

THE Hudson Times

September 19, 2024 ♦ Volume 2 – Issue 38

A FREE Weekly Publication



HUDSON REMEMBERS Members of Scouting Troop 20 gathered for the annual 9-11 Observance at Benson Park on Wednesday night, Sept. 11. See more photos page 8. *Photo by Chris Paul*

Alvirne High School Enrollment Drops to Under 1,000 Students

ALEX MALM
HUDSON TIMES

At the Sept. 9 Hudson School Board meeting, the School Board was provided an overview regarding its first day of school enrollment numbers.

Superintendent, Dan Moulis, explained that it's something he feels is important to present to the School Board and the public at the beginning of the year.

"This gives a nice base line for the public and the board," Moulis said about the enrollment report, noting that enrollment can change throughout the year.

One of the biggest highlights from the enrollment report is that they have a decrease in enrollment at this point.

"As you can see there is a slight decrease in the overall enrollment," Moulis told the School Board during the meeting.

This year's first day of school enrollment across the District came in at 2,941 students which is 114 less than the 3,055 students they had in the District last year.

For PreK, the District had 105 students last year versus 99 now, for first grade, the District had 194 students last year and 187 this year, for second grade, the District has 197 students this year versus 222 last year, third grade had 238 students last year versus 227 this year for the beginning of the year, fourth grade had 170 students last year, but 225 this year, and

fifth grade had 195 students last year and 173 students this year.

This year for sixth grade, the District had 192 students on the first day of school versus the 234 students they had last year, while seventh grade had 237 students last year and 236 students this year. Last year, there were 236 eighth graders, while this year there were 223 to start the school year.

In high school, there were 241 students on the first day of school for ninth grade, which is five more than last year. For tenth grade, there were 254 students last year versus the 234 that were enrolled the first day of school this year.

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Hudson Makes Progress in Search for New Staff

PAUL CONYERS
HUDSON TIMES

The Sept. 4 meeting of the Hudson Budget Committee saw a renewed discussion over the push to hire a permanent Town Administrator and Town Planner, as Hudson hired placement company Municipal Resources, Inc. for help. Recently, the first batch of four MRI-recommended candidates went through an initial round of interviews with the Board of Selectmen.

"For the Town Administrator hiring, the Selectmen did an interview for candidates, none of which met our criteria," explained Selectman liaison, Heidi Jakoby.

"We hired MRI for another \$7,000 for them to go out and do a secondary search."

The Selectmen also increased the upper salary range from \$150,000 to \$170,000. It was unclear where the extra money would come from if a new Administrator was hired above the previously budgeted \$150,000. Chief Assessor, James Michaud, is the Acting Town Administrator through September, and the now-retired Administrator, Steve Malizia, is expected to stay on for a consulting role, starting in October.

"Why don't we just pay Mr. Malizia a bonus and

keep him on for six or nine months?" asked Chair, Bill Cole. "Without a Town Administrator there, this town is in bad shape."

Committee member, Shawn Jasper, noted that Malizia stepped back from his old position for a reason, and probably did not want to return to the role for another few months. Malizia's retirement officially went into effect on Aug. 30.

"I requested an update on the Town Planner as well," said Jakoby. "The selection committee for the Town Planner is interviewing two candidates in hopes that one of them will fulfill the criteria."

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Budget Committee Prepare for In-Depth Look at Upcoming Numbers

PAUL CONYERS
HUDSON TIMES

At their September meeting, the Hudson Budget Committee began preparing for budget season, which is expected to ramp up within the next two months as more accurate numbers from the school district and various departments from the town of Hudson come in.

"The Board of Select-

men created their budget schedule. We're saying that the budget books will be prepared Oct. 25," said Selectman liaison, Heidi Jakoby. "Books to the Budget Committee will be Oct. 30." SAU 81 expects to have their numbers in well before the end of October, although there were some concerns that the recent

Chair, Bill Cole, also went over a previous infor-

mation request for what he called a "laundry list" of the current town contracts, including questions related to a \$2.3 million offset payment by Target, to the town as part of its logistics center at the former Green Meadow.

"We asked the school who coordinated with the Planning Board and/or Target, to come up with this

continued on page 6

School Board Approve Funds For Alvirne Farm Machinery Barn

ALEX MALM
HUDSON TIMES

The Hudson School Board held two different public hearings regarding Alvirne Farm during its most recent Board meeting.

“As presented at the School Board meeting on Aug. 19, 2024, the Alvirne Trustees have proposed funding \$250,000 towards the cost of a new machinery barn for Alvirne Farm, such funding to be provided in conjunction with a \$53,500 expenditure from the newly established Capital Reserve

for Farm projects, and \$20,000 from the Farm’s revolving fund,” Superintendent, Dan Moulis, wrote in a memo to the School Board. “This public hearing addresses the receipt and authorization to expend the funds from the Alvirne Trustees for this project.”

It was explained that they were required to have a public hearing to accept unanticipated funds in the amount of \$20,000 or more, which is what was happening in this situation.

It was unanimously

approved by the School Board to accept the funds.

The second public hearing was in regards to withdrawing funds from the Alvirne Farm Capital Reserve Fund.

“The voters approved the creation of the Alvirne Farm Capital Reserve Fund during the voting session of Annual Meeting on March 12, 2024, and at that time also approved naming the Hudson School Board as agents to expend this fund,” Moulis wrote in a memo. “The amount

approved by the voters to add to this new capital reserve account was \$150,000.”

It was explained at the previous meeting by Alvirne High School Principal, Steve Beals, that the proposal came from a brainstorm by the Trustees, who came up with the idea of having a funding collaboration.

He said they only received two bids, instead of three, which is usually required due to the limited number of companies who

do work on farm barns.

“We are pleased we got two bids,” Beals said.

It was noted by Moulis that the School Board previously discussed using up to \$53,500 from the Reserve Fund.

“The request to use up to \$53,500 from the Alvirne Farm Capital Reserve Fund ties back to the presentation at the Aug. 19, 2024 School Board meeting for the building of a new machinery barn at the Alvirne Farm, which is proposed to be funded by a donation of

\$250,000 from the Alvirne Trustees and up to \$20,000 from the Farm’s revolving fund,” Moulis said.

In total, it is expected that the machinery barn will cost \$323,500.

The School Board unanimously approved allowing for the withdrawal of up to \$100,000 from the Reserve Fund, for the new machinery barn.

