they began having forums in early February and there was a survey option as well, where they were able to get

about 150 responses, from different stakeholders.

But when it comes to in person forums, she stated that they haven’t had as much of a turnout.

“The struggle has been getting people to come,” Dionne said.

She explained during the meeting that out of the seven sessions they held they had just under 25 people who attended.

“What do we do moving forward,” Dionne asked the School Board.

School Board member, Ethan Beals, who is a member of the Committee, said they originally had a meeting scheduled last week, but he didn’t know if he wanted to look at the data yet, with-

out seeing what the School Board wanted to do.

“We wanted feedback from the Board before we really did anything,” he said.

School Board member, Gary Gasdia, said he thinks the effort was good, to get feedback, and that they should start looking into the feedback they already received. “From my standpoint every effort has been made, dig into it,” he said. Superintendent, Dan Moulis, stated that there are some things that they haven’t done yet, saying that it might make sense to go to a Chamber of Commerce meeting, or to other civic groups in town to see if they have any input.

“That might be a missing link we haven’t done,” Moulis said.

School Board Chair, Gretchen Whiting, said she thinks it would make sense to try to talk to Alvirne High School alumni, noting that it’s likely that most of them went through the entire school system and they can get their input.

School Board member, Mike Campbell, added that they could reach out to different groups. “But I think you should dissect the numbers you have now,” he said.

Moulis said while they have gotten good feedback so far, he hopes that they can continue to get more feedback.

OBITUARY

Norman A Whitaker



Norman A Whitaker, 96, a long-time resident of Hudson, NH died on March 10 at home surrounded by his loving family. Norm was born on Feb. 28, 1928 in Beverly MA, son of the late Claude and Hilda (Cooper) Whitaker. Norm was predeceased by sister Marcia Chapman and son Eric Whitaker.

Norm was the loving and devoted husband of Eleanor Louise (Bothel) Whitaker with whom he shared 64 years of marriage. Norm and Eleanor met while working at WCSH in Portland, ME.

Norman served his country honorably in the US Navy during the Korean War while stationed in Japan. He was a thought leader and engineering manager working in varied roles in the US defense high tech industry during the Cold War. As an early employee during the startup phase at Sanders Associates (now BAE), he led groups on Canal St and at nearly all Sanders locations in ME, NH and MA. He also worked at Avco in Wilmington, MA and Honeywell in Lexington, MA. Norm served many years as correspondence secretary for his Program Management Development class at Harvard Business School.

Norman was a member of First Church in Nashua for many years.

He was survived by Nancy Whitaker and Jim Hile of Deerfield IL, Norman Jr. and Mari Whitaker of Bellevue WA, Kenneth and Fran Whitaker of Manchester NH, and Andrew and Kathy Whitaker of Hollis NH, thirteen grandchildren: Andrew, Elliott and Kristi, Spencer, Nathaniel and Rosie, Maxwell and Melody, Colette and Nathanael, Noel, Jennifer and Matt, Meredith, Madeleine, Cameron, Bradley, and Samuel, as well as seven great grand-children: Landon, Mila, Zoe, Ryu, Mei, Kaiden, and Bowden.

A memorial in celebration of Norman’s life will be held on Monday, March 25 from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m., at the Dumont-Sullivan Funeral Home, 50 Ferry St., Hudson, NH. To share an online message of condolence please visit www.dumontsullivan.com.

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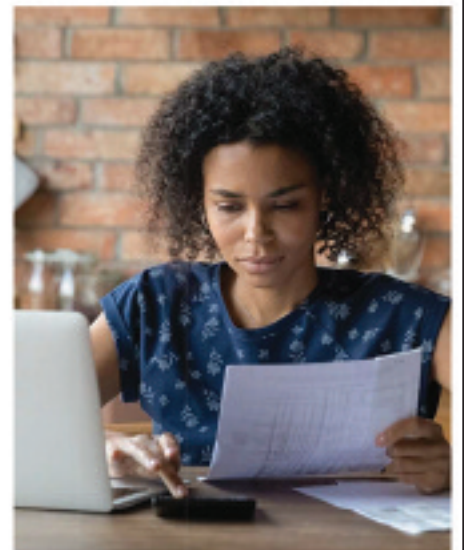
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Music in the Schools Month Celebrated with Annual Cabaret



The Alvirine High School Music Department, members of the Friends of Music Cabaret Committee and the Tri-M Music Honor Society converted the school cafeteria into a three-stage music hall over the weekend.

