

THE Hudson Times

May 15, 2025 ♦ Volume 3 – Issue 19

A FREE Weekly Publication



HOPE WALK Amaya Dorsey and Victoria Suppa lead the HOPE Walk that took place at Alvirne High School on Saturday morning. The two juniors raised nearly \$14,000 for the American Foundation of Suicide Prevention through the walk. See story page 7.

Photo by Chris Paul

Resident Suggests Leveling Early Education Schools

ALEX MALM
HUDSON TIMES

During the public input portion of the May 5 Hudson School Board meeting, Randy Brownrigg, a resident and member of the Hudson Budget Committee, questioned the school district and or School Board about whether or not they have thought about putting together a plan for Dr. H.O. Smith and Library Street

Schools. He noted that the school buildings are in need of serious repairs, and said that they need to come up with a plan of what they will do with the students there in the future. “Let’s be honest, that has to be leveled to the ground,” Brownrigg said during public input.

Brownrigg explained that he thinks they need to have all the different stakeholders come together and

be involved with the process, including teachers for example. “That needs to be started now,” Brownrigg said.

In response to the public input, Hudson School Board Chair Maureen Dionne explained that what Brownrigg was suggesting is exactly what they are looking at. “There is an ELC (Early Learning Center) commit-

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Resident Takes Issue With Lack of Urgency on Infrastructure Study

ALEX MALM
HUDSON TIMES

At the most recent Hudson Board of Selectmen meeting, during the public input portion of the meeting, the topic of a citizen petition warrant article was discussed. “I’m here tonight because Hudson is at a tipping point,” resident and Planning Board member Victor Oates said. “And it’s time we talk honestly about how we got here.” He explained in 2024 voters approved a warrant article for a comprehensive infrastructure study.

“Why? Because every resident sees what’s happening. Rapid development, heavier traffic, crowded schools, growing demands on Police, Fire, Public Works, water and sewer. The study wasn’t just nice

to have,” Oates said. “It was a critical tool to plan for the future and avoid bigger problems down the road. But after that clear vote, this Board chose not to fund it.” He said residents in 2025 “didn’t give up. They pushed to get the funding back on the ballot.”

Oates said that three members of the Board of Selectmen did not vote to recommend the warrant article.

“How can you expect voters to support something when their own leaders are telling them not to,” Oates said. “The article failed. Not because it wasn’t needed, but because it lacked the support of the very people elected to lead. Fast forward to today and here we are reading a scathing audit calling out Hudson for neg-

ligence and failure to plan. Exactly what this study was designed to prevent. And let’s not forget that same audit told this town to start with your Capital Asset Policy.”

Oates questioned how they could go about a Capital Asset Policy without having a study done. “Well, how do you start that without understanding the state of your roads? Your utilities? Your public safety facilities and your schools? That comprehensive study would have been the foundation for that,” Oates said. “Providing the data, assessments and forecasting needed to actually manage Hudson’s infrastructure like the valuable assets they are.”

Oates during the meeting argued that “Ignoring
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Second Gambia Street Dwelling Appeal Denied by Zoning Board

PAUL CONYERS
HUDSON TIMES

The Hudson Zoning Board of Adjustment’s April meeting included another last-minute appeal from a controversial sober house at 12-14 Gambia Street. Brendan and Julie Burke’s original variance request was formally denied by the ZBA last March. Prior to making a variance request, Hudson Zoning Administrator Chris Sullivan cited the Gambia Street facility for operating in a residential zone without approval.

“The application was to allow seven unrelated individuals to live together while recovering from sub-

stance abuse,” explained Sullivan. “The use would not be permitted in any zone.”

Beyond its conflict with local zoning regulations, the sober house was opposed by many neighbors following complaints of high residential turnover, excessive noise, and possible safety issues.

The Burkes have asserted that the denial is “discriminatory” under the Americans with Disabilities Act. They further argued that public testimony against the sober home led to a “biased” rejection from the ZBA.

“Is there any new information that’s provided

here?” asked Selectman Liaison Dillion Dumont. “Is there any information they’re providing here that’s different than before?”

After reviewing the appeal, Sullivan stated that the property owners did not seem to be making many new arguments.

“The thing that they are asking for is a reasonable accommodation,” said Board Chair Norman Martin. “From what I read, the reasonable accommodation is for people who own a home, and it’s like a temporary thing. If one of your family members is in a nursing home, you want to bring them home, and you

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Budget Committee Debates Scope of Authority with Job Description Request

PAUL CONYERS
HUDSON TIMES

The Hudson Budget Committee met on May 6 to discuss matters related to a voter-approved demand to trim \$800,000 from the school budget. School Board Liaison Daniel Kilgour reported that early preparations were underway.

"We anticipate that item will be included in our next agenda," he said. "Further information will be provided to the Budget Committee following our meeting."

The \$800,000 will come out of money originally set aside to cover several long-term vacancies.

"Has there been any

progress in recruiting for the Business Administrator position?" asked Committee member Kevin Walsh.

Kilgour stated that the School Board already had someone ready to fill the role.

"I can confirm that a Business Administrator has been hired, and they will begin July 1," he said. "I believe we filled it externally."

Chair James Lawrence decided to hold a vote to define the purview of the Budget Committee after a request to the School Board regarding job descriptions.

"There were members of this committee that sent me an email objecting to

that request," he said. "Is the job description of an individual for a position something that's the purview of this committee?"

The vote reignited an ongoing debate as to what constituted "budgetary information." Board of Selectmen Liaison Xen Vurgapulos noted that job descriptions tend to be publicly available and questioned why the Budget Committee even needed to ask.

"I don't think it's anything under the purview of the Budget Committee. Any individual in town has the right to make a Right-To-Know request for a job

description," said Committee member Shawn Jasper. "There's nothing we can do anything about when it comes to what a job is. We're a committee that deals with numbers."