The next School Board meeting is slated to take place on Sept. 23 beginning at 6:30 p.m.

Hudson School District Begin Log for Right To Know

ALEX MALM
HUDSON TIMES

After discussing different requests the Hudson Budget Committee had for the School District, regarding different budget materials and information, Superintendent, Dan

Moulis, announced that the School District will now be keeping track of right to know requests publicly.

It was explained by Moulis that whether they get a right to know requests, or they get budget

committee requests, they were able to work with the communications department to add a section to the business department portion of the website, in order to have a running log of the different requests made.

“We started with two right to know requests,” Moulis told the School Board.

Moulis explained that they will go through the different ones they have already received and moving forward they would be putting the requests up online, which also indicates how many hours it takes for each of the requests to be fulfilled by the District.

“So we keep sort of a warehouse with all this information,” Moulis told the School Board.

One of the requests posted online so far, came from July 31, with the request being “Input Based Accountability System (IBAS) Report Request.”

The total number of hours worked on the request was three hours

according to the log.

A second right to know request was posted to the website which was from May 3.

The request stated “DEI Committee Members and Email Correspondence from 2022-2024.”

It was noted on the District website that it took a total of 11 hours to work on the request.

The right to know log does not indicate who made the request for information.

School Board Chair, Mauren Dionne, said it’s something they talked about in the past, and said it goes a long way to show the public what is being requested and also that the requests have been fulfilled by the District.

It was also noted that it can help as a resource if

someone has a question, they would be able to go on there to get the information they need.

Also during the meeting the School Board discussed changing the start time for some of its extra budget meetings during the month of October.

“A couple of us on the board have had a conflict arise with the Wednesday meetings in particular,” Dionne said.

She asked that they would be able to change the start time for their Oct. 16, 23, and 30 meeting to 7 p.m. instead of having a 6:30 p.m. start time, which the rest of the School Board agreed to.

The next School Board meeting is slated to take place on Sept.23 beginning at 6:30 p.m.

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Conservation Commission Hold Event to Mark Release of New Trail Maps

PAUL CONYERS
HUDSON TIMES

Chair of the Conservation Commission, William Cole, declared the Sept. 7 Picnic on the Pond Musquash event a success at their latest meeting.

“That was a nice event! Thank you to the participating members of the community that took time out of their busy day to come on down,” he said, despite competition from the recent start of the school year and the Seafood Festival. “Maybe next year, we’ll do it a little later, if we decide to do something like that again. This was a lot of

fun.” The event included the release of new park maps and the full release of a GIS phone app.

“I enjoyed, it was a lot of fun meeting some new people and learning about how to use the apps,” agreed Commissioner, John Walter.

Commissioner, Carl Murphy, suggested adding some signage to the upper park lot near where most hikers park to better highlight the event space in the future. The Conservation Commission has struggled to attract attendees to similar gatherings in the past.

“We tried doing some

others events where no one attended,” noted Secretary, Ken Dickinson. “The fact that we actually had attendance is a good thing and we probably had at least half-a-dozen people besides ourselves.”

New resident, Kathy Griswold, of 8A Interval Court was one of those attendees.

“I found it very informative, because I was looking and one of the reasons I came to Hudson was that I wanted to have hiking easily accessible,” she said. “Showing me the app and

the layout of all these trails was really refreshing.”

Members of the Conservation Commission will continue to work with the Nashua Regional Planning Commission to continue making changes to the app as needed.

A planned Work Day for the Pelham Road Trail moved from the weekend of Sept. 14-15 to the weekend of Sept. 21-22.

“We already know we’re going to go into Pelham and do some clearing of some of the trees around some of those nice forma-

tions, post some trail markers, things along that line,” said Cole. “I’m hoping that whoever can make it, can make it. That’s always good and we’ll get some work done in the forest.”

With budget season coming up, the Conservation began looking into their proposed spending levels for the 2025-2026 fiscal year. Town Engineer, Elvis Dhima, claimed Conservation numbers would be released in the coming days.

“You have an increase in the budget of \$791 based on 1.5% Board of Select-

men parameters,” said Dhima. “I took the opportunities to put all those funds towards repairs and updates for kiosks and all of that. So, I kept it pretty simple.”

If approved, the extra funding will be used to buy new tools and other maintenance equipment.

“This is actually a slight increase over what we’ve been getting over the past couple of years which has been zero,” said Cole. “We’ve been doing a little, spending a little more, but we’re getting things done.”

Alvirne

Continued from page 1

In eleventh grade, there were 258 students, while this year there were 250 on the first day of school. For seniors, there were 279 last year, versus 260 this year.

In total, there were less than 1,000 students at Alvirne High School, which

Moulis said was a milestone.

“For the first time we’re slightly under 1,000 students at Alvirne,” he said.

In terms of budget numbers, Moulis said it is based on what they report to the State for enrollment, which takes place on Oct. 1.

The next meeting is slated to take place on Sept. 23 beginning at 6:30 p.m.

Town Staff

Continued from page 1

“With recruiting, we’re not contracting with MRI or anything?” asked Cole. “That’s in-house? The Board of Selectmen has a committee for that?”

Jakoby confirmed that no outside contractor was involved in the selection process for Town Planner and that the process was

still operating in-house. The town currently pays an hourly rate to have Jay Minkarah from the Nashua Regional Planning Commission act as Interim Town Planner, meaning the lack of a permanent Planner was not as immediate as the lack of a Town Administrator. However, Minkarah has been forced to split his time between Hudson and his duties at

the NRPC.

“So, we could have a Town Planner on board when?” asked Cole.

If the interviews go well, Jakoby hoped to have a full time Planner in place within the next four to six weeks, although warned that it could be longer even in the best-case scenario. She also stressed that these were only interviews, and the

Board of Selectmen did not immediately have any candidates in mind. The position of Town Planner has been hiring for over six months.

The next meeting of the Budget Committee is scheduled for Wednesday, Oct. 19, at 7 p.m. in the Buxton Community Meeting Room.

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Editorial

Freedom of Choice

It is a part of human nature for us to want what we can't have or to engage in what is forbidden. That's the nature of Banned Books Week, which takes place September 22nd and ends September 28th this year. It is geared towards calling attention to books that some Americans want to prevent other Americans from reading.

According to the sponsoring American Library Association, Banned Books Week celebrates the freedom to read and the importance of the First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution. It highlights free access to information and freedom of expression.