The annual "Cabaret" performance was titled "Music: The Universal Language" this year and featured music by the Concert Band, Concert Choir, Jazz Band, Symphonic Band and the B Naturals. There were also a number of individual, duo and trio performances scattered throughout the concert. Some of the songs performed were: Earthdance; Ad Astra; Moondance; Bumblebee; The Cave of Fear; All at Sea; Gentle Rain, Iron and Ice; Sing a Song; Autumn Leaves; How Deep is Your Love; Game of Thrones; Unclouded Day; Highlights from Frozen and a medley of K.C. and the Sunshine Band. The performance was narrated and acts were introduced by Joe Kasper. See more photos on next page *Photos by Chris Paul*

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HUDSON SPORTS

Admirals Exceed Expectations, Finish Fourth in DII

BLAKE SANTANA
HUDSON TIMES

It took a lot of work at the beginning of the season to figure out what to expect from the Admirals. Had the team's window slammed shut with the graduation of Matt Ryan, Sal Pace, Hayden Ricard, and Brennan Levesque? Or could the remaining core pieces, Trent Scarbro, Bryce Larco, James Nemeth, and Cade Bouchard, among others, carry the team to the promised land? Either outcome was believable back in December, and not even those close to the team knew what would happen.

Once the puck dropped on the regular season, the Admirals made it clear that they weren't fazed by the loss of last year's "red", or top, line, as they jumped out to an easy 1-0 record after a 5-1 victory over Lebanon-Stevens-Mascoma. This team would eventually ride a vastly Division III schedule to a fourth seed in the tournament. Surprisingly for the Admirals, it wasn't the likes of Trent Scarbro, Ceddy Beaulieu, or even Braydon Atwood that shined that night, but it was sophomores Kian Corcoran and Brandon Callahan led

the way for Alvirne-Milford.

In the team's second game, they took to home ice for the first time to battle the Goffstown Grizzlies with Corcoran again manning the net. Corcoran proved that he was not just a backup for the Admirals, but a solid option in net and perhaps the team's ace. Corcoran's 41-save shutout led his team to a 1-0 victory and a 2-0 start, something the program hadn't seen since 2018-19. That was also the last time the team had made the playoffs, and this group was chasing the program records set in that season.

Alvirne-Milford's third matchup was against the Monadnock-Fall Mountain-ConVal Huskies. This bout was the first time we saw senior netminder Trent Scarbro between the pipes. An 11-2 victory moved Alvirne-Milford to 3-0 on the season, establishing themselves as potential title contenders. Things were shaking up to be interesting at Skate 3, as by this point in the season, the Admirals had seen Bryce Larco, Kian Corcoran, and Brandon Callahan begin to break out and Braydon Atwood showing the potential that he

showed two years ago as a freshman. The Admirals were back and had Alvirne's first 3-0 start since 2011-12, another year that this team would draw comparisons to.

Like any team, the Admirals had their rough patches during the season, and the month of January was the low point for this squad, as they started the month 0-3 with losses to Nashua South-Pelham, Merrimack, and Somersworth-Coe-Brown before what might have been the most crucial game of the season: a 4-4 tie against the Green Wave. While the result kept the Admirals at NHIAA-.500, it signified something far more important for Alvirne-Milford: the resurgence of Trent Scarbro.