Vice-Chair Kim Rice agreed, worrying that too many irrelevant questions could lead to them "micro-manage" the school district and town.

"They know what positions they need," she said. "We took away \$800,000 from the budget. We saw that many vacancies were not filled throughout the year. I think that was responsible on our part. But we don't get to pick and choose what subjects they

teach."

By contrast, committee member Bill Cole argued that the Budget Committee had extremely broad authority when it came to asking questions.

"We have to wrap our arms around one basic tenant, the only basic tenant that applies to this committee: if something has to do with a taxpayer dollar going in or going out, it's within the purview of this committee," said Cole. "Unless these positions are doing it pro bono, taxpayer dollars are paying the salaries."

Committee member Bob Wherry argued that while the job descriptions were irrelevant, some

details not directly related to spending or salary could be.

"Are they full time or part time? How many students, what sort of service are they operating at? How many classes are there? What's the capacity of operation?" asked Wherry. "These are so that we can better understand, and I hate to put it this way, the efficiency of those positions. We don't want 10 teachers teaching one student each in 10 classes. That's inefficient."

After extensive debate, the Budget Committee voted against forwarding the job description request to the School Board.

Zoning

Continued from page 1

don't meet the conditions for a variance, then the Board may consider an accommodation to have that person at home, knowing that in the ultimate event that when the person passes on or goes somewhere else,

that reasonable accommodation will go away. In this particular case, the reasonable accommodation would never go away."

He argued that the Gamma sober house did not seem to meet the requirements of either a reasonable accommodation or a variance.

"I don't see any new information. I don't see that there was an error in judgment. We've been incredibly thoughtful and considerate to the owner of the property, including bringing in our own in-house legal resources to ensure we're doing the right thing along the way," said Board mem-

ber Dean Sakati. "The comment about public input and how that can distort us is just a naïve perspective that just doesn't hold any water with me."

He called for a full rejection of the appeal request.

"For me, it's pretty cut-and-dry and simple. There's

nothing in this motion for a rehearing that leads me to conclude the decision was unlawful or unreasonable. To the extent that the applicant is suggesting that the Board's decision was discriminatory, the record was very clear that the denial was not based on discrimination," said Board member

Tristan Dion. "From that I vote not to grant."

Without exception, other members of the Zoning Board agreed, unanimously voting against granting the rehearing request.

The next ZBA meeting is set for Thursday, May 22, at 7 p.m. in the Buxton Room of Town Hall.

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Neighbors Voice Support for House Addition on Pelham Road

PAUL CONYERS
HUDSON TIMES

The April 24 meeting of the Hudson Zoning Board of Adjustment included a request from Josh Fuentes to build a 1,003-square-foot add-on to their nonconforming two-story house on Pelham Road. The pair were hoping for variances, allowing them to move forward with the project.

"We moved forward and got a set of plans done by an architect. We were getting everything ready to put in for our building permit. We had them resurvey it to ready a new septic system

because we're adding a bedroom, and that's when we realized we were 30 feet from a road when 50 feet are required," said Kevin Allard, a contractor working with the Fuentes. "We got kind of deep into this thing before we realized we had to come here to do this legally."

According to Allard, construction of the original home predated changes to Hudson zoning regulations and Pelham Road's designation as a "collector road," mandating a larger setback.

"We suggest that our addition be considered a natural expansion to the

house built in 1960," said Fuentes. "The request is not contrary to the public interest, because it would not alter the character of the neighborhood, or adversely impact public health, safety, or rights."

He added that his situation is not unique and that many surrounding homes are also located around 30 feet from the roadway. Fuentes argued that much of the neighborhood would likely classify as "nonconforming."

"I am restricted by the existing conditions and topography of the proper-

ty," he said. "There is significant elevation change at the front and rear yards of the home. This limits my options for reasonable expansion of the structure."

Martha Dublin, a neighbor to the Fuentes, wrote to the ZBA in favor of the variance request.

"I am a neighbor of Joshua and Caitlin Fuentes. I know their plans for expansion to their home due to a growing family," wrote Dublin. "I have seen their plans and am in support of their requested variance to add on to their home. They have been wonderful and

supportive neighbors for many years."

Another letter from Rich Cardinal of Century 21 also favored the variance application, arguing that the addition "would not have a detrimental impact on the neighborhood."

No member of the public wrote in or spoke against the application.

"I've been up and down that road hundreds of times, and nobody else has tried to do any improvement to their homes, because I don't think there's a single one outside 50 feet," said Selectman liaison Dillion Dumont.

"Maybe there's a couple, but not the majority."

He was surprised the Zoning Board did not see more cases from the Pelham Road area.

"They're going out of their way to make sure they're not bringing that garage any closer to the street," said Board member Tristan Dion. "There's going to be no harm to the general public, they're putting in a garage."

Taking both the applicant's arguments and abutter testimony into account, the Zoning Board unanimously approved the add-on.

School Board Reviews End of Year Funding Requests

ALEX MALM
HUDSON TIMES

An agenda topic covered during the most recent Hudson School Board meeting was in regards to proposed spending requests from end of the year funds available. In total the proposed requests for the end of the year spending would be \$511,006 if all of the requests are approved by the School Board. It was explained previously that the funds are the expected leftover funds from the current budget once the fiscal year ends on June 30.

One of the items asked

about during the meeting was in regards to a proposed request to use \$10,000 to install bathroom countertops at Alvirne High School. It was explained that from time to time the sinks in the bathrooms are taken off the walls. "There are some bathrooms that are in need of some repairs," Hudson Superintendent Dan Moulis explained during the meeting. It was also asked if bathrooms are closed because of it.