In simpler terms, it means that what you like to read may differ from what I like to read, but neither of us have the right to prevent the other from reading what we want. As the old saying goes, that's why they make chocolate and vanilla.

Don't take your freedom to read for granted. There are people eager to tell you and libraries what they should make available for us to read and what they should keep away from us. That's called censorship. There is no place for it in American society. Included in the top 10 most challenged books for 2017 is "Brave New World" by Aldous Huxley. Also on that year's list is "Nickle and Dimed," nonfiction by

Barbara Ehrenreich, focusing on some of America's low paying jobs. In 2009, "To Kill a Mockingbird" by Harper Lee was in the top 10, along with "Catcher in the Rye" by JD Salinger and "The Color Purple" by Alice Walker.

We recognize that parents may not consider all books appropriate for children. As long as they apply their standards to their children, we applaud their efforts at working to instill their values. When they decide their standards must apply to all children or all library patrons, that's censorship.

Make it personal. Imagine you don't have the right to select what you want to read if the books available were only those allowed by government-sanctioned or self-appointed censors.

Banned Books Week reminds us to cherish the freedom to read what we choose. We can't think for ourselves when restraints are placed on the information available. That's why we cherish press freedom, and why our country's founders enshrined it in the Constitution. That's why we must stay alert, to keep alive the values that underlie our democratic form of government.

Do something to celebrate your right to think for yourself this week. Read a book. Any book you want.

Letters

Thank You Voters

To the editor,
As reported in the Sept. 5th edition of the Hudson Times, the BOS recently approved the use of funds in the Energy Efficiency Capital Reserve Fund for the repairs and upgrades to the HVAC system at the HPD main building. As the remaining member on the Sustainability Committee from when the Energy Efficiency Capital Reserve Fund was created, I wish to thank the foresight of the voters! The approval of the new fund, presented as a

Warrant Article in 2020 and the addition to the fund presented as a Warrant Article on the 2021 Ballot, has resulted in substantial savings in the Town Budget. The Fund provided seed money to enable the switchover to LED Street Lights, which is saving the Town over \$90,000 per year! The recent approval of the use of some of the Energy Efficiency Capital Reserve Fund to optimize the efficiency of the HVAC system across the whole HPD main building will yield savings in energy bills for years to come. This is

exactly why the Sustainability Committee worked hard to create the Energy Efficiency Capital Reserve Fund! Thank you, again, to the Hudson residents who voted to approve the Warrant Articles enabling the savings on Town energy bills far beyond the amounts of the initial Warrant Articles and for many years into the future.

Respectfully,
Debbie Putnam
Hudson
Hudson Sustainability
Committee Chair

The Hudson Times welcomes letters of up to 500 words on topics of local interest, and prints as many letters as possible. Please e-mail your letters to the Hudson Times at hudsonstimes@nutpub.net. All letters must include the writer's name, address and phone number for verification if needed; name and town of residence will be printed. The Hudson Times reserves the right to reject or edit letters for content, length, and frequency. Anonymous letters will not be printed.

Crash On Route 111 Results in Death of One Driver

A fatal motor vehicle accident occurred on the morning of Sept. 15, at 8:30 a.m.

Members of the Hudson Police and Fire Department responded to the intersection of Central Street (Route 111) and Park Avenue for a motor vehicle accident involving two vehicles.

Upon their arrival, Hudson Fire personnel began trying to extract the Operator of a 2014 Chevrolet Silverado.

First Responders began administering life saving measures to the injured operator. The operator ultimately

succumbed to his injuries at Southern New Hampshire Medical Center shortly after being transported.

The initial investigation by Hudson Police determined a Chevrolet Silverado was turning left (south) off Central Street on to Park Avenue.

A Chevrolet Tahoe was traveling east on Central Street and disregarded a traffic control device.

The collision sent both vehicles off the roadway and down an embankment on the south side of Central Street. The operator of the Chevy Tahoe did not sustain

any injuries. Both vehicles only contained single operators.

Drugs and alcohol do not appear to be a factor in the cause of the collision.

The crash is currently under investigation by the Hudson Police Department's Crash Reconstruction Team and the names of those involved in the accident are being withheld pending the notification of family members.

Anyone who may have witnessed the crash in encouraged to contact MPO Tambouris at (603) 886-6011.

THE Hudson Times

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Granite Subaru Expansion Wins Key Recommendation

PAUL CONYERS
HUDSON TIMES

The Hudson Conservation Commission met on Sept. 9 to discuss their next step on a proposed expansion of the Subaru lot at 6 Executive Dr. Last spring, members of the Commission went on a site walk to assess the state of the local environment. Approval of the expansion proposal has been pending for over two years.

“This project dates back to April of 2022 and initially they came before to ask for some relief from the wetland buffer and a small

portion of the wetland itself so that they could put in a display and a parking area for brand new automobiles,” explained Chair, William Collins. “It didn’t happen in the time frame, typically they get two years to start their project, but they didn’t do it and had to come back before us.”

Other issues slowing the initial application include the March approval of a larger wetland buffer zone in the town of Hudson from 50 to 75 feet.

After the site walk, the Commission requested a bet-

ter design that would have less of an overall impact on the wetlands, with a focus on making stormwater runoff more treatable. After several recommendations from Town Engineer, Elvis Dhima, the property owner made changes regarding both grading on the land and the stormwater retention pond.

“Is there any rationale for why we’re allowing them to have a permanent wetland impact?” asked Alternate, Linda Krisciuinas.

Dhima answered by saying the wetland in question already had the neces-

sary dredge-and-fill permit from the state, leaving Hudson officials to focus on the surrounding wetland buffer instead. State regulators graded the wetlands on the property as poor quality, noting the expansion plan left most of it undisturbed.

“There was a significant reduction at the state level related to this application, for the wetland itself,” added Dhima, who noted that the NH Department of Environmental Services already forced the landowner to reduce the original wetland impact during their overview

of the project. “They asked for square footage for the expansion, and it was reduced significantly, the state pushed back.”

The project will include wet basins as a way to treat runoff.

“Are these wet basins something that are going to return to wetland eventually?” asked Commissioner, John Walter.

Dhima confirmed this would be the case and that such basins were a common addition to similar projects.

The Conservation Commission voted to recom-

mend approval of the revised expansion permit.