After falling behind 3-0 to Dover in the first period, it was clear that something was wrong with Kian Corcoran, and head coach Dave Thibeault decided to turn to the veteran netminder to right the ship. Scarbro did just that, stopping all but one shot he faced, a 3-on-1 chance that Zach Grigg beat Scarbro on. Alvirne-Milford, fortunately, took the momentum of having

their senior goaltender back in his best form, and they stormed back, evening the game at 4-4 and having a fifth goal wiped off the board. A tie after being behind 3-0 through 15 minutes showed something this team had not yet shown, an ability to fight through adversity and make games out of seemingly non-competitive contests.

The Admirals followed the tie up with a 4-0 victory over the Huskies, sweeping the season series, and giving Scarbro his third and final high school shutout. More importantly, the Admirals were back over .500 at 4-3-1 heading into their toughest stretch of the season. Games at Spaulding, Winnacunnet, and St. Thomas Aquinas, followed by home games against Oyster River and Nashua North-Souhegan were the next cluster of the schedule, and a daunting task to stay afloat through the beginning of February.

After dropping a heartbreaking game against Spaulding 5-4 that saw the game-winning goal cross the goalline with 38.8 seconds left in the third and then falling just short in a classic battle against Winnacunnet 4-2, the Admirals battled back, giving Corcoran his first start in quite some time against St. Thomas. They got the victory 4-3 with the third St. Thomas goal coming on a penalty shot after Ceddy Beaulieu had committed a

hooking penalty on a break-away chance for the Saints.

Sitting at 5-5-1 coming back home for Oyster River and Nashua North-Souhegan, the playoffs were in sight, and the team knew that they had the chance to make it, "I'm not worried. Division II has been crazy this year. It's our year this year," said sophomore Brandon Callahan before their matchup with Oyster River.

The team managed to jump out to a 2-1 lead in the first after goals from Braydon Atwood and Bryce Larco through the first period, and carried that lead into the second before the Bobcats broke the brick wall that was Kian Corcoran and Cayden Giordani came away with the game-winner late in the third. Another heartbreaking loss for Alvirne-Milford. "We'll bounce back Monday," said senior Trent Scarbro. "I'm not losing to Zach [Veilieux] twice this year."

Bounce back is exactly what the Admirals did behind goals from Ceddy Beaulieu, Brandon Ganas, and two from Brandon Callahan as well as a stellar performance from Scarbro in net that led the Admirals to an upset 4-3 victory over the Sabre-Titans in a game that inched the Admirals closer to the playoffs and would ultimately keep the Sabre-Titans out in Division I.

The Admirals then got a bit of a break from the top-

tier competition with a trip back to Dover to play the Portsmouth-Newmarket Clippermules, and they came away with a 4-1 victory. The biggest highlight of the night was the first and only high school goal for team favorite Cory Tomkins. Brandon Ganas, Braydon Atwood, and Cory's little brother Mason Tomkins also found the back of the net for Alvirne-Milford, pushing the team's magic number down to just two. They could clinch with a win against Timberlane.

The Admirals took care of business against the Owls, winning 7-1 in a game that was never close. After knowing that the Saints and Clippermules both had lost earlier in the day, the Admirals knew they had earned themselves at least a playoff berth for the first time since 2018-19.

"We're not done yet," Corcoran said after the team earned the playoff spot. "We won't be done til we raise a banner. This is just the beginning."

Knowing they had earned a playoff spot, the Admirals had just three games left. A trip to Goffstown followed by home dates against Somersworth-Coe-Brown and Merrimack.

The second matchup with Goffstown ended in a thrilling 2-2 tie that the Admirals had several chances to take late, missing a trio of open nets down the stretch. Fortunately, it

continued on page 11

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Three Admirals Represent in Senior All-Star Tourney

BLAKE SANTANA
HUDSON TIMES

While Alvirne-Milford's season did not end in the way that the team and their fans wanted, there was still more hockey to be had in the world of New Hampshire high school sports with the annual Senior All-Star Games in Exeter. This year, unlike in past years, the teams were mixed with Division I, II, and III players on all four squads. Gone were the days of Division I and Division II being in one game and Division III being a separate contest. All players who played for the same squad during the season were placed on the same team for the tournament,

with Alvirne-Milford's group being assigned to Team Red.

