

THE Hudson Times

October 2, 2025 ♦ Volume 3 – Issue 38

A FREE Weekly Publication



FIRED UP

Hudson Firefighter Jeff Ogiba sets off a blaze during the Fire Department's Open House on Saturday. The Kia was set on fire to demonstrate how personnel extinguishes a car fire. Photo by Chris Paul

Clean Energy NH May Help in Green Funding Opportunities

PAUL CONYERS
HUDSON TIMES

The Hudson Sustainability Advisory Committee met on Sept. 23 to hear a presentation from Sarah Brock of Clean Energy New Hampshire, who shared information about potential grants and regional clean energy initiatives.

"We're an organization that's been around for 20 years," Brock explained. "For most of that time, we focused on being the clean energy experts in the state - working in Concord, advising the Public Utilities Commission and legislators with expert advocacy. Now, we have staff located across

NH. Five of us provide free technical assistance to municipalities statewide." Brock noted that her team is currently supporting hundreds of projects in approximately 130 to 140 towns. She introduced several online resources, including a qualification **continued on page 2**

School Board Reviews Physical and Emotional Well-Being Policy

ALEX MALM
HUDSON TIMES

The Hudson School Board reviewed a proposed update to its Physical and Emotional Well-Being of Students policy during its most recent meeting.

The policy states that the Hudson School Board is committed to ensuring that all students are supported in their physical and emotional well-being, recognizing these as essential to academic success and personal development.

"To promote a safe and supportive environment for its students, the Board adopts the following measures:"

1. Physical and Mental Health Support

- Ensure access to nutritious meals and clean drinking water

- Provide regular physical education and opportunities for physical activity

- Maintain clean, safe, and accessible school facilities

- Offer health screenings and referrals to medical services as available

- Provide regular training for staff on mental health awareness and trauma-informed practices

- Employ qualified staff

2. Prevention and Intervention

- Establish procedures for identifying and supporting students in crisis

- Promote anti-bullying initiatives and conflict reso-

lution programs

- Explore ways to collaborate with families and community organizations to extend support beyond school

The policy also encourages parents and guardians to communicate any physical or emotional concerns about their children with teachers, school counselors, or school nurses.

The School Board approved the first reading of the policy during the meeting.

Sustainability Club Overnight Trip Approved

Also on the agenda was a request for an overnight field trip for the Alvirne **continued on page 3**

Resident Donates Labor, Materials to Restore Haselton Barn Cupola

PAUL CONYERS
HUDSON TIMES

At its September meeting, the Benson Park Advisory Committee accepted two generous donations totaling approximately \$20,000 from Lee Levoie of Hudson's Home Improvements. The contributions - one for labor and one for materials - are intended to support the restoration of the historic cupola atop the Haselton Barn.

"That's to repair the cupola of the Haselton Barn," explained Committee Chair Jack Madden.

The donations were not made directly to the Benson Park Committee but were instead routed through the Board of Selectmen.

"This gentleman is very passionate about the Hasel-

ton Barn for a lot of reasons," said Selectmen Liaison Heidi Jakoby. "He wants to bring the cupola to his indoor space so he can work on it during the winter."

In addition to the financial support, Levoie offered a crane operator and a truck to transport the cupola to his workspace. Each donation was valued at approximately \$10,000.

Despite the committee's advisory role, several members expressed surprise at the donation, which was presented and approved without their prior knowledge.

"The first we heard of it was when it appeared on the Board of Selectmen's agenda," said Madden. "Proper procedure would have been for Mr. Levoie to at least

inform us of his proposal."

Madden also emphasized the importance of involving the NH Division of Historical Resources (DHR), which has a vested interest in preserving the barn's historic character.

"The Haselton Barn is a historic building, like the train station," he said. "DHR would want to ensure that any restoration work is consistent with the original design and character of the cupola - and ultimately, the barn."

To clarify the situation and gather more details, the Benson Park Committee formally invited Levoie to attend its October meeting. Madden stressed the need for transparency and regula- **continued on page 7**

District Moves to Raise A La Carte and Adult Meal Prices to Meet Federal Compliance

ALEX MALM
HUDSON TIMES

During its most recent meeting, the Hudson School Board approved a proposal to increase nonprogram food revenue within the district's food services budget.

Business Administrator Jenny Graves explained that the majority of the district's nonprogram revenue comes from a la carte items.

According to the USDA, nonprogram foods include any nonreimbursable foods and beverages purchased using funds from the non-profit school food service account. This includes adult meals, foods sold outside school hours, and items used for catering or vending. For most School Food Authorities (SFAs), a la carte items offered during

meal service make up the largest share of nonprogram food revenue.

Graves noted that current revenue sources include second meals, vending machines, catering, and adult meals. In FY25, the district generated \$245,064 in nonprogram food revenue - \$231,733 of which came from a la carte items.

However, Graves re-

ported that the district was out of compliance by \$13,950 for FY25 and needed to take corrective action.

To address the shortfall, Graves recommended increasing a la carte prices by an average of 20% and raising the price of adult meals by \$0.25 per meal, both effective October 1. These changes are projected to

generate an additional \$27,000 in revenue.

Graves also reminded the Board that earlier this year, they voted to keep regular meal prices flat for both students and adults.

School Board Chair Maureen Dionne acknowledged the need for action but expressed concern about the impact on students and families, as well as the

logistics of implementing the changes.

"I understand the situation," Dionne said.

After discussion, the School Board agreed to implement the price increases starting Nov. 1 to allow more time for preparation and communication.

The next School Board meeting is scheduled for Oct. 6 at 6:30 p.m.

Green Funds

Continued from page 1
checklist and a frequently updated spreadsheet of funding opportunities.

"We maintain a funding sources spreadsheet that we update regularly. It's not perfect, but we have our fingers on the pulse of many opportunities, and it's fairly comprehensive," she said. "We also have a small business technical assistance team, and I encourage you to refer Hudson businesses

to us. If they have questions about energy use or statewide support, we're happy to help."

Clean Energy NH has also posted links to commonly used resource guides. Brock emphasized the importance of having high-priority projects "shovel-ready" to take advantage of funding when it becomes available. She highlighted opportunities for municipal solar arrays, heavy-duty vehicle replacement, community outreach, and policy initiatives - one of

which involves a unique loan program.

"It's called C-PACER, or Commercial Property Assessed Clean Energy and Resiliency," Brock explained. "It's a loan tied to the property itself. Property-assessed clean energy means you can secure funding as part of your development stack for commercial buildings."

The committee had several questions about the program.

"Can this be used for municipal buildings?" asked

alternate Craig Putnam.

While Brock wasn't entirely certain, she believed most municipal buildings - except the smallest - would likely qualify. However, Hudson would need to establish a C-PACER district before implementing the program locally.

"What about existing buildings?" asked committee member Chris Thatcher. "If Hudson were to designate the Sagamore Business Park as a C-PACER district, could those commercial and

industrial buildings use the loans to retrofit for energy efficiency?"

Brock confirmed that C-PACER loans could be used for both new construction and retrofitting older buildings.

"There's a whole list of eligible improvements," she said. "Unfortunately, because this is still a new initiative, I'm not fully prepared to give the complete C-PACER presentation today. But we're hosting a webinar next month."

She promised to send the committee a recording and additional materials on the program.

Other grant opportunities at the state and federal levels were more limited.

"What are the incentive levels for municipalities?" asked committee member Jake Keller.