“Commission members concur that the property will not have a detrimental impact on the remaining wetlands in the wetland buffer area on the site if constructed per the revised grading and drainage utility plan,” said Secretary, Ken Dickinson.

The plan still needs final approval from the Planning Board.

The next Conservation Commission meeting is set for Monday, Oct. 21 at 7 p.m. in the Buxton Room of Town Hall.

Budget

continued from page 1

particular offset? And how was the figure of \$2.3 million arrived at? Can anybody refresh my memory? It was nothing,” said Cole. “The school had nothing to do with it. I find that unusual.”

The \$2.3 million exaction is earmarked for STEM

education in town and is not the only controversial part of the overall deal with Target.

“The Town Planner who did this is gone,” said Committee member, Shawn Jasper, sharing his frustration at what he saw as a lack of easily accessible information behind the STEM offset.

Cole promised to ask the Planning Board for more information on the matter as several members involved in the original decision-making process are still in office.

More generally, Committee members renewed concerns over how the default budget is calculated

annually.

“You can develop default budgets the day after the old budget is adopted, because nothing in the default budget has anything to do with the new budget,” said Jasper. “You take the numbers that you know, you back out the one-time obligations, you add in con-

tracts, and it’s not quite that simple, but there’s you’re default budget, and it’s very, very, ugly.”

Specifically, he asked why previous default budgets were so close to the proposed budgets on the annual March ballot, saying any default budget should be “painful” if approved.

“For the default, this is the number you have to make work and this is why you have to convince the voters that you don’t want to go default,” he added. “We’ve been going in this town, for a few years, with everybody developing this cushy default budget that doesn’t really hurt. That’s not what, legally is required.”

Vice-Chair, James Lawrence, agreed “in principle,” but noted that the Budget Committee had been in con-

tact with the Board of Selectmen and School Board on default numbers over the past few months.

“A lot of this deals with personnel costs and a lot of this deals with the pension and retirement system,” said Lawrence. “The fact that we don’t have any of the information that we originally requested from them makes me a little bit cautious about what their process is to calculate the default budget, and I think it’s imperative that we get that information from them.”

Contractual obligations are included in a default budget, even if it increases the overall tax rate. There was disagreement over whether certain costs, such as retirement contributions, fall under those obligations when calculating the default numbers.

OBITUARY

Brett Hunter Reed



Brett Hunter Reed, 29, of Manchester, NH, passed away unexpectedly on Sept. 15, 2024. Born Sept. 16, 1994, Brett grew up in Hudson, NH and attended Hudson schools. He graduated from Alvirne High School in 2012. Brett was very active in the marching band, concert band, and the Boy Scouts where he attained the rank of Eagle Scout in 2012. His community service project at Benson Park is still in use today. Brett earned his Bachelor of Science degree in Mechanical Engineering at the University of Massachusetts Lowell in 2016. He was employed by Symphony Microwave Technologies in Nashua.

Brett was a beautiful person and a source of light and inspiration for his family, friends, and all whom he encountered. He had an easy smile, a generous spirit, and a quick and witty sense of humor. Brett was always eager to be a groomsman for a buddy’s wedding or go on a road trip with his high school pals, or bring dessert to a party. He enjoyed fitness, running, bowling, gaming, automobiles, concerts, and trips to Boston and New York.

He is survived by his mother Jennifer Varney and stepfather Steven Varney of Hudson, NH, father Ernest Heron of Peekskill, NY; brother Robert Deighton of Colorado Springs, CO; three grandmothers: Becky Reed of Wakefield, NH, Mandy Caouette of Hudson, NH, and Veronica Heron of Brooklyn, NY; his best friend affectionately known as “Dub” of Hudson, NH; and several aunts, uncles, and cousins, and scores of beloved friends across the country.

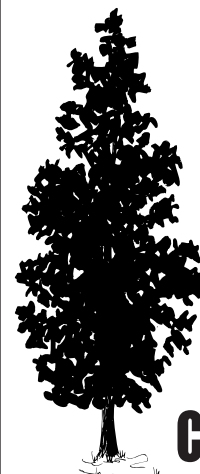
Brett will be forever in our hearts.

Following cremation, a time of visitation will held on Saturday, Sept. 28 from noon - 2:30 p.m., with a Service of Remembrance at 2:30 p.m., in the Dumont-Sullivan Funeral Home, 50 Ferry St., Hudson. Burial will be private. To share an online message of condolence, please visit www.dumontsullivan.com.

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Hudson School District Continue To Work On Hiring

ALEX MALM
HUDSON TIMES

The Hudson School Board received an update during its most recent board meeting, regarding how the school district is doing in terms of hiring up to this point.

Superintendent, Dan Moulis, said while they are still not where they want to be at this point, they are in a much better position than they were when he first started with the school district a couple of years ago, saying they have less vacan-

cies now than previously. "While we still have a few when I look back at my first year two years ago there is significantly less for teaching positions," Moulis told the School Board.

One of the highlights Moulis pointed to is that they have less vacancies now than they did during his last summer update, down from 34 vacancies to 31 vacancies.

"Still a lot of paraeducator vacancies we have," Moulis told the Board.

For Alvirne High

School, they currently have 11 paraeducator vacancies, three at Hills Garrison Elementary School, eight at Hudson Memorial School, zero vacancies at Dr. H.O. Smith School, one at Library Street School, and the district had eight vacancies at Nottingham West Elementary School, at the time of the meeting.

Moulis also explained that at the last meeting, it was asked by the School Board for them to have a breakdown of how many of the vacancies for paraedu-

cators are part-time positions that are open, and how many are full-time positions that are open.

In total across the district, there are 11 full-time vacancies and 20 part-time paraeducator vacancies, at the time of the meeting.

For Alvirne High School, they have eight full-time vacancies, and three part-time, Hills Garrison had one full-time vacancy, and two part-time vacancies. Hudson Memorial has two full-time vacancies and six part-time vacancies, Library

Street School has zero full-time vacancies, and one part-time paraeducator vacancy, while Nottingham West has zero full-time vacancies and eight part-time vacancies at the time of the meeting.

It was also noted there are a number of other positions they currently have vacancies for including a special education teacher at Alvirne High School, and IT technician for the District, an instructional coach for the District, the District Business Administrator position, a seventh grade teacher at

Hudson Memorial, an Intensive Special Needs Teacher at Hudson Memorial, and a special education teacher at Nottingham West.