Team Red was comprised of players from Alvirne-Milford (3, Trent Scarbro, Cedrik Beaulieu, Cade Bouchard), Winnacunnet (5, Owen Helton, Ian McCormick, Nolan Rennie, Brady Thompson, Drew Morelli), Hanover (1, Jack Wilkenson), Bishop Guertin (3, Joe DeKarski, Caleb Young, Aiden Kelley), Salem (1, Luke Barton), Nashua North-Souhegan (1, Chase McBride), John Stark-Hopkinton (1, Lucas Gagnon), Kennett (1, Robbie Murphy).

This season, due to the introduction of a round-

robin tournament, the day was divided into 25-minute running-time games where everyone got to play each other once. Team Red began their afternoon with a matchup against Team Blue, who rostered players from Pinkerton, Concord, Bow, Dover, Lebanon-Stevens-Mascoma, Berlin-Gorham, and Portsmouth-Newmarket. Team Red went with Trent Scarbro in net while Blue went with Kolin Masterson of Berlin-Gorham. Brady Thompson of Winnacunnet tallied the lone marker for Team Red, giving them a 1-0 victory in the first game. Scarbro continued to prove to the state exactly why he was selected



Alvirne-Milford Admirals Assistant Coach, Tom Beaulieu, left, with left wing, Cedrik Beaulieu (C), defense Cade Bouchard (A) and goaltender Trent Scarbro. Photo courtesy of Scott Bouchard

as an all-star, stopping all nine shots he faced in his first 25 minutes of action.

The second game was divided into two 12:30 halves to allow the ice to be cleaned. Team Red's second opponent was Team White 1, which was comprised of players from Londonderry, Manchester, Somersworth-Coe-Brown, Spaulding, Pembroke-Campbell, and Kearsarge-Plymouth. Team Red made the move to swap their goaltenders for the second game, giving Winnacunnet's Owen Helton the nod. Helton played well, only allowing one goal on a rebound chance that Owen Carey found the back of the net. For Team Red, it was Jack Wilkinson and Joe DeKarski with goals, good enough for a Team Red 2-1 victory and a 2-0 start to the tournament.

Game three was between the two heavyweights. Both Team Red and Team White 2 came into this matchup undefeated at 2-0 with Team White 2 having beaten Team White 1 3-1 in their first game and then beating Team Blue 4-3 in their second game, setting up a defacto championship game between the two teams with Team Blue and Team White 1 battling for third place. Team White 2 was made up of stars from Merrimack, Windham, Exeter, Trinity, Bedford, Hollis-Brookline-Derryfield, and Belmont-Gilford. Team Red decided to stick with Helton in goal while Team White 2 turned to Bedford's Tristan Kerr to

continued on page 12

Admirals

Continued from page 10 only cost them two points and not four. This tie, however, earned them at least a share of the best record in Alvirne-Milford Admirals program history, guaranteeing them an 8-8-2 finish at worst with two games to play.

Somersworth-Coe-Brown came to town looking to sweep the season series once again in the team's penultimate regular season contest. The Admirals had different ideas, however, as they not only jumped out to a lead early on, but behind goals from Braydon Atwood and Brandon Ganas and more outstanding goaltending, Alvirne-Milford took the game by a final score of 2-1.

By the time the team hit the ice against the Tomahawks, they had been locked into the sixth seed in

Division II and been guaranteed a trip back to Phillips Exeter Academy and a rematch against the Winnacunnet Warriors in the first game of the playoffs. Alvirne-Milford was unfortunately unable to solve former backup netminder James Brew who, thanks to a weak goal scored by Will Farrell, managed to sweep his former squad with a 1-0 victory, spoiling senior night.