Brock outlined a few remaining programs, including the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative, which could help fund local projects through NH Saves.

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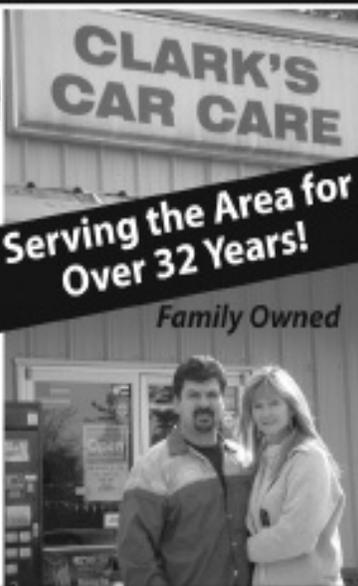
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Barretts Hill Road Eight-Lot Subdivision Gets Okay from Officials

PAUL CONYERS
HUDSON TIMES

The Hudson Planning Board met on Sept. 24 to hear a presentation from Doug MacGuire of The Dubai Group regarding an eight-lot subdivision proposal for 3 Barretts Hill Road.

"It's 24.5 acres, and it's basically fully undeveloped," explained MacGuire, noting that much of the land was not suitable for development. "We've decided to sell 15 acres of the remaining land because it abuts Conservation land."

MacGuire confirmed that the Hudson Conserva-

tion Commission had expressed interest in acquiring the undeveloped portion.

"For the developed area, we're proposing seven duplex lots. It's fairly straightforward - the roadway along Barretts Hill Road is relatively flat. We divided the land equally to create the lots," he said. "These would use onsite wells and septic systems, with no public utilities involved."

In addition to consulting the Conservation Commission, MacGuire and the applicant reviewed the project with the Town Engineer. However, questions

arose about discrepancies between the Town Engineer's assessment and a third-party review conducted by environmental engineering firm Fuss & O'Neill.

"Between the Town Engineer and Fuss & O'Neill, which one is accurate? Which one should this Board be considering?" asked Board member Victor Oates. "I'm not sure we have enough data to make that decision."

Fuss & O'Neill suggested that waivers might be needed to meet certain stormwater management requirements in Hudson's

Town Code. Some Board members clarified that the current application was for a subdivision - not for construction or site development.

"We're not approving a project; we're approving moving property lines," said Board Chair Tim Malley. "One of the things Fuss & O'Neill brings up is snow storage, but that's totally irrelevant to this application."

Alternate Todd Boyer agreed, favoring the Town Engineer's opinion.

"I'm going with the Town Engineer, who works for the town and has its best

interests in mind," said Boyer.

Key considerations included site distance, roadway drainage, and traffic safety. However, not all Board members were convinced.

"I don't see it as just drawing lines," said Oates, who raised concerns about drainage and lot grading. "The law gives extensive guidelines for what we should be reviewing and considering."

MacGuire maintained that his team had met all legal requirements.

"We're here for a subdivision - that's really what

this is," he said. "The design includes more than enough drainage features, and septic systems require pre-approval from the Engineering Department. When I met with the Town Engineer, I asked all the relevant questions."

With no public comments from Hudson residents, the Planning Board voted to approve the subdivision plan in a 5-1 vote.

The Hudson Planning Board is scheduled to meet again on Wednesday, Oct. 8, at 7 p.m. in the Buxton Community Development Conference Room.

CTE Students to Gain Hands-On Experience with Donated Boom Truck

ALEX MALM
HUDSON TIMES

An agenda item during the most recent Hudson School Board meeting focused on a donation to the district's Career and Technical Education (CTE) program.

"Dead River Company would like to donate a boom

truck for use by the students enrolled in CTE programs," wrote CTE Director Dr. Eric Frauwirth in a memo to the Board.

Frauwirth explained that Dead River Company has partnered with the district's construction program for many years. The donated boom truck, while older and

currently in need of engine repairs, still runs and drives. It will be used strictly as a training vehicle and will not be registered for street use.

"Initially, students in the mechanics program will work together to diagnose and repair the engine," Frauwirth noted. "After the

initial repairs, the vehicle will be used for future training in both diesel engine mechanics and hydraulic boom operation."

Although the truck has been fully depreciated by Dead River Company, the boom itself is estimated to be worth \$30,000. The donation is officially valued at \$500.

Frauwirth emphasized that while the district technically could have accepted the donation without School Board approval, he wanted to bring it forward to ensure transparency and address any potential ques-

tions.

No concerns were raised during the meeting, and the Board supported the donation.

Board Approves Budget Transfer for Staffing Adjustment

Also during the meeting, the School Board approved a budget transfer request involving staffing adjustments at Alvirne High School.

Superintendent Dr. Dan Moulis requested the transfer of \$92,376 from the English teacher budget line to the physical education teacher line item. He

explained that the district did not fill an English teacher position this year due to class size considerations and instead needed to hire a physical education teacher.

"Not for this school year," Moulis clarified regarding the English position. "We'll continue to monitor class sizes as we prepare for the next budget season."

The School Board unanimously approved the budget transfer.

The next School Board meeting is scheduled for Oct. 6 at 6:30 p.m.

Well-Being Policy

Continued from page 1

High School Sustainability Club.

"The Sustainability Club would like to attend an overnight field trip, as they did last year, to the Youth Climate Leaders Academy," wrote Alvirne Principal Steve Beals in a memo to the School Board. "I support the request and am providing information about the workshops and opportunities the students would have."

Teacher and club advisor Katie Murphy provided additional details, noting that the Youth Climate Leadership Conference (YCLA) will be held Dec. 5 - 6, 2025, in Vermont. Up to six students from each school may attend, and the cost is \$50 per student.

"While at this conference, students would attend workshops on various leadership topics and work with peers to develop a project they will pursue throughout

the school year," the memo stated.

Attendance also opens doors to grant opportunities and mentorships with professionals in the field. Murphy noted she would drive the students to and from the event using one of the school's Bronco vans.

The School Board unanimously approved the travel request.

The next Hudson School Board meeting is scheduled for October 6 at 6:30 p.m.

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Editorial

Go Ahead - Think for Yourself: Celebrate the Freedom to Read

Banned Books Week, observed Oct. 5 - 11, is more than a quirky title - it's a powerful reminder of our right to read freely. Sponsored by the American Library Association, the week celebrates the First Amendment and the freedom to access ideas, even those some may find uncomfortable.

Censorship is alive and well. Every year, hundreds of books are challenged in schools and libraries by individuals or groups who believe they have the right to decide what others should or shouldn't read. That's not protecting values - that's silencing voices.

Among the most frequently challenged titles are classics like *To Kill a Mockingbird*, *Brave New World*, *Fahrenheit 451*, and *The Catcher in the Rye*. Even children's books like *Where the Wild Things Are* and *Captain Underpants* have made the list. These stories spark thought, inspire change, and reflect the diversity of human experience. That's exactly why some want them banned.

Let's be clear: what you like to read may not be what I like to read. But neither of us has the right to prevent the other from reading it. That's the essence of freedom. As the saying goes, that's why they make chocolate and vanilla.

We respect that parents may want to guide their children's reading. That's their right. But when those preferences

are imposed on all children - or all library patrons - that's censorship. And it has no place in a democratic society.

Imagine a world where the only books available were those approved by government-sanctioned or self-appointed censors. That's not freedom. That's control.