School Board member Ethan Beals noted that there is an "epidemic at the middle school and the high

school of bathroom sinks being ripped off the walls," saying if he had to guess, it's a weekly or a monthly occurrence where one of the sinks are ripped off. Moulis said they are coming up with a system to prevent it, and said that there is a system in place right now to repair them, but the current way they are aligned to the walls, and the ones they have, break often. The idea is by replacing them, it would reduce the amount of time and money spent replacing them.

While he didn't have the exact figures available

during the meeting, Moulis explained that there is an ongoing cost to replace them, which includes the materials, and staff time to fix them. Another question raised during the meeting about the various proposed funding requests, was whether or not they thought the work could be done this summer, pending the materials coming in on time, and if it could be done before school started. Moulis said

some of the proposed projects, such as replacing the flat roof at the SAU building, would be best handled quickly so they could get contractors lined up.

The School Board ultimately decided to table any decisions until a future Board meeting.

Beals, during the meeting, said that any of the schools that have multiple requests from the same building should provide the

School Board with a ranking of how they would prioritize the proposals. He said the total request for all the funding is too high in his opinion, and he thought it should be somewhere between \$300,000 and \$350,000 in order to return 80 to 90% of their leftover funding back to the taxpayers.

The next School Board meeting is slated for May 19 beginning at 6:30 p.m.



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Editorial

Proposed Housing Bills Raise Concerns Over Local Control

A wave of housing bills moving through the NH Legislature draws concern from local officials and residents, who fear the measures could weaken municipal authority over zoning and land use decisions.

Supporters argue the bills are a necessary response to the state's worsening housing shortage, aiming to expand affordable options and streamline development. "Some communities, especially in southern NH, have used every trick they can come up with to discourage building," said Sen. Keith Murphy (R-Manchester). "Every permit, every delay, every penny a builder needs must be recouped through the sale of the property" (NH Bulletin).

Critics, however, say the proposed laws would override community-based planning efforts and shift too much authority to the state. Sen. Denise Ricciardi (R-Bedford) warned, "Each town or city knows what is best for them. A few politicians who want authoritarian central planning initiated out of Concord do not and cannot know" (NH Bulletin).

Key bills include:

SB 538: Requires towns to permit duplexes and fourplexes by right in areas zoned for single-family housing.

HB 1399: Limits planning boards' ability to deny developments based on infrastructure concerns unless documented.

SB 482: Expands a state-level Housing Appeals Board's ability to overturn local zoning decisions deemed too restrictive.

HB 1215: Creates "housing opportunity zones" where developers could bypass certain local regulations.

HB 577: Requires towns to allow detached accessory dwelling units (ADUs) by right.

HB 382 & SB 284: Reduce or cap parking requirements for residential developments.

SB 84: Prohibits towns from setting minimum lot sizes over one acre in serviced areas for at least half of residential zones.

HB 631: Allows residential or mixed-use developments by right in commercial zones with water and sewer.

SB 282: Permits mid-rise residential buildings to use a single stairwell under specific fire safety rules.

SB 81: Doubles funding for the state's affordable housing trust from \$5 million to \$10 million annually.

In Londonderry, where the planning board has focused on managing growth and maintaining community character, officials warn that these changes could strip the town of its ability to guide housing design, location, and density.

Hudson faces similar concerns, particularly along corridors like Lowell Road and Route 102, where increased density could strain schools, roads, and services.

While Governor Kelly Ayotte has not explicitly backed zoning overrides, her administration's emphasis on speeding up approvals has drawn scrutiny. In response, the Coalition of NH Taxpayers launched a petition titled "Don't Mass Up NH," urging her to reject top-down zoning mandates. Residents can view or sign it at: (www.ipetitions.com/petition/dont-mass-up-nh).

Residents can voice their support or opposition to the bills by submitting testimony online at gencourt.state.nh.us, contacting their local legislators, or attending public hearings at the State House.

Editorial written by Meredith Kendrick

Sustainability Committee Gives Updates on Casella Transition

PAUL CONYERS
HUDSON TIMES

The Hudson Sustainability Committee met on April 28 to give an update on Casella's public awareness efforts with the recent switch in trash collection in Hudson. The company created two public service announcement videos for local access television to educate residents on Casella, which also made important documents related to recycling available online.

"I would urge the residents to go check out those documents," said Acting Chair Karl Huber. "If there are any questions, just let us know. Information specifically regarding recycling can be accessed directly via casella.com/services/recycling/recycle-better, that's on Casella's website."

He encouraged anyone with further questions about Casella's trash collection or recycling process to call the company during normal business hours and discussed adding an intro to the Casella PSAs.

"We first posted this about three months ago," said Committee member Ed Thompson. "I saw the videos, but I would certainly want to look at them again."

The Committee agreed it would be a good idea to

review the Casella content, but did not want to commit to anything without more information and input from all members.

Thompson also wanted to talk with the Department of Public Works before making a final decision.

"It's up to us to present the material to the residents as a valuable piece of information," said Huber, who noted that the issue had already been delayed several times. The Committee agreed to emphasize the importance of the situation when contacting DPW.

Huber stated that information related to the Transfer Station is now "available 24/7" with the 2025 Residential Solid Waste and Recycling Guide on the Transfer Station and Sustainability webpages.

With spring well underway, the Transfer Station is operating at regular hours, from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. on select Saturdays. The next drop-off date for the Transfer Station is May 31. Cut-up cardboard, metal, and/or yard waste can be dropped off during regular hours on any Saturday, without a pass.

A Hazardous Waste Collection event is also scheduled for Thursday, June 5, from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. at the Nashua Park and Ride.

There is a \$20 per car fee.

Committee member Kate Messner gave an update on the Community Power program.

"CPCNH, the Community Power Coalition of NH now, as an organization, has greater than 190,000 customers, comprising 38% of NH's population, which includes four counties, with 27 new community aggregations and an overall participation rate of 71% within those entities," she said. "The frequently asked questions page of their website has an abundance of information on just about everything. You can get to that by going to CPCNH.org and then the news page and clicking on a big banner across the top."