In the playoffs, it was nearly impossible to tell if the Admirals were a favorite to win it all or if they were playing with house money. Regardless of this, the Admirals turned to Trent Scarbro in hopes of him carrying the team to a state title. While the Warriors got the first goal off a Brayden Emery deflection, Alvirne-Milford showed a level of resiliency not seen since Dover with James Nemeth responding with a deflection goal, Brandon Callahan

giving the team the lead, and then James Nemeth scoring on a delayed penalty off a rebound from Caddy Beaulieu, all in under five minutes with Nemeth's second being the eventual game-winner. Even after Drew Morelli brought the game to a one-goal battle, Brandon Ganas sealed the deal with a ripper of a wrist shot that beat Owen Helton, giving his team a 4-2 lead. The Admirals were outshot heavily, but Trent Scarbro was able to stop 48 of the 50 shots he faced, which was enough to send his team to the final four against Oyster River. The team's first final-four appearance since 2011-12 against the team that upset them at home in the preliminary round back in 2018-

19.

Unfortunately for the Admirals, the Cinderella story came to an end in the semifinals as the Bobcats took them out with a whimper 4-0. The Admirals ran into the one thing they hadn't seen much of all season, a game in which there was a goalie not named Kian Corcoran who outplayed Trent Scarbro. While the loss was a painful one for the Maroon and Navy, this season was far from anything anyone on the team should be disappointed in. The best finish since 2011-12 when the team was still in Division III, the team's first playoff appearance since 2018-19, and all-in-all, the best season in Admirals program history.

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Hudson Resident Ready To Run In Boston Marathon



Cory Minichino with his eldest son Marcus.

ALEX MALM
HUDSON TIMES

Hudson resident, Cory Minichino, will be running in the 2024 Boston Marathon this spring and will be raising money for a worthy cause. "My bib is being

sponsored by The Military Friends Foundation headquartered in Swampscott, MA," Minichino wrote in an email. "I have pledged to raise \$10,000 for the Military Friends Foundation to help military families in

need."

Minichino explained that he learned about the Military Friends Foundation, in 2023, when a coworker told him that they were participating in the 2023 Tough Ruck. "This event is hosted by the Military Friends Foundation and is recognized by the Boston Athletics Association," Minichino wrote in an email. "My entire office at work did the Tough Ruck and we raised nearly \$50,000 for the organization for fallen military and first responder families."

Later that year, the same coworker asked if they wanted to run in the Boston Marathon, with sponsorship of the Military Friends Foundation. "I decided to join him as well. I don't know anyone personally in the organization, but I passionately support our military members," Minichino said.

"This is not my first marathon because the Tough Ruck is also a marathon, but instead of a running marathon, it is a walking/running marathon with a weighted rucksack on your back for 26.2 miles," Minichino continued "I carried 44 lbs. over the finish line."

Minichino said he will continue to raise funds for

the organization. "To put it simply, raising funds for this organization makes life a little easier for those who need it most. If I can make the slightest difference in someone's life, it is worth it."

"I've met a lot of inspirational people from the local VFW, Rotary Club, Lions Club, and the NH State Veterans Advisory Committee," Minichino

said. "After this I plan to dedicate a lot of my time to continuing with charity and helping people in need." Minichino said the experience "has been truly life changing."

Those interested in donating can do so by visiting www.givengain.com/project/cory-raising-funds-for-military-friends-foundation-71013.

Hockey

Continued from page 11

start. Team White 2 jumped out to an early lead before Nolan Rennie and Chase McBride scored to make it 2-1 in favor of Team Red. It wasn't long before Helton allowed a pair of tallies for Team White 2 that gave them the lead 3-2 with about 13 minutes left in the game. That goal meant that Helton's night was over and

coaches Mike Lane and Tom Beaulieu sent in Scarbro to finish things off.

As the Admirals and opponents alike had seen all year, when Trent is on his game, there is no way to beat him cleanly. On Sunday, Scarbro was on another level, stopping all 17 shots he faced in 38 minutes of action. He lived up to his "quadruple him" nickname that has been jokingly given to the senior netminder.