Banned Books Week is a call to action. It reminds us that we can't think for ourselves when access to ideas is restricted. That's why our founders enshrined freedom of speech and press in the Constitution. That's why newspapers fight to protect press freedom. And that's why we must defend the right to read.

So this week, take a stand. Pick up a book someone doesn't want you to read. Visit your local library. Share a banned book with a friend. Post about it. Talk about it. Celebrate your right to think for yourself.

As Ray Bradbury once said, "You don't have to burn books to destroy a culture. Just get people to stop reading them." And as Stephen King reminds us, "Books are a uniquely portable magic."

Let your mind be the spark that lights the fire of freedom. Read without fear, think without limits, and rise with every page turned.

So read boldly, think freely, and let your mind wander where others fear to go.

Palmer CTE Center Holds STEM Day at Hills House



The Alvirne High School & William H. Palmer CTE Center held its biennial STEM Day on Tuesday, Sept. 23. The event happened across the street on the grounds of the Hills House and featured a number the areas industry partners showing students a number of aspects of their fields. One of the major visitors were members of the New Hampshire Army National Guard that landed a Lakota helicopter at the event and discussed the possible careers in aviation with students.

Other attendees included:

ARMI/BioFabUSA; CCSNH/Granite Edvance; Clayco Construction; Ford of Londonderry/NH ADA; McAuliffe-Shepard Discovery Center; the National Hot Rod Association; NH Air National Guard Medical Response; the New Hampshire Aviation Museum; New Hampshire Civil Air Patrol; Portsmouth Naval Shipyard; New Hampshire Ski Industry with The Pipeline Project; the STEM MoBile; Target; and the U.S. Army.

More photos on next page.

Photos by Chris Paul



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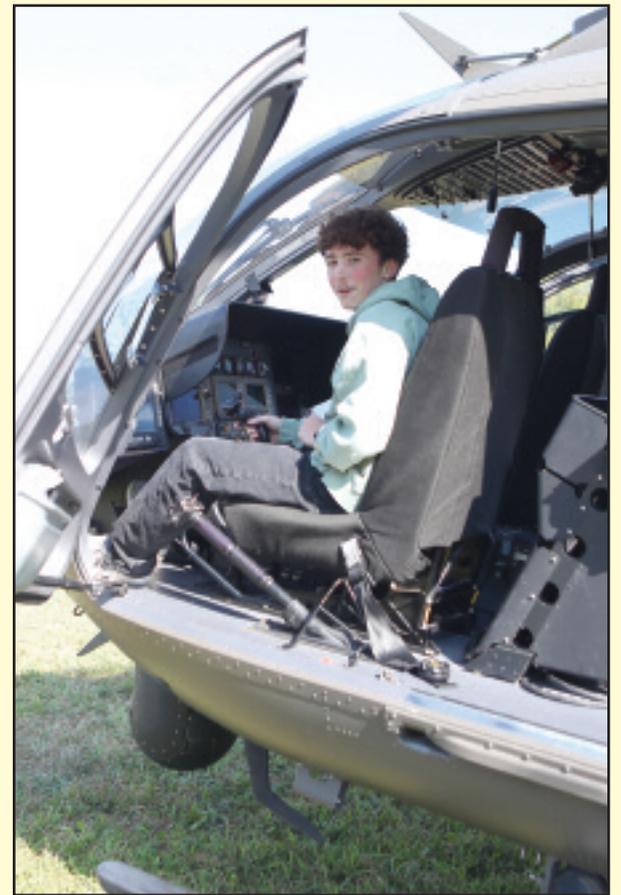
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Eagle Scout Project to Revitalize Benson Park Dog Agility Course

PAUL CONYERS
HUDSON TIMES

The Benson Park Advisory Committee met on Sept. 18 to discuss updates on two major initiatives, including the rehabilitation of the dog park's aging agility course. The project is being led by Kaden Chafe as part of his Eagle Scout service, with work expected to begin this fall and continue into spring 2025.

"He thanked us for allowing him to finish all the work this fall, before coming back in spring to do the painting on the pressure-treated

wood after it's had time to season," explained Committee Chair Jack Madden.

Selectmen Liaison Heidi Jakoby expressed her support for Chafe's efforts.

"The Board of Selectmen in general likes to recognize Eagle projects," she said. "It's important for us to make sure we move that forward to the Board of Selectmen when it's done, so we can recognize Kaden for his work."

Committee member Sue Clement asked about the project's start date, noting public interest in the agility

course. Madden confirmed that a date had been set, though he didn't have it on hand. Estimates suggest a launch in early to mid-fall, ahead of colder weather.

The committee also reviewed a separate initiative to install artificial shade structures over several exposed playgrounds in Benson Park. The project, overseen jointly by the Advisory Committee and the Department of Public Works (DPW), has faced challenges related to cost and engineering requirements.

"I reached out to the

manufacturer of the playground equipment to find the specs, and they wouldn't actually tell me," reported Committee member Nate Muir. "The problem is, what the manufacturer makes now isn't like the existing equipment we have."

Muir explained that extensive engineering work is needed to support the shade structure's poles.

"They told me to figure out the specs of the raw material for the poles so we'd know how deep we'd have to go," he said. "I don't know how far tele-

phone poles are buried, but we'll need to install 21-foot poles above grade. There's a lot of other work that needs to be done."

Madden suggested asking DPW for more details.

"I'm sure there's a standard. If it's so high, then you have to bury the pole so many feet below grade," he said.

Town Administrator Roy Sorenson clarified that the standard for such poles is to bury about one-third of their length below ground when not encased in concrete.

"Did you get a price for the sale of the equipment

we'd need?" asked Jakoby. "We can't go to a warrant or budget without numbers."

Muir said the manufacturer was "secretive" about pricing and that he had not received a cost estimate. Jakoby recommended sending a detailed memo to the Board of Selectmen.

The proposal for shade structures follows multiple complaints about playground equipment overheating during summer months.

The Committee is set to meet on Thursday, Oct. 16, at 7 p.m. in the Cable Access Center.

Trustees Already Eager to Plan for Next National Night Out

PAUL CONYERS
HUDSON TIMES

The Rodgers Memorial Library Board of Trustees met on Sept. 17 to review recent events and begin planning for the future, with Library Director Linda Pilla highlighting the overwhelming success of this year's National Night Out.

"It was once again an amazing evening, and even

after we wrapped up, we're already looking ahead to next year," said Pilla. "One of our goals for next year is to have a photo booth so people can take snapshots of themselves. We estimate around 2,400 people attended - it was a perfect evening and just a great time."

Among the most popular attractions was the petting zoo, which Pilla

described as a "massive hit" with Hudson residents.

Trustee Ali Rafieymehr suggested adding a dunk tank to next year's event to boost engagement and fundraising.

"One thing that was missing was a dunking booth. You can get a lot of donations with those," Rafieymehr said. "Kids love to dunk people like teachers. You don't have to charge people, but you can set it up with a donation - something like five dollars for three balls."

The Trustees expressed interest in the idea and extended their thanks to the Hudson Police Department

for its support, including participation from newly appointed Police Chief David Cayot.

National Night Out capped a busy summer for Rodgers Memorial Library, which also participated in the Library Hop alongside other members of the Southern New Hampshire GMILCS Consortium.

"On different occasions, I met a few people doing the Hop pass. They were coming from other libraries and were just blown away by what we offered compared to others," said Treasurer Margaret St. Onge. "I got comments about how wonderful our staff was.