Moulis also noted that they are continuing to recruit for positions such as lunch monitors, food service employees, and substitute teachers, and that they were having a job fair on Sept. 11.

Director of Special Services, Rachel Borge, when asked, said they are overall in a better position than they were at the same time last year.

School Board Approve the Purchase of New Ford F250

ALEX MALM
HUDSON TIMES

One of the agenda items during the Sept. 9 Hudson School Board meeting was in regards to a proposal to purchase a truck.

"Ford of Londonderry has provided municipal procurement pricing for a new 2024 Ford F250 with a tail gate lift for FY25," Director of Facilities, John Pratte, wrote in a memo to the School Board. "Ford of Londonderry has procured fleet vehicles for the Hudson School District in the past and has excellent customer service."

It was explained that they would provide the School District with a "F250 Super Duty truck complete with a 1,300-pound rated rear lift gate."

"This truck will replace our current 2008 grounds

vehicle that was approved for replacement in the FY25 budget," Pratte wrote in a memo. "I recommend the School Board award this project to Ford of Londonderry in the amount of \$53,994. The total FY25 budget for this replacement vehicle is \$60,000."

It was noted by School Board member, Ethan Beals, that the current truck is well past its useful life, and it's also coming in under budget.

"It's basically a one for one replacement," he said.

The School Board unanimously approved the proposal.

Also during the meeting, the School Board approved a number of nominees for various extracurricular activities.

At Hills Garrison, it included Chorus Advisor,

Lisa Hansen, and for Ski Club the nomination was Christine Kingsley.

For Hudson Memorial, one of the nominations was for Boys' Soccer Coach, Scott Hermandinger, along with Robotics advisor, Michael Motherway, and kickball advisors, Erica Guilbeault, Michel Stilphen Stephanie Richar, and Karen O'Brien

For Art Club, the nomination was Brianna Stevens, Math Club was Stephanie Richard, Cooking Club was Elizabeth Ide, Computer Club was Elaine Reinitzer, Rebecca Decker was nominated for Destination Imagination, Bradley Smith was nominated for

Jazz Band, Rebecca Crivello was nominated for Sewing Club, the Swing Choir nomination was Rebecca Crivello, for Woodwind Choir the nomination was Michael Seckla, and for Yearbook Advisor, the nominations were Karen O'Brien, and Ashley Ciaraldi.

For Library Club, the nomination was for Beth Sloat, and for Spanish National Honor Society the nominee was for Amy O'Leary. For C.O.L.T.S Council, those nominated were Rachael Tirone, Leanne Phaneuf, Karen O'Brien, Ashley Ciaraldi, and Mandi Sawyer while the nominees for Drama Club were Rebecca Crivello,

Heather Fillmore, and Brianna Stevens. Tirone was also nominated for the Dance Committee, and Michael Gallagan was nominated to be an accompanist.

Other nominations included Leonie Kirby for Ski Club, Daniel Pooler for Grade 8 Advisor, the Chess Club nomination was James Palmeiri, Book Club was Leanne Phaneuf, Disc Golf

was Dennis Larocque, Robotics was Michael Motherway, and for the bowling club the advisors included Ashley Ciaraldi and Karen O'Brien. The four nominees for Dodgeball were Erica Mitchell, Michel Stilphen, Stephanie Richard, and Leanne Phaneuf.

The next School Board meeting is set for Sept. 23 beginning at 6:30 p.m.



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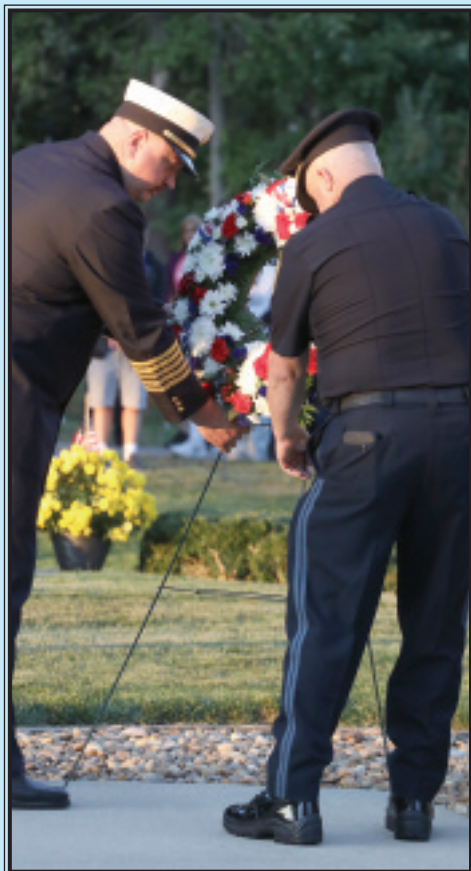
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The community gathered at Benson Park for the town's annual Nine-Eleven Observance on Wednesday night, Sept. 11. The Invocation at the event was delivered by Reverend David Howe, followed by the National Anthem which was sung by Hudson Firefighter Michael Armand. Scouts from Troop 20 lead the crowd gathered with the Pledge of Allegiance followed by the Presentation of Colors by members of Hudson Fire and Police Departments.

The Laying of the Wreath being placed near the 9-11 memorial was done by Chief of Police, Tad Dionne and Fire Chief Scott Tice while the Presentation of Arms was sounded by members of American Legion Post 48.

Patriotic Songs were performed by the Alvirine High School B-Naturals and Board of Selectmen Chair, Bob Guessford, made the Closing Remark.

Photos by Chris Paul

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HUDSON SPORTS

Broncos Stun Salem & Establish Themselves as D-I Contenders

BLAKE SANTANA
HUDSON TIMES

Coming off a 35-14 win over a rebuilding Manchester Central team on the road, the Alvirne Broncos seemed to have confidence, believing in themselves as a contender for the 2024 season, and with a tough Salem Blue Devils team coming to town, Alvirne had their test ahead

of them. The Blue Devils entered off a loss to Londonderry 30-7 down in Haverhill and were hungry for their first win of the season.

For the Broncos, they were able to accomplish everything they set out to do in this matchup. The defense, despite a couple of touchdown drives for Salem was excellent, forc-

ing two fumbles, including the game-winning touch-down scoop-and-score by this season's Johnny on the Spot, Mikey Landmesser, who picked up the loose ball and returned it 22 yards for a TD, that of course to go along with his 92 rushing yards and a score on the ground offensively on the night. Alvirne also got help defensively from Captain Shane Mackey who had nine tackles, four of them resulting in a loss, and Shawn Boudreau, who had six tackles including a pair of sacks, and a forced fumble that allowed the Broncos to seal the deal with the Blue Devils driving and mere seconds to go in the game.