When all was said and done, McBride added a sec-

ond goal and Nolan Rennie got the game-winner for Team Red, as they emerged victorious 4-3 in what will be the final game many of these star players will play in competitive hockey.

While Cade Bouchard and Caddy Beaulieu didn't find their way onto the scoresheet in the tournament, both had several key plays in the form of blocks, clears, or setup passes that allowed their team to play sound hockey and keep the puck out of the net.

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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.

Psychic & Craft Fair

The Hudson Lions Club will host a Psychic & Craft Fair on Saturday, April 27, from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m., at the Hudson Community Center, Lions Ave. Hudson. Psychics will be available for readings, cash only. Check out the many vendors who will be selling their wares. For information contact Jeri 603-320-3614, or Sholeh.sexton4@gmail.com. Proceeds benefit of Hudson Lions Club Charities.

Comedy Night

A Live Comedy Night Fundraiser held by the Hudson Lions Club will happen on Thursday April 18, at 7 p.m., at Chunky's Cinema Pub Pelham. Tickets are \$20 each. Doors open at 6 p.m. To purchase tickets, contact:

Susan Flynn, Email: Flynn-family60@gmail.com. Sponsored by Hudson, Litchfield, Londonderry, Nashua, Salem Windham Lions Club. Proceeds benefit of CHAD, children with cancer.

American Legion Post 48

On March 23, a Meat Raffle will be held starting at 2 p.m., to fund Hudson Schools Hot Lunch program. For more information contact Valerie Mon. - Fri. from 10:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m., at the American Legion 603-889-9777.

Volunteer Breakfast

Friends of Benson Park will hold a "Benson Park Community Volunteer Breakfast" on Saturday, April 6, from 10 a.m. - noon at Benson Park, Hudson, (In historic

Office Building next to the Elephant Barn). Learn about the many Volunteer opportunities available at Benson Park including: Benson Park Store weekend sales, Concerts & Events, Park Clean-up Days, and Adopt-A-Spot park beautification projects and more. Additionally, at the Breakfast, there will be a short presentation on the Benson Park Museum construction and design project and how you can help. All ages are welcomed to this free event and registration is required at www.friendsofbensonpark.org. The Registration deadline is 3/30/24. For updates & weather cancellations be sure to follow us on Facebook - www.facebook.com/Friends-BensonPark & Instagram www.instagram.com/friendsofbensonpark/ - Questions?

Email info@friendsofbensonpark.org.

Lions Scholarships

The Hudson Lions Club will be awarding four general individual \$1,000 scholarships to graduating High School Seniors and one individual \$1,000 scholarship to a graduating Senior who is a member of the Alvirne Leo's Club. Applicants must be a Hudson NH resident. Applications may be obtained at the Alvirne Guidance Office or email: DGRoger@comcast.net. Applications are due by April 12.

Honk Musical

Class Act and the Alvirne High School Music department are getting ready to present Honk, a musical tale of the Ugly Duckling. Show times: April 12 at 6:30 p.m., April 13 at 1 p.m. & 6:30 p.m. Students \$10, Adults \$15. To purchase tickets go to <https://alvirneclassact.ludus.com>

Girls Softball League

Tryouts for Hudson Girls Softball League will be held at Hudson Memorial School's Gym, on Saturday, March 23,

from 2 - 4 p.m. Divisions 6U-14U are encouraged to attend! TRYOUTS! Tryouts are held to evaluate the skill level of players to ensure teams are as evenly matched as possible. Every player will make a team. Any NEW player (8U or older) or player wishing to advance a division must attend tryouts. Early advancement is not guaranteed. If you have questions prior to registration, please contact us at playhgs1@gmail.com. Interested in sponsoring a team? Contact Meg Radziewicz at hgs1.fundraising@gmail.com or go to www.hgs1nh.com (Returning players are not required to attend tryouts unless they wish to advance to a higher division.)

Solar Eclipse Party

On Monday, April 8, at 2:30 p.m., come watch the eclipse and celebrate this special event with a science explanation and eat a fun snack at the Rodgers Memorial Library.