Even when it wasn't a familiar face walking through the door, our staff welcomed people."

Now fully staffed following the hiring of a new head of IT, the library is transitioning from summer programming to fall events. Pilla gave a preview of upcoming activities.

"We had a dinosaur in the library today - just so you know, Dinovember is coming up very soon," she said. "We normally do various models that involve dinosaurs, including dioramas and pun-themed displays."

While fall participation is expected to be slightly lower than summer, the start of the school year has

brought renewed interest in several year-round services.

"I was pleasantly surprised at the increased use of Kanopy," said Trustee Chair Karen Bohrer, referring to the library's streaming service. "It really grew."

Bohrer also requested more detailed usage statistics to help the Trustees better understand patron interests.

"One of the things we've talked about at previous meetings was the inclusion of reference statistics in the reports," she said. "It'd be helpful to see what people are reading."

Pilla did not have the report available at the meeting but promised to compile a spreadsheet and share the data by the next session.

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OBITUARY

Allen A Bertrand



Allen A. Bertrand, 75, resident of Hudson, NH, died at his home on Thursday, Sept. 25, 2025.

He was born on Jan. 17, 1950, in Waterbury, CT, a son of Alfred and Eleanor (Nimchick) Bertrand.

Allen was raised and educated in Massachusetts. He graduated from UMASS with his Master's in engineering. He worked for Digital Corp for many years till their closing. Later, he would find a new career teaching children at the Manchester West High School.

He met and married Charmaine (Hebert) and together have made their home in Hudson for nearly 50 years.

Allen is survived by his loving wife, Charmaine Bertrand of Hudson, NH, his daughter, Michelle Bertrand, his son, Thomas Bertrand, his granddaughter, Tianna Bertrand.

Services: Calling hours will be held on Friday, Oct. 3, from 2 - 3:30 p.m., in the Dumont - Sullivan Funeral Home, 50 Ferry St., Hudson, NH. A short prayer service will be held at 3:30 p.m., in the funeral home chapel.

In lieu of flowers donations in memory of Allen can be made to the Salvation Army of Nashua, 1 Montgomery Ave., Nashua, NH, 03060.

School Board Reviews Workers' Compensation Policy

ALEX MALM
HUDSON TIMES

One of the agenda items during the most recent Hudson School Board meeting was a first reading of a proposed policy on Workers' Compensation Temporary Alternative Duty.

The policy states:

"In compliance with RSA 281-A:23-b, the school district will provide temporary alternative/transitional work opportunities to all employees temporarily disabled by a work-related injury or illness."

It clarifies that the program is not intended for employees who are permanently disabled and unable to return to their previous positions.

"It is the policy of the Hudson School Board that meaningful work be provided to employees during the time of healing following a work-related illness or injury in order to assist employees in their transition back to full duty," the policy continues.

Under the proposed process, the Temporary Alternative Duty Program would be available for up to

four months, unless extended by the employee's supervisor and treating physician, and as long as appropriate duties are available.

Key steps outlined in the policy include:

1. Initial Documentation: Injured employees must obtain a NH Workers' Compensation Task Analysis and a copy of their job description from the Human Resources office when reporting the injury. If emergency care is needed, the employee should contact HR as soon as possible to

have the documents sent to them or their physician.

2. Medical Form Submission: The treating physician and the employee must provide the completed NH Workers' Compensation Medical Form to HR. This form outlines the employee's capabilities and helps structure the temporary duty assignment.

3. Return-to-Work Coordination: The employee's supervisor will work with them to facilitate a safe return to work within the limitations set by the physi-

cian. HR may contact the physician for additional information if needed.

4. Ongoing Updates: After each medical visit, the employee must submit an updated medical form to HR.

5. Program Adjustments: Modifications to the temporary duty assignment will be made as needed. The supervisor will review whether the program should continue or be extended beyond four months.

6. Resuming Regular Duties: Once the treating physician provides written

medical clearance, the employee will return to their regular position.

The policy emphasizes that its provisions are designed to comply with RSA 281-A:23-b.

School Board Chair Maureen Dionne explained that while the policy is new at the board level, a similar HR policy has already been in place for employees within the Human Resources department.

"This is now a school board-level policy," Dionne said.

Library Trustees Discuss Program Ideas Used in Connecticut City

PAUL CONYERS
HUDSON TIMES

The September meeting of the Rodgers Memorial Library Board of Trustees included an update from the Friends of the Library nonprofit, which recently engaged in outreach with other libraries to explore new programming ideas that could appeal to Hudson

residents.

"Our Friends heard a presentation from the President and Vice President of the Meriden, Connecticut Friends of the Library," said Trustee Chair Karen Bohrer. "Meriden is a little more than twice the size of Hudson but has a similar demographic. So when they talked about an event that drew

400 people, we estimated that a similar event here could attract 100 to 200 attendees."

According to the report, popular events in Meriden included wine tastings and book signings - activities that align with several existing programs in Hudson. Bohrer noted that the presentation sparked enthu-

siasm among Hudson's Friends of the Library, and she expressed hope that new ideas could positively impact local engagement.

"They really were a bundle of energy and a lot of fun," added Rodgers Memorial Library Director Linda Pilla.

The meeting also prompted discussion about strengthening collaboration between the library's governing board and the nonprofit Friends group.

"One point they made that we don't currently do is having a member of the library board serve as a liaison to the Friends," said Bohrer. "That's something the NH Library Association recommends, and I think it would be worthwhile for us to consider. It could help us stay aligned, especially as we work to implement our

strategic plan."

Trustee Ali Rafieymehr asked for clarification on the responsibilities of such a liaison.

"Do they specify what the liaison is expected to do?" he asked. "Would they need to present at meetings?"

Bohrer responded that the role would be similar to how Hudson's Board of Selectmen appoints liaisons to other boards and committees.

"It wouldn't have specific duties - it would depend on the agenda," she explained. "But it would be a good way to keep everyone informed."

Vice-Chair Lisa Weber raised the question of whether the liaison role should be formalized.

"Is that something we'd need to include in our bylaws?" she asked.

Bohrer suggested starting informally.

"Let's not begin by putting it in the bylaws," she said. "Let's just try it. If it turns out to be something we want to continue, then yes, we can consider adding it to the bylaws."

In keeping with the informal approach, no Trustee was officially appointed to the position. Bohrer simply requested that an available member attend the next Friends meeting.

The Rodgers Memorial Library Board of Trustees is set to meet on Wednesday, Oct. 8, at 6 p.m. at the Community Television facility on Kimball Hill Road. The Friends of Rodgers Memorial Library meet on the third Tuesday of each month from 6 - 8 p.m. at the library.

Restoration

Continued from page 1
tory compliance.

"I want to find out if Lev-
oie has run his proposal by
DHR. Maybe he has, and
they said, 'Fine, go ahead,
replace like with like,' and
they were okay with it - but
we don't know," he said. "We
had to go through an approval
process before opening the
old Hudson Train Station to
the public. We don't want to
step on DHR's toes or antag-

onize them."

Jakoby assured the committee she would provide all necessary contact information to help resolve the matter.

"What is the plan after he fixes the barn?" asked Committee member Sue Clement. "Is it going to be placed within the park?"

Town Administrator Roy Sorenson responded that the issue was still "open for discussion."

"I don't think there is a plan," he said, noting that

reinstalling the restored cupola on the aging Haselton Barn may not be feasible without more extensive restoration work.