CPCNH also hosted office hours every Friday to keep its members informed.

"There are many resources available to members," said Messner. "There's a quarterly newsletter, the March one is available now, and they've made it easy for residents to get notification communications. They've got sign-up links all over their website."

Residents who sign up will be notified of newsletters, event announcements, legislative action, and rate changes.

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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.

Nutfield Publishing, LLC

118 Hardy Road, Londonderry, NH 03053

603-537-2760

send e-mails to: hudsontimes@nutpub.net

www.nutpub.net

Owner/Publisher – Debra Paul • Art Director/Manager – Chris Paul

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STEM Exaction Fees Come Under Renewed Scrutiny

PAUL CONYERS
HUDSON TIMES

The May meeting of the Hudson Budget Committee saw its members scrutinize a STEM excise fee from Target paid out as part of an agreement between Target and the town to build its Logistics Center at Green Meadow. The STEM payout came under heavy scrutiny for being unrelated to the Logistics Center project. The Budget Committee previously wrote to the School Board asking for more details.

"The School Board was not involved in any discus-

sions related to the distribution facility or the STEM expenditure line item," said Budget Committee Chair James Lawrence. "The school district has not received any funds from the Logistics Center. Additional guidance, requirements, and information have not been provided. It is the school district's understanding that the funds have been allocated for STEM instructional materials, resources, etc. as it relates to the CTE Center at Alvirne."

It was unclear how the district would eventually receive the funds. No pay-

ment was expected until the Logistics Centers get their certificate of occupancy.

"So, we still don't know how the figure of, what was it, \$3 million was arrived at for that particular item?" asked Committee member Kevin Cole. "There's no paper trail at the school for how that amount of money was determined?"

Committee member Shawn Jasper claimed that the \$3 million number was determined by the Planning Board. Jasper was critical of the exaction fee process, both for the STEM payout and a separate exaction fee

to purchase a new vehicle for the Hudson Fire Department.

"Exaction is a legal term that this is not," he said. "This is not exaction; this was extortion. It is outside of the law, but you have two parties who were willing to engage in this activity, and there's nobody to complain."

The agreement was run by the town attorney before approval. The Planning Board and School District have the authority to approve "gifts" from developers, although there are limitations, and spending

usually needs to be formally approved and accepted through a public hearing.

Cole also wanted to know who authorized the school to take the money without a proper appropriation. It was unclear if there was an answer.

"I would find it acceptable for us to put forth a request for that information on Target," said Selectmen Liaison Xen Vurgaropulos. "We need to figure that out. People are talking about audits now. Maybe we should figure this out."

Cole and Jasper would be skeptical whether a

request would matter, with Jasper stating that "they're not going to respond to us."

Lawrence raised the possibility of bringing the matter directly before the Board of Selectmen and Planning Board, calling key members before the Budget Committee at a future meeting.

"Who do we command to come before us?" asked Vice-Chair Kim Rice. "We don't have the authority to tell Target to come here."

Lawrence noted that the Budget Committee likely did not have the power to take up the issue in a meaningful way.

Study

Continued from page 1
the study meant ignoring the first step in responsible financial management."

"Instead of owning that, I hear excuses. I hear, they're pushing this on us," Oates said. "Let's be clear

about who they are. They are your fellow residents, professionals with decades of experience in corporate leadership, infrastructures design, project management and strategic planning. People who have led multi-million dollar projects, built systems and solved prob-

lems far more complex than what's being ignored here. Maybe, just maybe if you had listened to the people offering real solutions, people trying to help this town, not hurt it, we wouldn't be sitting here getting called out in an audit for poor leadership and lack of fore-

sight."

Oates also explained that it's not about politics or agendas. "This is about responsibility. Hudson deserves better than reactionary decisions and finger pointing," Oates said. "We can't keep kicking the can

down the road while our services and taxpayers bear the cost of inaction. So tonight, I'm giving this Board a clear challenge. Stop delaying, stop deflecting, put funding for the comprehensive study back on the agenda immediately.

Not months from now, not after another crisis, now. Because doing nothing isn't leadership, it's failure. And the residents of Hudson are paying attention."

The next Selectmen meeting is set for May 27 beginning at 7 p.m.



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Hudson Cemetery Trustees Conduct Annual Spring Walkthrough

MEREDITH KENDRICK
HUDSON TIMES

The Hudson Cemetery Trustees conducted their annual spring walkthrough on Friday, April 25, beginning at Sunnyside Cemetery on Central Street. The yearly inspection is a key part of the Trustees' efforts to maintain and preserve the town's historic burial grounds.

The walkthrough allows the Trustees to assess cemetery conditions following winter. They examine headstones for damage, identify maintenance needs such as lawn care and debris removal, and plan for repairs or record updates.

The Trustees oversee six town-owned cemeteries: Sunnyside, Ford, Blodgett, Old Hudson Center, Senter, and the Poor Farm Cemetery - also known as the Cemetery of the Unknown.

All are closed to new burials. They also visited Hills Farm Cemetery, which remains active.

Trustees Mary Ellen Gannon, Lauren Young, and Christina Madden are responsible for cemetery upkeep, including grave maintenance, monument preservation, and burial records.

At Sunnyside Cemetery, the Trustees noted several repair needs: damaged bases, a leaning tree, and a chain-link fence being pushed by the original stone wall. Overgrown bushes also needed trimming.

Madden pointed out a recently cleaned headstone, but urged caution. "You have to be really careful about what you use to clean these," she said. "We really appreciate people cleaning, but they are supposed to consult because in some cases, cleaning it with the

wrong materials can open up the pores on this and make it worse in the end. If you want to clean stones in Hudson's town cemeteries, please contact us through the town web page and let us know what materials you want to use. Mel Gannon will be conducting another class to teach people how to properly clean headstones." No date has been set for the class.