Charlie Crawford also picked up a long TD run for the Broncos that opened the scoring in the first quarter. While Crawford's numbers weren't the flashiest in the matchup against Salem, he has managed to stay healthy thus far and will have a chance to pad his stats against 0-2 Timberlane this week at home.

Otherwise around the league, in the Central,

Concord beat Manchester Central 45-17 in Concord, Londonderry lost 27-0 to St. John's Prep (Danvers, MA), Pinkerton trounced Portsmouth-Oyster River 48-0 in Portsmouth, and Windham lost 28-13 to Malden Catholic (Malden, MA). In the East, Manchester Memorial took a 21-19 win over Dover, Exeter demolished Nashua North 36-0, Winnacunnet beat Spaulding 13-6 on the road, and Timberlane lost to the Merrimack Tomahawks 26-7 in Plaistow. Out West, Bedford bested Thornton (Saco, ME) 35-21, Bishop Guertin got the win over Goffstown 28-20, and Nashua South beat Keene 22-0 at Stellos.

continued on page 10



Charlie Crawford breaks out of the pack for a long touchdown run to start the Alvirne scoring.



Senior Bronco Gabe Conrow, left, makes a tackle late in the first half. Photos by Chris Paul



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Boys Soccer Falls in Home Opener to South, Shutout By Keene

BLAKE SANTANA
HUDSON TIMES

After playing just one game per week in their first two weeks of the regular season, Alvirne's boys' soccer team played two games

last week, with their first match taking place against the Nashua South Purple Panthers and their second being on the road against the Keene Blackbirds.

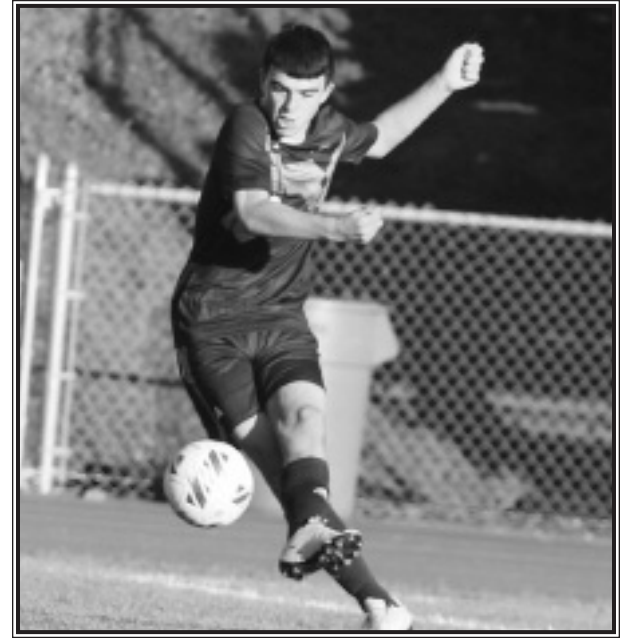
In their first game this

week, the Broncos finally played a home match against Nashua South on Tuesday. Alvirne, in looking for their first win, hoped that their home opener would do the trick. Unfortunately, Alvirne was unable to come away with the win, or even a tie, as despite taking a 1-0 lead thanks to an early first-half goal, the Purple Panthers stormed back, scoring just a few minutes later in the first half and then again netting the game-winning goal with just under 19:30 remaining in the second half to defeat the Broncos 2-1.

Alvirne needed to bounce back though with a long bus ride in the way between them and the Blackbirds, and Keene, being able to prepare in a much more traditional way for a match, took a 3-0 win over Alvirne in the Broncos' fourth match of the season, sending the Bron-

cos to 0-3-1 on the season. Keene took control of the game early on and managed to keep the Broncos off the scoreboard for the first time this season.

This week, Alvirne will take on the Timberlane Owls (1-1-1) at home on Monday and Bishop Guertin (2-2) at home on Thursday night. Both games could potentially be wins for the Broncos, but Alvirne will need to put together their best scoring performances with solid defense and goalkeeping to be able to pull this off. Alvirne will need to string some wins together in the middle part of this season to



stand a chance at turning things around and having a chance to battle for the playoffs.



Football Continued from page 9

Looking at the standings, Alvirne currently sits at the top of the Central Division, even with Concord who is also 2-0 with 20 points. Windham, Pinkerton, and Londonderry are all 1-0, and Manchester Central and Salem currently sit at 0-2. In the East, it's Exeter and Winnacunnet on top, both at 2-0 and holding 20 points, then Manchester Memorial at 1-0, and a four-way tie for last between Spaulding, Timberlane, Dover, and Portsmouth-Oyster River,

who all sit at 0-2 through the first two weeks. In the West NH's current top seed, the Nashua South Purple Panthers, stand alone at the top with a 2-0 record and 24 points thanks to Keene and BG each having a win this season, Bedford and Merrimack sit tied at 1-0 for second place in the division with Keene and BG tied for fourth at 1-1, and Goffstown and Nashua North round out the cellar at 0-2.

Starting out 2-0 this season is a dream scenario of sorts for the Broncos, and this week, coming off that stunning victory

against the Blue Devils, the Broncos moved into fifth place in the NHSportsPage Coach's Poll sitting only behind Bedford, Londonderry, Pinkerton and Exeter. It's been a considerable amount of time since the Broncos have held that honor with the last time being in 2019 when they were in Division II as a powerhouse.

This week, Alvirne will take on the 0-2 Timberlane Owls as they look to continue their hot start. Kick-off on Friday night will be at 7 p.m. at Alvirne for NH Tackles Hunger Night.

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Alvirne Volleyball Drops Both Matches This Week, Falls to 0-4

BLAKE SANTANA
HUDSON TIMES

Coming off a tough first week for Alvirne's Volleyball program this year, being held not only winless in matches by Exeter and Salem but being unable to carry a set in their first two matches, Alvirne returned home for a pair of matches last week against Winnacunnet and Merrimack, with Merrimack entering the matchup at 2-0 on the season and Winnacunnet coming in at 0-2.