Madden suggested an alternative: placing the restored cupola on display near the barn, leaving room for future, long-term restoration efforts.

"His goal was to get it back up on the barn, even if that may not be possible right now," added Jakoby.



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OBITUARY Sophie Alukonis



On Thursday, Sept. 18, 2025, just five days prior to what would have been her 97th birthday, our cherished matriarch, mom, auntie, grandma, and best friend, Sophie Alukonis left us to commence her final journey. Born on Sept. 23, 1928 in Hudson, NH, to Boleslaw and Katherine Batura, Sophie was the youngest, and last survivor of eight siblings - Anna, Jennie, Stanley, Joseph, Mary, John, and Helen.

Being born into a family of that size during the Great Depression, she was raised to understand the need to be frugal and independent. From an early age she tended to the vegetable garden, maintained the orchard, fished in the ponds and brooks of Hudson and along the shores of the Merrimack River and in the fall, she would join her brothers on their hunting expeditions. From her mother she learned how to milk the family cow, care for the chickens, and cook for and feed the large family on a shoestring budget. From her father, she learned how to care for and heal the family's livestock. To help her cherished family, while still a young teenager, she became a most proficient and accomplished seamstress. In her spare time, whenever that may have been, she played basketball for Nashua High School and took home first place prizes for numerous other athletic events.

Shortly after graduating from Nashua High School (as Hudson did not have a high school at the time), and after a brief stint at the St. Joseph School of Nursing in Nashua, Sophie traveled across the country with friends to seek out new experiences and places. For a while she lived in San Francisco employing her skills as a seamstress while working at Levi Strauss & Company until the 3,000-mile divide became too great, and the call of friends and family beckoned her back to her hometown.

Sophie married fellow Hudson native Stanley Alukonis in the days before Christmas in 1950 when he was home on leave from his duties as a US Air Force bomber pilot. Thereafter, she accompanied Stanley around the country as he was stationed at bases in Texas, Oklahoma, and Arizona. It was in Tucson that she learned to cook true Mexican specialties such as chili relleno, enchiladas and carne asada. It was there too, at the historic San Xavier del bac Mission on what is the Tohono O'odham Nation that she learned how to make traditional fry bread and Indian tacos from native American women that would cook over open wood fires just outside the centuries-old church. Weekends were spent camping and fishing on the beaches of Rocky Point (Punta Peñasco) in Sonora, Mexico where Sophie would cook the catches of the day over an open beach fire for Stanley, as well as for other airmen and their families. When those fly-boys partied a bit too hard, a pot of Menudo would be left by the fire as a hangover cure.

It was in New Jersey, at Stanley's last posting, that their only child, David, was born. Soon thereafter, Stanley (the Colonel) dispatched Sophie and infant David back to the Alukonis family farm in Hudson. There, they lived with Stanley's parents until their new home was built, and Stanley retired from the Air Force. Sophie lived for the remaining 63 years of her life on "the farm". It was there that Sophie honed her talents and developed new ones. Hardly a day went by in all those years, regardless of rain, heat, or snow, that she didn't take a long walk in her cherished woods, coming to know every square foot of the woods and fields, and becoming a consummate naturalist.

Accomplished cook, baker, gardener, seamstress, cookbook collector, farmer, craftsman, wildlife rehabilitator, arborist, canner, fisherman (on ice, ponds, streams, and the high seas), yard sale picker, forager of all things wild (berries, nuts, flowers, herbs, medicinals, mushrooms and of course, asparagus), and fan of Boston College Football; she was Martha Stewart before Martha Stewart was Martha Stewart.

In 1999, Sophie welcomed Michele to the family fold, making the two-hour journey to Michele and David's wedding at Bretton Woods, NH in her turquoise-teal 1959 Cadillac convertible. Eager to teach Michele many of her talents and knowledge, the two quickly developed a special bond and spent countless hours discussing her hobbies and family stories.

In 2003 her most beloved and only grandchild was born. Seamus Sumner Alukonis was everything to her and hardly a day went by when she didn't have a present or special treat for him. She loved traveling to his games and watching him play baseball and hockey, and truly relished the task of cleaning his uniforms with her special and proprietary methods that left those uniforms with the whitest of whites and brightest of colors. Theirs was a special bond that only grew stronger after Stanley died in 2006. She will be missed.

David, Michele, and Seamus Alukonis would like to thank the incredible nurses and staff at Home Health & Hospice Care who were so helpful, kind, and loving in helping keep Sophie comfortable at home until the very end. They would also like to thank their dear friends Sherri, and cousin Wende for helping navigate the waters in preparation for her final journey. Godspeed Sophie!

All services were private.

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Members of the Hudson Fire Department helped welcome area residents to their annual Fire Prevention Open House at the Leonard A. Smith Central Fire Station on Saturday, Sept. 27. Families learned a number of life-saving techniques through the many hands-on demonstrations taking place throughout the day. Freddie the Talking Fire Engine was making his rounds through the crowd amazing children and a number of fire prevention techniques were being taught the the youngsters. Young fire-fighters were also dressed up fire gear and allowed to extinguish a “burning house”.

Photos by Chris Paul



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Hudson School Board Reviews Hiring Data and Updates Petty Cash Policy

ALEX MALM
HUDSON TIMES

The Hudson School Board was briefed during its most recent meeting on staffing data for the start of the school year, specifically focusing on positions covered by the AFSCME and HFT unions.

“Overall FY26 AFSCME and HFT openings were down 15% compared to the number of openings for FY25,” a memo to the School Board stated. “Only one AFSCME/HFT opening remained unfilled prior to the start of the school year,

compared with three openings last year.”

The memo noted that there were 33 total openings between the two unions at the end of the previous school year, and 32 of those positions were filled before the new year began.

Superintendent Dan Moulis said the breakdown of openings showed some differences from prior years and emphasized the importance of having this documentation as the district enters budget season.

Also during the meeting, the School Board held

a final reading of a proposed update to its petty cash policy.

“Petty cash funds shall be established, when necessary, to purchase minor items and/or provide immediate payment for minor services,” the updated policy states.

The policy outlines that petty cash accounts must be reconciled at least once per quarter. All disbursements must be itemized, documented with receipts, and charged to the appropriate budget code. No expenditures may be made from petty cash for deleted

budget items.

Under the updated policy:

- The school principal will serve as the petty cash administrator at each school.

- The Business Administrator will oversee the central office petty cash account.

- Custodians of these accounts are responsible for ensuring petty cash is not used as a substitute for standard purchasing procedures, especially when consolidated procurement offers more cost-effective options.

One of the key changes in the updated policy is the increase in the maximum allowable petty cash purchase or reimbursement - from \$25 to \$100.

“No single petty cash purchase/reimbursement shall exceed \$100,” the policy states.

Business Administrator Jenny Graves explained that the increase reflects rising costs since the policy was last updated in August 2019.

“General costs have increased since the policy was last adopted,” Graves said. “We exchange

receipts for authorized purchases to replenish the petty cash fund.”

Graves clarified that even with the updated policy, no school would be allowed to hold more than \$100 in petty cash at any one time.

“In no event would you see a petty cash account exceed the amount authorized in the policy,” she said.

The School Board unanimously approved the updated policy.

The next School Board meeting is scheduled for Oct. 6 at 6:30 p.m.

Benson Park Will Present Warrant Article for Reserve Fund Contribution

PAUL CONYERS
HUDSON TIMES

The Benson Park Advisory Committee convened on Sept. 18 to outline its goals for the coming months, including the preparation of a warrant article for Hudson’s town election next March.