At Old Center Cemetery - once the center of town - the Trustees found a grave with a broken top and American flags needing repositioning. Madden noted older leaning stones are left alone due to their fragility.

Westview Cemetery had no major concerns. Madden noted a private family plot not maintained by the Trustees and a headstone that had been

propped against a tree for years. Local historian Ruth Parker has researched the headstone's ownership but has not been successful.

At Blodgett Cemetery, the Trustees found a fallen headstone, a stone wall needing maintenance, and a metal fence with broken spokes. "Jason at DPW was trying to find welding students at CTE - at Alvirne - to see if they could fix that," Madden said.

A deeply sunken stone, toppling wall stones, and a large pine tree also needed attention. Several cracked stones without side rails were noted as at risk of vandalism. "There's not - thank goodness - much vandal activity in our cemeteries," Madden added.

Ford Cemetery, the oldest in town and near the former meeting house, had graves that needed dirt,

felled footstones, broken stones, and trees that required trimming.

At the Poor Farm Cemetery, Madden recounted its history. "They were building houses around here and found that the poor house is over there and all of these people were buried without headstones...it was a rough time back then. When they came upon hard times, there was no welfare. Your welfare was that they made you work at the Poor Farm, and then you got a grave without a headstone."

A memorial honors the 62 unnamed individuals buried there. Madden noted recent DPW clearing work and suggested laying a wreath, believing one of the deceased was a veteran.

At Senter Burial Ground, Madden noted stone wall repairs and said, "It doesn't get a lot of love."

She referenced insight from Dave Alukonis, President of the Hudson Historical Society, who said many original wooden headstones have vanished. Several stones were cracked, sunken, or leaning. "We are in the same situation we were in last year," Madden said. "The same things need repairing."

At Hills Farm Cemetery, Madden said a recently located deed revealed five town-owned plots previously unaccounted for. "We don't actually know how many people are buried there," she said, though at least two are believed to be. Overhanging branches were noted, though Madden prioritized repairing broken stones.

For more information or to contact the Trustees, residents can visit hudsonnh.gov/bc-ct.

Early Ed

Continued from page 1
tee that has been meeting throughout the year,"

Dionne said. She explained that the public will be getting updates soon on the progress, and that the Committee will be formally pre-

senting ideas sometime in June or July. "At that point, they will be discussing it in further detail about what might take

place," Dionne said.

"There is a committee because multiple people need to be involved," Dionne said. She also noted that they would be having public input sessions about it in the future.

School Board member Ethan Beals said the first question he had about it was what the best model for education would be, saying the Dr. H.O. Smith and Library Street make up the ELC. "Before they used to have neighborhood schools," he said. He explained that

the first question they have to answer is whether or not they want to continue with an ELC model or go with something else. Beals also explained that right now, the only focus for the Committee is about education elements to it, but the next step would be a discussion about facilities and there could be potentially additional committees added to examine it.

Brownrigg also explained that he thinks the school district can use students more often from the CTE program to help with different things. "We have an excellent welding pro-

gram, we have an excellent carpentry program at the school, we have students who just want to learn all the time," he said. He explained that in looking at the budget "I still don't understand why we have to spend all this type of money when we have all those availabilities to do a lot of these different things."

For example Brownrigg said students could help with fixing things like broken chairs for example. "I really do think there is an opportunity to save money at the high school, the thing we're going to be spending money on," he said.

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Alvirne Students Provide HOPE Through Stormy Walk



CHRIS PAUL
HUDSON TIMES

Two Alvirne High School juniors organized a HOPE Walk that took place over the weekend and helped to raise nearly \$14,000 for the American Foundation of Suicide Prevention.

The walk itself was a rather wet one, due to the on-going rain that took

place last week, but the money raised was touted as one of the highest amounts in the country.

Amaya Dorsey and Victoria Suppa organized the inaugural event with the help of their advisor Donna Morin, a Social Studies teacher at AHS, who lost her son Nate to suicide.

Although the walk is completed, the girl's fund-

raising efforts will continue to the end of June and they expect to raise over \$15,000.

Nearly 200 participants registered for the walk, which Dorsey and Suppa hope to continue in 2026 and train younger students to move it forward next year when they graduate.

Dorsey and Suppa to on the challenge of organizing

the event to raise awareness of the issues with mental health.

The two raised much of the funds through contacting business and organizations in town asking for

sponsorships and donations.

A number of those businesses donated items for the walk.

They said most of the 200 walkers registered earlier this week or that day.

After a brief ceremony in the school gym, participants set out for a walk that took them out to around the Hills Garrison Elementary School and back around Alvirne.

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Alvrine Multicultural Event Brings Nations Together



Dozens of nations throughout the world had representation during the third annual World Festival held at Alvrine High School on Friday night, May 9. Students from the Multicultural and JEDI clubs organized the event that had over 25 counties on display with students serving food from around the world.

The Mariachi Cuerdas Plata Band entertained attendees, followed by a Fashion Show, where students displayed their cultural outfits." Kahoot Trivia was then played followed by Avery Welch who performed an Irish dance. The Lopez Carrasco Family Band also played to round out the evening.

Photos by Chris Paul

See more photos on next page.

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HUDSON SPORTS

Broncos Varsity Baseball Picks Up First Win of the Season



Alex Small got the Broncos first win of the season.

SHANE BALL
HUDSON TIMES

A week of stormy weather postponed three of the four games scheduled for the Alvirne Varsity Broncos Baseball team, but the Broncos made the most of the limited opportunities they had this week, securing their first win of the season against the Keene Blackbirds, who were previously 5-5 on the season.

Alvirne has been waiting patiently for their hits to translate to more runs. Things finally clicked for them in the bottom of the second inning when the Broncos took a 3-0 lead over the Blackbirds, kick-started by a single from Broncos catcher Memphis



Charlie Crawford crosses the plate on a pass ball.