Alvirne opened their week with the Winnacunnet Warriors, and were once

again, barred from carrying a single set in the match as the Warriors picked up the 3-0 win. While the Broncos battled mightily in the first set, they were unable to come away with the set win, as Winnacunnet went on a late run to come back from a small 16-15 deficit.

The second set was pretty much all Warriors from the first whistle, as Winnacunnet jumped out to an early 7-1 lead that expanded to 11-4 and Winnacunnet did not look back, giving them the first two sets with relative ease, and pushing the Broncos to the

brink of a third straight shutout loss to open the season.

In the third set, once again, the Broncos seemed to show some signs of life, as they fell behind the Warriors early on, but managed to keep themselves close enough to have a chance, even taking a 13-12 lead thanks to an Aliana Giroux ace. Even after falling behind, the Broncos continued to fight, evening the score at 16-16 in the third set on a Hailee Lane kill. Alvirne proceeded to battle the Warriors all the way to a 25-25 score, forcing a

team to score two points in a row to win, and taking a 26-25 lead until the Warriors put three straight on the board to win the third set 28-26 and the match 3-0.

The Broncos had to turn around quickly, though, as they had to take on a tough Merrimack Tomahawks team that was yet to pick up a loss on the season. That trend wouldn't be changed by the Broncos, however, as they handed Alvirne their fourth straight shutout loss of the season.

In the first set, Merrimack jumped out to an 8-1

lead, but the Broncos battled back and managed to get the set closer, but never fully came back, as they got the score as close as 20-18 before Merrimack put their foot back on the gas and took the first set from the Battling Broncos.

The second set of the night saw more of the same from the bookends of the first set, as the Broncos fell behind very quickly by a lot, trailing 15-6 midway through the set. Alvirne did manage to get back to 24-17, which, while that was not a very favorable score for the Broncos, it was far

closer than the first half or so of the set would have suggested the set would go.

In the third and final set, Alvirne kept things far closer, getting as close as a 21-19 score late in the set before the Broncos ran out of gas and fell in the third set, ending their fourth straight shutout loss of the season, third at home.

Looking ahead, this week the Broncos will take on Timberlane (1-3) on Monday at home, Pinkerton (4-2) on Wednesday in Derry, and Windham (3-2) on Friday at home.

Alvirne Girls Soccer Loses to South, Portsmouth in Close Matches

BLAKE SANTANA
HUDSON TIMES

After finishing their second week of play at 0-2-1, Alvirne's girls' soccer team looked to pick up their first victory of the 2024 fall season with matches at Nashua South and home against the Portsmouth Clippers. The Lady Broncos were unable to gain any ground in the standings, however, with their first match of the

week being a 3-1 loss to the Purple Panthers and their second matchup being a home loss 2-1 against Portsmouth.

Despite some believing that a 1-2 Nashua South team could potentially serve as Alvirne's first win of the campaign, the Purple Panthers were able to take care of business with relative ease, beating the Broncos 3-1 at Stellos Stadium on Wednesday.

The Broncos were able to keep the matchup close against South, thanks in large part, again, to senior GK Ashtyn Willard, who has established herself as one of the top keepers in the state, with one of the highest save totals to date with 10 total saves to this point in the season, good for sixth overall in NH.

Alvirne then returned home on Thursday to take on the Portsmouth Clip-

pers, a team that was just beat by Nashua South 1-0 prior to Alvirne's matchup with the Purple Panthers, so Alvirne felt even better about this matchup than they did about the South game. Unfortunately for Alvirne, they fell just short, losing 2-1 to the Clippers in another close game.

Taking a look at the upcoming schedule for Alvirne, they will take on

Windham (0-4-1) on Tuesday at home and Bishop Guertin (4-1) on Saturday back at Stellos Stadium in Nashua. The Jaguars appear to be a team in which the Broncos, once again, have a legitimate chance at picking up their first win of the season against, while the Cardi-

nals have not played in a game where both teams scored, taking a 2-0 loss against Exeter in their opener before beating Concord 2-0, Manchester Memorial 13-0, Manchester Central-West 5-0, and Winnacunnet 1-0 this season.

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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.

Color Fun Run

Alvirne Booster's Color Fun Run takes place at the Hills House on Sunday, Oct. 6, race starting at 10 a.m., registration open 8:30 a.m. This is family-friendly, un-timed run or walk on a 2-mile course, specially modified from the 3.1 miles that cross-country athletes tackle. Registration can be done the day of or online at alvirne-bronco-boosters.square.site, \$25 per adult, \$35 with commemorative t-shirt, \$20 per child (ages 6-12 years), \$30 with commemorative t-shirt, children under 6 years old are free, \$80 for family package (2 adults and 2 children). For more information, please contact: Melissa Tobin at alvirneboostersnh@gmail.com

Fire Prevention Open House

On Saturday, Sept. 28, from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m., the Hudson Fire Department will host a Fire Prevention Open House at Leonard A. Smith Central Fire Station, 15 Library St., Hudson, NH. Come and learn about this year's Fire Prevention Week Campaign "Smoke alarms: Make them work for you!". There will be loads of family friendly events including Touch a Truck, EMS Exhibits, Station Tours, Live Demos, Meet Smokey the Bear, and much more. Questions? Please contact Erika LaRiviere at 603-816-3248 or elariviere@HUDSONNH.GOV

Dungeons & Donuts

Looking for fellow Dun-

geons & Dragons players? Come and grab a donut at Rogers Library on Saturday, Sept. 21 at 9:30 a.m.

High Holy Day Services

Rosh Hashanah begins on Oct. 2, Etz Hayim Synagogue invites the public to their High Holy Day Services. To view the complete High Holy Day service schedule, please visit www.ETZHAYIM.ORG/PRA-Y/HOLIDAY-SERVICES. To attend remotely, please contact the office at OFFICE@ETZHAYIM.ORG or call 603-432-0004 to register and obtain the Zoom link.

Food Pantry fundraiser

Hudson Lions Club fundraiser to benefit The Hudson Food Pantry, will

take place on Saturday, Oct. 5, at The White Birch, 222 Central St., Hudson. The event will feature Country duo Ayal Brown and Rob Bellamy. Doors open 6:30 and runs to 10 p.m. It will be a fun evening of entertainment & dancing, there will be a cash bar. Tickets are \$35 per person. For additional information: Barbara, 603-305-5193.

Teen Hangout

Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays at 2 p.m., Teens are invited to relax the Rogers Library teens only space. Snacks, games, crafts, and Nintendo Switch available.