“We’re looking to draft

a warrant article to add \$10,000 to the Benson Park Capital Reserve Fund,” explained Committee Chair Jack Madden. “Several years ago, we discovered that such a fund existed, and since then, the town has contributed \$10,000 annually. That money allows us to complete repairs on features

like the Hudson Train Station, the Old Lady in the Shoe, and the Elephant Barn.”

Outside of the Capital Reserve Fund, the committee operates on a modest budget, relying heavily on donations, volunteer efforts, and support from the nonprofit Friends of

Benson Park. A similar warrant article passed easily last March.

“It was approved unanimously by both the Board of Selectmen and the Budget Committee, and the public supported it as well. I don’t expect this to be controversial,” Madden added.

The committee unanimously voted to forward the proposed warrant article to the Board of Selectmen without debate.

As the summer season winds down, the committee also reflected on recent volunteer efforts and prepared for the colder months ahead.

“We have some donors contributing to our final

volunteer clean-up,” said committee member Clement. “Hannaford in Hudson is sponsoring lunch around 11:30, and Denise from Express Art has once again provided her delicious homemade cookies for the volunteers.”

Clement extended heartfelt thanks to all volunteers and donors who supported the park throughout the spring and summer of 2025, encouraging residents to get involved if they have time.

The final Volunteer Clean-up Day of 2025 is scheduled for Saturday, Oct. 18, from 9 a.m. to approximately 2 p.m.

Meanwhile, the Friends of Benson Park continue to play an active role in park

maintenance. Friends Liaison Natalie Newell updated the committee on a recent bench-cleaning initiative.

“The Friends of Benson Park donated \$300 to power wash benches throughout the park,” said Newell. “These benches were part of our original fundraiser back in 2011 and had never been cleaned. Many were in rough shape, but they look much better now.”

Newell worked with a local contractor to oversee the cleaning of 33 benches. She also confirmed that the park is seeking donations for new picnic tables.

“The bench donations have reached their limit, but many picnic tables are in poor condition and need replacing,” she said. “We’re fundraising for that now. We already have four new tables ready to be assembled at the Elephant Barn, and we hope to replace the old wooden tables one by one.”

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Memorial Picnic Tables Now Available at Benson Park

BILL ZINK
SUBMISSION

For years visitors to Benson Park have enjoyed the many memorial benches placed throughout the park for their comfort. There are no plans at present to add more benches, but the Friends of Benson Park are pleased to announce that they are now accepting orders for picnic tables.

Most of the picnic tables currently in use are decades old and ready to be removed from service. The new tables being offered are manufactured

by the same company as the benches. Like the benches, these full sized tables are made from high density composite material of recycled plastic, reclaimed wood and an industrial binder.

The tables must be assembled on site. John Leone, Vice Chairman of the Friends of Benson Park, has taken on the task of overseeing the assembly of the tables with his crew of volunteers. John says, "These tables are stabilized by heavy gauge steel braces. The composite table top and bench materi-

al will not warp, crack or rot. These attractive high quality tables are incredibly sturdy and will last for many years!"

These memorial tables are offered as a donation to the Friends of Benson Park, an all-volunteer 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization dedicated to the park's conservation and the preservation of its unique heritage. The planned "Benson's Museum & Discovery Center" will be housed in the Elephant Barn structure and will honor the history of "Benson's Wild Animal

Farm" and foster a love of nature and learning. The Friends of Benson Park volunteers also help organize the monthly park cleanups and offer free concerts and other community events in the park.

Several tables are available for immediate assembly. Donation cost is \$1,895 and includes a 12"x13" plaque with wording of your choice. Orders may be placed by using the form on the Friends of Benson Park website, friendsofbensonpark.org.



Volunteers, left to right, Bill Zink, John Leone and Don Newell assemble a memorial picnic table. *Courtesy Photo*

Secretary Scanlan Provides Information to NH Voters on Election Law Changes

Effective Sept. 30, there are additional requirements related to absentee voting and absentee registration.

New Hampshire Secretary of State David M. Scanlan reminds New Hampshire voters and individuals who qualify to register by absentee or to vote absentee of important election law changes that take effect on Sept. 30, 2025.

Absentee Registration Changes

Effective Sept. 30, any

individual registering to vote by absentee for a qualified reason must provide proof of their U.S. citizenship and age in addition to domicile and identity with their registration application.

Individuals in New Hampshire can register to vote by absentee due to temporary absence or physical disability. More information on the process is available on the Secretary of State's website www.sos.nh.gov/elections/register-vote/absentee-voter-registration.

Absentee Voting Changes

Effective Sept. 30, registered voters who request an absentee ballot must show proof of their identity to receive their absentee ballot. If sending their absentee ballot request by mail, the voter must include a copy of their photo identification or a notarized signature on their absentee ballot application form. If the voter is obtaining their absentee ballot in person,

they must show their city or town clerk photo identification (digital proof is also accepted) or a notarized signature on their absentee ballot application form.

The deadlines to request absentee ballots remain the same. Voters must request their absentee ballots by 5 p.m. in person the day before an election or by 12 p.m. the day before the election by mail or email.

In-Person Delivery of Absentee Ballots

Voters returning their absentee ballots to their local clerk in person no longer have to use the outer envelope to seal their properly completed affidavit envelope (which contains the ballot). The outer envelope is only required if the voter is returning their absentee ballot by mail.

Time Period for Requesting Absentee Ballots

Effective Aug. 1, clerks can only accept absentee ballot requests postmarked

or received within six months of the election for which they are being requested. This change does not apply to New Hampshire voters who live overseas or serve in the military and vote absentee as UOCAVA voters.

Instructions on how to register and vote by absentee, along with detailed guidance on the change in requirements, are available at www.sos.nh.gov/elections/absentee-ballots.

New Hampshire Celebrates Source Water Protection Week

The New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) invites residents to join in celebrating Source Water Protection Week, taking place Sept. 28 - Oct. 4, and to reflect on the vital role clean rivers, lakes, and aquifers play in providing safe drinking water.

Source water protection addresses ways to safeguard drinking water from risks, both human and natural

contamination to protect public health. According to the American Water Works Association's 2024 State of the Water Industry report, source water protection has emerged as the top challenge facing the water sector. This marks the first time in the survey's 21-year history that this "source-to-tap" issue has ranked number one. Respondents, including public water system managers and operators, are

increasingly focused on protecting water at its source to ensure long-term access to safe, affordable, and reliable drinking water.

This growing emphasis reflects rising concerns about stormwater, drought, and emerging contaminants such as PFAS. In response, NHDES's Source Water Protection Program provides both technical and financial assistance to help communities implement lo-

cal protection strategies. These include land conservation, local groundwater protection ordinances, improved stormwater manage-

ment, and source security measures.

To learn more about how you can help protect your community's drinking water,

contact the NHDES Source Water Protection Program at (603) 271-0688 or visit the program's website.



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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.

Democrats Meeting

The Hudson Democrats monthly meeting will be held on Thursday, Oct. 9 at 7 p.m., at Rodgers Memorial Library Community Room in Hudson. Nashua State Rep. Susan Elberger will be the guest and will conduct a Listening Session. The goal of a Listening Session is for a political leader to hear about concerns you'd like addressed by our government.