Photos by Chris Paul

Beach.

The Broncos held on to a 7-1 lead heading into the final inning of regulation. Some mental lapses by the Broncos, and a home run by Keene's center fielder F. Hennessy gave the Blackbirds some life in the final inning, but they would ultimately fall short of a comeback to the Broncos in a 5-7 loss.

Alex Small took care of business on Thursday. He

was at the mound for all seven innings for Alvirne, giving up five runs on four hits. Small didn't give up a walk this game, and was pitching a no-hitter heading into the fifth inning.

Bergquist's four strike outs through five innings was not enough to contain the Broncos. Keene pitchers Bergquist and Tinnin gave up eight total hits to Alvirne, allowing at least one hit to seven different

Broncos players.

Broncos center fielder Charlie Crawford led the team with two hits. It took a strong effort on both sides of the ball, but the Broncos managed to put on a solid performance to secure their first win.

The Broncos take on Merrimack High School on Monday, who currently sit at 2-7. The Broncos will look to pick up back to back wins.

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Broncos Varsity Softball Gets First Win, 11-10 Over Titans

SHANE BALL
HUDSON TIMES

The Alvirne High School Softball squad have been playing their best softball of the season, drastically improving from where they were just a week ago.

The Lady Broncos picked up their first win of the season against Nashua North on Thursday, May 8, squeezing out a narrow 11-10 victory.

Nashua North opened

up the runs in this one after Sara Marien was struck by a pitch, resulting in one run. An error in the bottom of the third inning put the Titans up 2-0. A triple by Adriana Vallante and an error allowed the Broncos to tie the game up in the top of the fourth inning.

The Broncos took the lead in the top of the fifth inning with a run after an error. A sacrifice fly by catcher Abbie Kowalski

pushed the Broncos' lead to three.

Nashua North came back with three runs of their own after a triple from Neha Lingadal and a single by Hope Blondin, tying the game at 5 apiece.

Alvirne Pitcher Olivia Burt broke the tie with a single that led to a run. Second baseman Avery Willard added to their lead with a double, putting Alvirne up 11-7.

Nashua North responded with three runs in the seventh, but it was not enough to defeat the Broncos. Both sides showed out at bat in this game, with nine hits for the Broncos and six for the Titans. Willard showed out in this game, leading the team with four runs batted in and going 1-for-5 at the plate.

Alvirne second baseman Nyiah Stroming (#16) had a strong performance despite the loss on Wednesday. Stroming went three for four at bat, including a double and two singles.

A home run to center field by Clippers' Abby Craig gave Portsmouth their first two runs of the day. A walk drawn by Kendall Holt added another, totalling three runs in the top of the first inning. A line out by Piper Hindle in the top of the second inning and a tag up in the top of the third by Laura Milks put Portsmouth up 5-1.

Portsmouth gained their biggest scoring burst of the day at the top of the fourth inning, collecting six runs on three hits. A double from



Olivia Burt pitched five relief innings and got the first win of the season. *Photo by Chris Paul*

Ally Girald, a single from Ainsley MacGlashing, a ground out by Emi Greco, along with some errors by Alvirne, gave Portsmouth their six-run inning. This inning ultimately cost the Broncos the game, as they'd fall to Portsmouth 11-6. The Broncos will take on Merrimack (5-4) next week as they look to keep up the more competitive softball.

Alvirne Boys Tennis Falls to Portsmouth Clippers

SHANE BALL
HUDSON TIMES

In a week full of postponements, Alvirne Varsity Tennis saw just one game this week. They traveled to Portsmouth and took on the Clippers.

Portsmouth has been a dominant team in tennis this year, only dropping one game to Hollis-Brookline. Hollis-Brookline beat Alvirne earlier this season and remains undefeated through their seven games.

It was a rough day for the Broncos, as Portsmouth would take all nine sets with ease. Sam Hergenbahn (#1) and Owen Surprenant (#3) put up decent fights, losing 8-4 respectively in their singles matchups. Sean Mendes (#2) and Sam Kudikala (#5) both fell to

their singles opponents 8-2. Chris Figueiredo (#6) dropped his singles match, only putting up one point against his opponent as he fell 8-1. Cole Fitzpatrick (#4) was on the wrong end of a bagel (0 score game) against his opponent.

It didn't get much easier in the doubles matches either. Hergenbahn and Surprenant teamed up, but ultimately fell 8-3 to Portsmouth's #1 and #2. Mendes and Fitzpatrick lost their match 8-2 to Portsmouth's #3 and #6. Kudikala and Figueiredo also finished their doubles match 8-2, ending the day with much to be desired from the Broncos, who seem to have hit a bump in the road halfway through the season.

Alvirne Varsity Boys Tennis started their first six games this season with three wins and three losses, never gaining a multi-game streak for either. Since then, they have dropped their last three.

The boys are just coming off of a match where they were shorthanded before spring break, and could just be shaking off some post-vacation rust this time around. They'll need to close out the season strong to finish this season above .500.

The boys will have a chance to bounce back against the 4-5 Oyster River Bobcats on Wednesday. They'll also face a tougher opponent Friday at Plymouth Regional High School, who sit at a solid 6-3.



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Alvirne Girls' Tennis Third in Division II Midseason Rankings

SHANE BALL
HUDSON TIMES

With two out of three matches cancelled due to the rain, Alvirne's only opponent this week was with the Portsmouth High School Clippers.

Portsmouth took care of Alvirne in sweeping fashion, taking all nine sets on the day.

The result was unusual for the girls, who otherwise have had quite a successful season.

The girls have a potential bounce-back game as they take on Pembroke Academy on Monday. Pembroke sits at 3-5 on the season, a match-up that bodes well for the Broncos.