Veterans Picnic

Hudson Memorial VFW Post 5791 will host its 8th Annual Veterans Appreciation Picnic for All NH veterans and their families at the Hudson VFW, 15 Bockes Rd., Hudson, on Saturday, Sept. 21, from 11 a.m - 3 p.m. The event is open to anyone who has served in any branch of the U.S. military. Veterans don't have to be a member of

the VFW, American Legion, or any other veterans' organization to attend. This is just a recognition of service and an opportunity to meet fellow Veterans. Vets are encouraged to bring their spouses, kids, and grandkids. There is a large fenced-in picnic area (weather permitting) and a large hall if the weather is bad. There will be horseshoes, bocce, and corn hole games, plus games and activities for the kids. New this year, at noon there will be a Cornhole Tournament with a prize for the winner. Veterans are automatically entered in a drawing for free door prizes! Various Veterans Service Organizations (VSOs) will be on hand to distribute information and speak with Veterans about the services they offer.

Apple Party

On Sept. 20 and 21 at 10 a.m., explore apple themed learning centers with your preschooler at Rogers Library. For ages 2-6. This is a drop in event.

Tween Escape Room

On Monday, Sept. 24 at 6

p.m., come to the Rogers Library for an Escape Room.

Pajama Storytime

On Wednesday, Sept. 25 at 6:30 p.m., come to the Rogers Library in your pajamas and enjoy songs and stories for the whole family with Miss Tanya.

Family Pokemon Go

On Thursday, Sept. 28 at 10 a.m., join Ms. Maggie to locate and capture Pokemon in Benson Park.

Cookbook Club

Prepare a recipe from this month's topic, then engage with others about your recipe adventures on Monday, Sept. 30 at 11:30 a.m., at Rogers Library. This month's cookbook is "Modern Comfort Food: a Barefoot Contessa" Cookbook by Ina Garten .

Read 'Em & Eat

On Monday, Sept. 30 at 7 p.m., come to T-Bones to discuss books over good food and drinks. September's book

continued on page 15

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Around Town

Continued from page 13

is "The Maid" by Nita Prose.

Watercolor Frog Painting

On Thursday, Sept. 26 at 6 p.m., students in grades K-4 are invited to join Ms. Marissa at Rogers Library for a guided paint-along of a frog.

Preschool Water Play

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

Brunch Bunch

On Fridays at 11 a.m., Eat pancakes and talk about books you love or hate at Rogers 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.

Benson Park Saturday Cleanup

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

Preschool Parade on Wheels

On Friday, Sept. 27 at 10 a.m., bring your bike, scooter, wagon, or stroller for a parade at the Rogers Library. Helmets required for bikes and

scooters.

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

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.

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.

A Good Yarn

On Tuesdays at 5 p.m., come to the Rodger Library to Share tips, tricks, and stories while you work on your latest project and connect with fellow fiber enthusiasts. Bring your own supplies and stitch the evening away.

Songs & Snuggles

On Thursday Sept. 26, at 10 a.m., enjoy time together with other caregivers and their babies to learn, play, and develop language and motor skills at the Rodgers Memorial Library.

Movers & Shakers

Every Wednesday at 10 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. (except Sept. 4) there will be a Tod-

dlar storytime for kids that don't sit still for long at the Rodgers Memorial Library. Songs, stories, games, and activities for ages 1-3. Registration is required. Please indicate how many will attend including adults, infants, and siblings. Caretaker participates.

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

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.

Laptop Donation Program

United Way of Greater Nashua is reintroducing their Tech Connect United Laptop Donation Program. Donate your working laptops, tablets, and smartphones, and they will in turn refurbish them for use by low-income individuals and families. The client recipients are A) low-income, and B) living in our Greater Nashua catchment area. Devices can be dropped off at the United Way office located at 20 Broad St., Nashua between 9:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. on weekdays or by appointment. Please email info@unitedway-nashua.org if you have any questions.

Alvirne Booster's Color Fun Run Set for October 6th

Get ready to lace up your running shoes for a vibrant day of fun, fitness, and color as the Alvirne Booster's Color Fun Run takes place at the scenic Hills House on Sunday, Oct. 6. This exciting event comes on the heels of one of the state's biggest cross-country meets, the Battle of the Borders, hosted annually by Alvirne High School at the same location.

The Color Fun Run offers a family-friendly, untimed run or walk on a 2-mile course, specially modified from the 3.1 miles that cross-country athletes tack-

le. The course winds through the rolling fields and beautiful woodlands of the Hills House, offering a combination of grassy, dirt and crushed stone paths. Participants of all ages and abilities are welcome to join in the fun, whether you're looking to run, jog, or enjoy a leisurely walk with family and friends.

Originally scheduled for August but postponed due to unpredictable weather and concerns about the course conditions, the event is back and better than ever. While we won't be able to offer free rides at Old Home

Days as initially planned, we are excited to provide complimentary sunglasses and plenty of color powder to make the day a truly colorful experience for all!

This is a fantastic opportunity for the community to come together, enjoy the outdoors on this beautiful course, and raise funds for the hardworking Alvirne High School athletes. If this event doesn't suit your fancy, we are also accepting donations! We hope the weather cooperates, as this time of year is perfect for a fun and active day outside, especially on a

course that has seen some of the best cross-country runners in the state.

Event Details:
Date: Sunday, Oct. 6
Registration Opens: 8:30 a.m.
Race Start Time: 10 a.m.
Location: Hills House, 211 Derry Rd, Hudson, NH 03051
Course Length: 2 miles
Terrain: Grassy fields, dirt and crushed stone trails
Registration Website: alvirne-bronco-boosters-square.site

Cost:
• Adults \$25
• Adult Registration with a commemorative shirt is \$35
• Child (6-12years) \$20
• Child with commemorative shirt \$30
• Family Package: 2 Adults and 2 Children (6-12 years) \$80
• Children (under 6) FREE with a registered adult
• Commemorative shirt \$15

Don't miss out on the chance to run, walk, or jog in this unique and fun event. It's the perfect way to enjoy some fresh air, scenic views, and a splash of color! Register now at alvirne-bronco-boosters.square.site. We look forward to seeing you there!

For more information, please contact: Melissa Tobin, Alvirne Athletic Booster Club, A registered 501(c)(3), Email: alvirne-boostersnh@gmail.com

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