Holiday Dinner & Raffle

VFW Post 5791 Holiday Dinner & Raffle will be hold a benefit for the Nashua Children's Home and Marguerite's Place On Nov. 22. Also collecting toys for Toys for Tots, so bring a new unwrapped children's toy for the collection box. At 15 Bockes Rd., Hudson. Doors open 5:30 p.m., dinner at 7 p.m. Tickets are \$30 per person. Contact

cshay35@gamil.com for tickets or more info. Great raffle prizes, music and fun.

Electronic Recycling Fundraiser

Hudson Rotary Club Fall Electronic Recycling Fundraiser will be held on Oct. 18, from 8 a.m. to noon, in the Alvirne High School parking lot. All electronics will be accepted. This is a fundraiser, so a donation is requested.

Trivia

Post 48 will be hosting Trivia on Saturday, Oct. 25 from 5 - 7 p.m., in the Foxhole at 1 Fulton St. This event is open to members and bona fide guests 21+. For more information, please call 603-889-9777.

Meat Raffle

American Legion Post 48

October Meat Raffle will be held at 37 Central St., on Saturday, Oct. 18, beginning at 2 p.m. This event is open to the public you must be 16+ to play. The proceeds from this event are to benefit Unit 48's Scholarship Fund. Pre-buys are available in the Foxhole. More information is available at 603-889-9777.

New Friends Wanted

The Friends of the Library are looking for more friends. Please join in for the business meeting on Oct. 16 at 6 p.m., in Rogers Memorial Library's community room. They will discuss upcoming events and new fund-raising avenues. Please register for the meeting on the RML website Event Calendar.

Buy-a-Brick and Save a Memory

Preserve a memory and

help the Friends of the Library support programs, events, museum and entertainment venue passes, and scholarships. FOL will engrave your purchased bricks with two lines (\$55) or three lines (\$80) with your special message. The order form is on Rodgers Memorial Library website click on the Friends page. The bricks are placed in the RML Walkway twice a year and will become an enduring legacy. For an inanimate object, each brick can speak volumes.

Night Cribbage League

American Legion Post 48 is looking for teams or substitutes for its Tuesday Night Cribbage League which begins October 7. For more information, please call 603-889-9777.

Karaoke

American Legion Post 48 will be hosting DJ Mike on Friday, Oct. 17 from 6 - 10 p.m., in the Foxhole at 1 Fulton St., for Karaoke and Dancing. This event is open to members and bona fide guests 21+. For more information, please call 603-889-9777.

Holiday Fair Event

A Holiday Fair and Silent Auction will be held at the First Church, One Concord Street, Nashua, on Friday, Nov. 7, from 4 - 7 p.m., and Saturday, Nov. 8, from 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. There will be homemade goodies/sweets, food to go, gift baskets, craft items,

puzzles and more. The kids can visit with Santa on Saturday between 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. Dinner will be available on Friday night from 4:30 - 6:30 p.m., and lunch on Saturday from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. The church thrift shop will be open Saturday from 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Psychic & Craft Fair

A Psychic & Craft Fair, will be held on Oct. 11, from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m., at the Hudson Community Center, 12 Liona Ave., Hudson. There will be Personal Readings, Crafters & Artisans, Food Truck. Free Admission. All proceeds support Hudson Lions Club Charities.

Victorian Tea

On Sunday Dec. 7, from 1 - 3 p.m., an "Afternoon Tea" will be served complete with cakes, and pastries at Hills House, 211 Derry Rd. Limited seating. Registration required by Nov. 22. Please email the Hudson Historical Society at HudsonHistorical@live.com with your name and number of attendees. Free admission.

Old Fashion Ornament Making

On Wednesday, Dec. 3, from 7 - 9 p.m., at the Hills House, 211 Derry Rd., the Hudson Historical Society will be making traditional ornaments using all natural materials. This event is free and for adults only, materials will be provided, limited seating. Registration required by

Cemetery Tours

On Saturday, Oct. 25, meet at Hills House, 211 Derry Rd., at 10 a.m., for refreshments. Attendees will provide their own transportation to Blodgett and Westview Cemeteries to listen to colorful stories of select graves. No registration required. Free admission.

Christmas Storytime

Come and listen to "Twas the Night Before Christmas" with the Hudson Historical Society at the Hills House, 211 Derry Rd., on Friday, Dec. 12 & 25 from 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. Kids will be gifted with a fun "Christmas box". Limited seating. Registration required by Dec. 6. Please email the Society at HudsonHistorical@live.com with your name and number of attendees. Free admission.

Gingerbread House Contest

Hudson Historical Society will hold a Gingerbread House contest. To participate bring a completed House on Dec. 5 at 7 p.m., with a completed registration form at the Hills House, 211 Derry Rd. If you want to participate but not build a house then come on Dec. 6 from 10 4 p.m. to vote on houses with the winners and their prizes being announced at the end.

continued on page 13

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Around Town

Continued from page 12

Wreaths Across America and Open House
On Saturday, Dec. 13, from 11 a.m. - 4 p.m., and Sunday, Dec. 14 from noon - 4 p.m., Come see the beautiful Hills House, 211 Derry Rd., decorated in Victorian Christmas style! No registration required. Free admission.

Dungeons & Donuts
On Saturday, Oct. 4 and 18 at 9:30 a.m., come to the Rogers Library to play Dungeons & Dragons and grab a donut! All skill levels are welcome.

Baby Lapsit and Playtime
Come to the Rogers Library on Thursdays at 10 a.m., for interactive stories and songs for babies and their caregivers followed by playtime.

Mini Pumpkin Painting
On Saturday, Oct. 4 at 10 a.m. & 11 a.m., Families are invited to paint a mini pumpkin to take home at Rogers Library.

Mystery Lovers' Book Club
On Monday, Oct. 6 at 12:30 p.m., the book "Every-one in My Family Has Killed Someone" by Benjamin Stevenson will be discussed at Rogers Library.

Spooky Slime
On Tuesday, Oct. 7 at 6 p.m., make some icky, sticky, and spooky slime at Rogers Library. This is a program for families with children.

Homeschool STEM
On Thursday, Oct. 9 at 1 p.m., Homeschool students, ages 6-12 are invited to Rogers Library to build a pumpkin catapult from popsicle sticks and rubber bands.

Genealogy Club
This club will meet at Rogers Library on Friday, Oct. 10 at 1:30 p.m., to discuss "Top Eight Genealogy Resources You Should Always Use...NOW!" by Linda MacIver.

The Last Phase of Life
On Saturday, Oct. 11 at 10 a.m., Rogers Library wel-

comes author and hospice nurse, Ellie Atherton, for a meaningful conversation on preparing for the final phase of life.

Driving Towards Zero
Eliminating deaths on New Hampshire's roadways is the driving force behind the "Driving Toward Zero" campaign. Come to Rogers Library on Tuesday, Oct. 14 at 6:30 p.m., for this presentation by the NH Department of Transportation.

Elementary Spider Web Craft
On Thursday, Oct. 16 at 5 p.m., Grades 1-5 will use watercolors to paint colors on a salt spider web at Rogers Library.

Breast Cancer Awareness and Prevention
On Thursday, Oct. 16 at 6:30 p.m., come to Rogers Library for an informative presentation on breast health and breast cancer awareness.

Afternoon Book Group
On Tuesday, Oct. 21 at 1:30 p.m., to discuss

"Lessons in Chemistry" by Bonnie Garmus at Rogers Library.