The Portsmouth Clippers girls' team has won eight straight matches after losing their season opener to Souhegan in a close 4-5 match. Souhegan was also the only team to defeat the Alvirne girls up until this match.



Emma Coppi



Lilianna Belmore



Ella Proulx

The Lady Broncos have put on a solid season thus far and have posted a 6-2 record. Having only two losses on the season, the girls sit at third-place in the Division II standings, behind the aforementioned Souhegan and Portsmouth.

The girls opened up their season with a hard-fought 5-4 win against Milford. They followed this up with a dominant 7-2 victory versus Merrimack. After the Lady Broncos were handed their first loss of the season against Souhegan, they bounced back against Hollis-Brookline with a statement 7-2 win to get back on track. Three more wins would follow, each more dominant than the last. They defeated Winnacunnet 6-3, beat down Goffstown 8-1, and swept Bow 9-0.

This four-game win streak captures the capabilities of this roster well. They are a group of girls who don't go down easily and are likely to wrap up the season with great placement.

There is much to look forward to with this girls' team heading into the post-season.



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Friday	9:00AM - 6:00PM	Friday	7:00AM - 5:00PM
Saturday	9:00AM - 5:00PM	Saturday	8:00AM - 3:00PM
Sunday	10:00AM - 3:00PM	Sunday	CLOSED

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.

Touch A Truck

Moose Hill PTA is bringing back the return of our Touch A Truck event! The event will be taking place on Saturday, May 17 rain or shine from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m., at the Moose Hill parking lot. The Moose Hill lot will be filled up with local community helpers and businesses for the children and families to explore and check out. It should be another fun family event to help us raise money for the school. A \$10 suggested donation per family.

Spring Artisan Craft Fair

On Sat. May 17, from 9:30 a.m. - 4 p.m., at St. Peter's Church, Mammoth

Rd., at 3 Peabody Row Londonderry experience a Artisan Craft Fair. Stroll through over 70 booths of original, creative artisan crafts. Whether you're looking to buy unique crafts or works of art including jewelry, baskets, quilts, wooden goods, art of various media, windchimes, soaps, pet accessories and a host of many others, you will be certain to find the perfect treasure. Satisfy your appetite with a grilled burger or hot-dog at the 'St. Peter's Bistro' grill or purchase delectable, homemade baked treats. Don't forget to try your luck with the ever popular raffles or to look for bargains at the great-deals tag sale. The fair benefits the local community

and serves as a fundraiser for the church. It will be held rain, or shine. For more information, visit <https://stpeterslondonderry.org/>

Benson Park Saturday Cleanup

Please join the Friends of Benson Park for Park Cleanup Day the third Saturday of every month to help keep Benson Park clean and beautiful. Donate whatever time you can between the hours of 9 a.m. and 2 p.m. Tools are available but bring your own shovels, rakes, pruners, loppers, etc. if you have them. This is a great opportunity to serve the town, meet new people and enjoy the outdoors. Lunch will be

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.

Dungeons & Donuts

Looking for fellow Dungeons & Dragons players? Come to the Rodgers Library play and grab a donut, on Saturday, June 7 & 21 at 9:30 a.m.

Preschool Water Play

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

Stained Glass ZIA Class

Wednesday, June 4, at 1 p.m., and Thursday, June 5, at 6:30 p.m., join Diane for a two-hour class to create a piece of art that is inspired by Zentangle and stained glass at the Rodgers Library.

Postpartum Support Group

Gather with other post-

partum parents and newborns to talk about what thoughts and feelings you're exploring on Thursday, June 5, at 10 a.m., at the Rodgers Library.

Rodgers Readers

"The Mysterious Case of Rudolf Diesel" by Douglas Brunt will be the groups book for discussion this month on Thursday, June 5 at 7 p.m., at Rodgers Library.

Fillet a Fish

On Saturday, June 7, at 10 a.m., Circulation Librarian Dana Benner will teach participants how to fillet a fish at the Rodgers Library. Bring a fish; he'll handle the knives.

Mystery Lovers' Book Club

This month's book pick is "The Kamogawa Food Detectives" by Hisashi Kashiwai. The group will meet on Monday, June 9 at 12:30 p.m., at Rodgers Library.

Story Safari

On Tuesdays and Thurs-

days starting June 10, at 10 a.m., meet at Benson Park near the playground. Bring blankets and chairs. If you register, you will receive an email if we cancel due to inclement weather.

Couponing with Carrie

On Tuesday, June 10, at 6:30 p.m., come to the Rodgers Library for a money-saving tutorial with Carrie. Learn couponing strategies to maximize savings.

Access Wisdom Book Group

This month's book is "On the Brink of Everything: Grace, Gravity, and Getting Old" by Parker J. Palmer. The group will meet on Thursday, June 12, at 7 p.m., at Rodgers Library.

Stitchers' Circle

Come and stitch/cross stitch, blackwork, embroider, knit, crochet, hand craft with Oonagh Williams at Rodgers Library on Saturday, June 14, at 9:30 a.m.

continued on page 15

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Around Town

Continued from page 12

Cupcake Caper & Birthday Party

On Saturday, June 14, at 10 a.m., solve the puzzles in the Rodgers Library Cupcake Caper Scavenger Hunt. Help "Color Our World" by making decorations for the library. Play outdoor games. Eat a cupcake.

Summer Romance Beach Read Recommendations

In this virtual event with the Rodgers Library, on Monday, June 16, at 7 p.m., Lorelei, of Lorelei's Lit Lair, will be chatting about the books she's looking forward to reading this summer - the best of romance beach reads.

Afternoon Book Group

This month's book is "Tom Lake" by Ann Patchett. The group will meet on Tuesday, June 17, at 1:30 p.m., at Rodgers Library.