Cookbook Club

On Tuesday, April 9, at 11:30 a.m., come to the Rodgers Memorial Library

and prepare a recipe from this month's topic, Vegan Recipes, then engage with others about your recipe adventures.

Rodgers Readers

On Thursday, April 4, at 7 p.m., come join in to discuss the book "The Wind Knows My Name" by Isabel Allende, the Rodgers Memorial Library.

Dungeons & Donuts

Looking for people to play Dungeons & Dragons with? Come play and grab a donut on Saturday, April 6, and 20, at 9:30 a.m., at the Rodgers Memorial Library.

STEM Challenge

Design an Umbrella on Wednesday, April 10, at 6 p.m., at the Rodgers Memorial Library. Students in grades K-5 are invited to design an umbrella using household supplies.

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

continued on page 14

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Around Town

Continued from page 14

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.

Read 'Em and Eat at T-Bones

Come to T-Bones to discuss books over good food and drinks on Monday, March 25, at 5:30 p.m. March's book is "One Of Us Is Lying" by Karen M. McManus. Then come on Monday, April 29, at 7 p.m. April's Book is The Ocean At "The End Of The Lane" by Neil Gaiman.

Starry Messenge

On Wednesday, March 27, at 6 p.m. The Starry Messenger, presented by Michael Francis, a dramatic fun-filled adaptation of Galileo's short treatise "Siderius Nuncius.", will be held at Rodgers Memorial Library. Come to the Library as Galileo (dressed in 17th-century costume) arrives to present a public lecture on his most recent discoveries made using his newly-devised spyglass.

Candy Poker

On Thursday, March 28, at 6:30 p.m., come to the Rodgers Memorial Library for a monthly game of Texas Hold' Em poker. Play for candy and take your winnings home. Beginners welcome.

Spring Storytime

On Saturday, March 30, at 10 p.m., come to the Rodgers Memorial Library for songs, stories, dancing, and bubbles that will have the whole family moving and grooving.

Tween Anime Club

On Thursday, April 11, at 5:30 p.m., come Watch Anime and Eat Ramen at the Rodgers Memorial Library. This club is for tweens in grades 5-8.

Access Wisdom Book Club

On Thursday, April 11, at 7:30 p.m., certified life coach Diane MacKinnon leads a book club highlighting books

that helps individuals gain more access to our own wisdom at the Rodgers memorial Library. This month's book is "The Alchemist" by Paolo Coelho.

Genealogy Club

Seeking Rogers Roots-the Maine, Canada, Ireland Connection on Friday, April 12, at 1:30 p.m., with the Rodgers memorial Library. This enlightening case takes the listener through the extensive search for the supposed Scottish roots and parentage of James C. Rogers of Brewer, Maine. This is a virtual program via Zoom.

Mystery Lovers Book Club

You know you love it - murder, mystery and mayhem all in one place on Monday, April 15, at 1 p.m., at Rodger Memorial Library. This month's book pick is "Killers of a Certain Age" by Deanna Raybourn.

Afternoon Book Group

On Tuesday, April 16, at 1:30 p.m., come to the Rodgers Memorial Library for an in-depth discussion of quality best-selling fiction and nonfiction books including biographies. This month's book: How to be Perfect: The Correct Answer to Every Moral Question by Michael Schur.

Crime and Cookies

A True Crime Podcast Club, will be held on Wednesday, April 17, at 7 p.m., at the Memorial Library. Discuss this month's listen while enjoying a tasty dessert.

Characters & Cocoa

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

Elementary Craft

On Thursday, April 18, at 6 p.m., Grades 1-5 are invited to join Miss Marissa once a month to do a craft/art project at Rodgers memorial Library. This months project is Llama Painting.

Friends of the Library Donation Event

On Thursday, April 18, all day. Do you have gently used books in excellent condition you wish to donate to the library? Bring them to All-Day Book Donation Event! Conditions and exceptions apply, see events.rogerslibrary.org for details.