Tween Halloween Escape Room
Kids in Grades 4-8 come to Rogers Library on Tuesday, Oct. 21 at 6 p.m., to read the clues, solve the puzzles, and decipher the codes to escape this seasonal themed room.

Pumpkin Catapults
On Wednesday, Oct. 22 at 5:30 p.m., build a catapult to launch a candy pumpkin into a basket at Rogers Library. Drop in between 5:30 - 6:30 p.m. This is for ages 6+.

Discover Film Noir
On Thursday, Oct. 23 at 7 p.m., discover the background of film noir including the meaning, influences, evolution, common elements and essential films at Rogers Library.

True Crime Podcast Club
Come to Rogers Library on Wednesday, Oct. 22 at 7 p.m., to discuss "The Consultant's" podcast episodes on

Wone's still unsolved murder.

Professional Headshot Mini Session

On Saturday, Oct. 25 at 9:30 a.m., Photographer Katie Wagner will be providing professional headshots in this mini-session at Rogers Library. Registration required.

Ghost Scrape Art
On Saturday, Oct. 25 at 10:30 a.m., Drop in to Rogers Library to paint a ghost using a squeegee. All ages.

Teen Forensic Science: Evidence Collection
On Friday, Oct. 24 at 3 p.m., Teens in middle and high school (grades 6-12) are invited to Rogers Library to learn about criminal investigation with forensic scientist Mary Dawson.

Genealogy: A Personal Introduction
Interested in learning about genealogy? Reference Librarian Mark will go over his first steps in tracing his family and provide tips along the way, on Tuesday, Oct. 28 at 6:30 p.m., and Wednesday,

Oct. 29 at 1:30 p.m., at Rogers Library.

Cookbook Club
On Monday, Oct. 27 at 11:30 a.m., Rogers Library invites you to bring whatever you want from your favorite cookbook or online resource for this club.

Read 'Em & Eat
On Monday, Oct. 27 at 7 p.m., the book "Something Wicked This Way Comes" by Ray Bradbury will be discussed at Soho restaurant in Hudson.

Scary Stories in the Dark
On Wednesday, Oct. 29 at 5 p.m., listen to Miss Tanya read scary stories in the dark and make a ghost shadow puppet at Rogers Library. For ages 8 and up.

Hallo-tween Movie and Costume Party
On Thursday, Oct. 30 at 5 p.m., kids in Grades 4-8 are invited to dress up in a Halloween costume and watch Tim Burton's "The Nightmare before Christmas." At

continued on page 15

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Pre-Halloween Fun: Aviation Museum to Issue Pilot Licenses for Broomsticks

Obtain an official broomstick license on Saturday, Oct. 18, young witches and warlocks must meet ghosts of aviation past, receive Halloween treats.

Long before the Wright Brothers took to the sky, the original aviators were witches with their broomsticks.

This Halloween, local youngsters can join in the airborne black magic by getting an official Broomstick Pilot License from the Aviation Museum of N.H.

Broomstick Pilot Licenses will be issued on one

day only, on Saturday, Oct. 18 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Aviation Museum, 27 Navigator Road, Londonderry, N.H.

Kids age 12 and under may obtain a license for free by visiting the museum. Admission charges apply for visitors 13 and above.

“We’re delighted to give families a way to prepare for Halloween by being the regional bureau for official Broomstick Pilot Licenses,” said Jeff Rapsis, executive director of the non-profit Aviation Museum.

The Aviation Museum

of N.H. is based in the 1937 art deco passenger terminal at Manchester-Boston Regional Airport.

At the museum, Broomstick Pilot License applicants must first go through a brief “ground school” prior to getting a license.

Applicants will meet the ghosts of past aviation pioneers, who will describe their achievements and explain basic principles of flight.

Spirits on hand will include the ghosts of legendary aviators Charles Lindbergh, Amelia Earhart,

and Alan Shepard, who will describe their exploits and achievements.

Each ghost will reward young broomstick pilots with Halloween treats after listening to a brief talk.

Broomstick Pilot Licenses are issued under the authority of Glenda the Witch, the Aviation Museum’s Official Broomstick Check Pilot, who will be on hand to greet applicants and supervise the licensing process.

Headshots will be taken of each applicant for their license, which will be

awarded at the completion of ground school.

A typical visit to obtain a license will last 20 minutes, although visitors are welcome to stay at the museum longer.

Glenda the Witch recommends applicants come dressed in their Halloween costumes to improve chances of getting a license.

Each license, which will be valid on Friday, Oct. 31, 2025, entitles the bearer to operate any broomstick or broomstick-like device for aviation purposes only.

“Just like regular pilots,

anyone wishing to fly a broomstick or broomstick-like device must obtain an official license,” said Jeff Rapsis, the museum’s director.

“We’re honored to act as the official bureau for Broomstick Pilot Licenses in New Hampshire,” Rapsis said.

For more information about the Aviation Museum, visit www.aviationmuseumofnh.org or call (603) 669-4820. Follow the Aviation Museum on social media at www.facebook.com/nhahs.

Around Town

Continued from page 13

Rogers Library.

Too Cute to Spook

On Thursday, Oct. 31 from 10:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m., follow the Rogers Library Trick or Treat trail wearing a too-cute-to-spook Halloween costume and come say Hi or Boo to each library desk!

High Holy Days

The members of Etz Hayim Synagogue will gather together to reflect, pray and to seek forgiveness from Sept. 12 - Oct 14. High Holy Day services will be led by guest Rabbi Jonathan Biatch. Join us for any and all services. Tickets are not required, and there is no reserved seating. All are welcome! Please visit www.etzhayim.org/pray/holiday-services for the complete schedule of services.

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 out-

doors. 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.

Drop In Stitchers

If you love to craft, whether it be quilting, knitting, crocheting, rug making or plastic canvas, you will LOVE this Rogers Library group! This group will meet on Fridays at 9:15 a.m.

Explorers Storytime

On Fridays at 1:30 p.m., Rogers Library will have songs, stories, bubbles and a craft or activity for children ages 3-5 and their caregivers.

Baby Lapsit and Playtime

On Thursdays come to the Rogers Library at 10 a.m., for interactive stories and songs for babies and their caregivers followed by playtime.

LEGO Racing

Build a vehicle from LEGO bricks and race it down a track at the Rogers Library on Wednesday, Sept. 24 at 5 p.m. This event is for ages 4+.

Teen Hangout

On Weekdays at 2:30 p.m., (except Oct. 10) middle and high school students ages 13+ are invited to enjoy the Rogers Library's teen space

after school. Snacks, charging stations, video games, and crafts provided.

Class of 1975 Reunion

A Reunion for the Alvirne and Pelham alumni class of 1975 will be held soon. If you are an alumni of the year and want more information go to the facebook link [alvirne1975@gmail.com](https://www.facebook.com/alvirne1975)

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.

Movers & Shakers

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

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.

Adventurers Storytime

On Tuesdays at 10 a.m. (except the second week of the month), join Ms. Tanya for stories, songs, games, and activities at the Rodgers Memorial Library. For ages 3-5.

Story Safari

On Tuesdays & Thursdays at 10 a.m., come to Benson Park for songs, stories, and bubbles! All ages welcome.

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.

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.

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.

PFOA Water Test

You can request a water sampling here: Southern NH PFOA Investigation Private Well-Testing Request Form Survey ([surveymonkey.com](http://www.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

Laptop Donation Program

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phones, 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@unitedwaynashua.org if you have any questions.

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)

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