Window Cling: "Color Our World"

On Tuesday, June 17, at 2 p.m., use the Rodgers Library's special paint to create a colorful painting to decorate the library for the summer.

Characters & Cocoa

This is a monthly support group for writers to socialize and talk about the craft. It will meet on Tuesday, June 17, at 6 p.m., at Rodgers Library.

Tie Dye for Everyone

On Wednesday, June 18, at various times, bring a shirt, and Rodgers Library will supply the dye (t-shirts only please).

True Crime Podcast Club

On Wednesday, June 18, at 7 p.m., this month's podcast will be "Father Wants us Dead." at the Rodgers library. Listen to all episodes for free wherever you listen to podcasts. Cookies will be Chocolate peanut butter no-bake.

Tween Candy Olympics

On Friday, June 20, at 2

p.m., Tweens entering grades 5-8 are invited to the Rodgers Library to join in the Candy Olympics.

Ukulele Workshop

On Saturday, June 21, at 10 a.m., The Southern New Hampshire Ukulele Group (SNHUG) will present a workshop for beginners at the Rodgers Library.

Artist Study: Hokusai Wave Painting

On Monday, June 23, at 2 p.m., Children entering grades 1-5 are invited to learn about artists from around the world, then complete projects that reflect the artists' styles at the Rodgers Library.

"Dead End Road"

On Monday, June 23, at 7 p.m., Rodgers Library will host a virtual discussion with True Crime Author E.C. Hanson. Join for this conversation with E.C. as he discusses his book, research, and goal in pursuing this cold case.

Tween Mario Kart Tournament

On Tuesday, June 24, at 1:30 p.m., Rodgers Library will host the ultimate Mario Kart challenge for tweens entering grades 5-8.

Pressed Flower Candle Jar

On Tuesday, June 24, at 6:30 p.m., come to the Rodgers Library to create a candle holder that will add a touch of light and color.

Magician Mike Bent's AbraKIDabra!

On Wednesday, June 25 at 2 p.m., Rodgers Library will host AbraKIDabra!™ This combines amazing magic, big laughs, audience participation and hilarious surprises for a one-of-a-kind, interactive experience.

Teen Inspiration Journal

On Wednesday, June 25, at 6 p.m., for teens entering grades 8-12, the Rodgers Library will provide you a journal that you can keep for whatever inspires you. Decorate with your own designs.

Break-A-Record: Sticky Notes

On Thursday, June 26, at 11:30 a.m., test your speed and see how many sticky notes you can stick to your face in one minute at Rodgers Library.

Simple Bushcraft

On Thursday, June 26, at 6 p.m., join Circulation Librarian, Dana Benner, as he reviews a few simple bushcraft skills using an axe, knife and items around you; namely sticks at the Rodgers Library.

Music Around the World

On Thursday, June 26, at 6 p.m., students entering grades 1-5 are invited to the Rodgers Library for a cultural adventure to Cameroon.

Teen Smash Bros. Tourney

On Friday, June 27, at 2:30 p.m., teens are invited to challenge one another in a "Super Smash. Bros Ultimate" tourney at the Rodgers Library.

Summer Concert

[mix]tape a cappella will perform at the Rodgers Library on Saturday, June 28, at 2 p.m. Get ready to experience the smooth sounds of [mix]tape, the dynamic a cappella group that will have you clapping and tapping!

Cookbook Club

This month the club will be using a database on our website AtoZ Food America, and will meet on Monday, June 30, at 11:30 a.m., at Rodgers Library.

Artist Study: Alma Thomas Colorful Painting

On Monday, June 30, at 2 p.m., Children entering grades 1-5 are invited to learn about artists from around the world, then complete a project that reflects the artists' style at the Rodgers Library.

Adventurers Storytime

On Tuesdays at 10 a.m., join Ms. Tanya for stories, songs, games, and activities at the Rodgers Memorial

Library. For ages 3-5.

Movers & Shakers

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

Teen Hangout

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

Brunch Bunch

On Fridays at 11 a.m., Eat pancakes and talk about books you love or hate at Rodgers Memorial Library. For students entering 5th-12th grades. Those attending will be divided by age (Tween 10-13 and Teen 13-18) if the group is large enough.

Digital Navigators

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

Dino the Therapy Dog

Every Tuesday at 4 p.m., come meet Dino, the therapy dog at the Rodgers Memorial Library. Dino is a St. Bernard who loves to make new friends.

Overeaters Anonymous

Is food a problem for you? Do you eat when you are not hungry? Is your weight affecting the way you live your life? Overeaters Anonymous, no dues, no

fees, no weigh-ins no diets. Meetings are on Tuesday's from 9 - 10 a.m., at St. Elizabeth Seton Church 190 Meetinghouse Rd., Bedford, use the rear doors for access to the meeting room in the church basement. Contact Pat At 603-289-8476 Or Jane At 603-674-6540 With Any Questions (Not Affiliated With Any Private Or Public Organization)

A Good Yarn

On Tuesdays at 5 p.m., come to the Rodgers Memorial 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.

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.

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

Clean Water Survey

Clean water is more than

a resource; it's the lifeline of our community. Your voice holds the power to shape a healthier water future for you and for generations to come. Survey at www.surveymonkey.com/r/VOWNOV2024. As an added bonus, when you complete the survey, you'll have the chance to enter to win one of 25 fixed-mount or handheld water-saving showerheads, making your contribution to clean water even more rewarding.

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.

Buy-A-Brick

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

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 low-income, and living in our Greater Nashua 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 email info@unitedway-nashua.org if you have any questions.

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- DAN P., TOPSFIELD

"We love [our Gibraltar Pool] because it adds so much to our back yard and our summers. We are retired and enjoy swimming laps. But more importantly, is the fun we have with our grandchildren. Our two 11 year olds when they visit are in the pool all day. And our 15 month granddaughter loves being in the pool."

- MARY B., OXFORD