Trivia Night

On Friday, April 19, at 6 p.m. Trivia Master Darryl Brazee joins the Rodgers Memorial Library for an after-hours round of Trivia: American History Edition.

Family Storytime

On Saturday, April 20, at 10 a.m., come for a Special Saturday family storytime at Rodgers Memorial Library! There will be songs, stories, bubbles, and dancing that will keep everyone moving and grooving.

Candy Poker

On Thursday, April 25, at 6:30 p.m., join in on this monthly game of Texas Hold' Em poker, at the Rodgers Memorial Library. Play for candy and take your winnings home! Beginners welcome.

Family Candy Bingo

On Monday, April 22, at 1 p.m., come Play BINGO with the family and win candy at the Rodgers Memorial Library. Children under age 9 must be accompanied by an adult.

Sing-Along, Laught-a-Lot

On Tuesday, April 23, at 10 a.m., Steve Blunt will share a concert full of fun, upbeat songs that tickle the funny bone, warm the heart, and delight the imagination, and with lots of audience participation, at the Rodgers Memorial Library.

Tween Taylor Swift Party

On Wednesday, April 24, at 2 p.m., Tweens in grades 4-8 are invited to listen to Taylor Swift while having a snack and making bracelets at the Rodgers Memorial Library.

Stitchers' Circle

On Saturday, April 13, at 9:30 a.m., at the Rodgers

Memorial Library. Come and Stitch/cross stitch, black-work, embroider, knit, crochet, hand craft, etc. lead by Oonagh Williams. Not a formal class, but people are willing to help.

Curious Kids

On Fridays in April at 10 a.m., explore learning centers with your preschooler with a different theme each week at the Rodgers Memorial Library.

Adventurers Storytime

On Tuesdays in April at 10 a.m., join Ms. Tanya for stories, songs, games, and activities at the Rodgers Memorial Library. This event is or ages 3-5. There will be a different theme each week. Caretaker participates with their child or children. Children should be able to sit through a story. Siblings welcome.

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.

Drop In Stitchers

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

Dino the Therapy Dog

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

St. Bernard who loves to make new friends.

Movers & Shakers

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

BINGO!

Bingo is back at the Senior Center, 19 Kimball Hill Rd., Hudson, every Tuesday afternoon. Slider cards will start being sold at 1:15 p.m., \$1.25 each. You must be registered at the Senior Center to play.

Songs & Snuggles

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

Crocheting with Linda

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

PFOA Water Test

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

Teen Hangout

On Tuesdays in April 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.

Backyard Planting

On Wednesday, April 10, at 6:30 p.m., come join Rodgers memorial Library Circulation Librarian and "Outdoor Guy" Dana Benner to learn how to plant in a way to attract those birds, bees and butterflies.

Book Sale

On Sunday, April 14, at 11 a.m., a Secondhand Prose Book Sale Sponsored by the Friends of the Library will be held at Hills Memorial Library (downstairs). 18 Library St. There will be Books, CDs, DVDs, for all ages available for \$2 or less.

Listening Party

On Friday, April 19, at 2:30 p.m., come to the Rodgers Memorial Library to listen to Taylor Swift's new album, Tortured Poets Department. Enjoy a snack and make friendship bracelets.

Coast Guard History

A Brief History of the Coast Guard with Captain Greg Ketchen (Retired) will be held virtually through the Rodgers Memorial Library on Tuesday, April 16, at 1 p.m. Greg Ketchen is a retired U.S. Coast Guard Captain living in Osterville, MA. He is a frequent lecturer on a variety of topics related to Coast Guard missions and history. Please register for this event and you'll receive the link in the confirmation and reminder emails.

Author Discussion

Author Heather Wolf Discusses "Find More Birds: 111 Surprising Ways to Spot Birds Wherever You Are" virtually through the Rodgers Memorial Library on Wednesday, April 24, at 7 p.m. It will be a fascinating conversation about being in the moment and noticing the wonderful and varied birds around us.



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