

# THE HUDSON TIMES

September 5, 2024 ♦ Volume 2 – Issue 36

A FREE Weekly Publication



Ali Rafieymehr, of Hudson, has begun a FIRST Lego Robotics team to help teach elementary students about robots. *Photo by Chris Paul*

## Robotics Knowledge Gets Passed to Local Youngsters

CHRIS PAUL  
HUDSON TIMES

What started as a way to share time with his grandson, turned into the beginning of Hudson's youngest First Robotics team.

Last week, seven elementary-aged students gathered for their first meeting at the Sensory Center in Hudson to begin exploring the challenges of this year's FIRST Robotics challenge.

Ali Rafieymehr, Founder and CEO

of Saman Technology Solutions, has served in both the computer industry and academia for many years. Heading into retirement, he has decided to give back some of the knowledge he's acquired over the years by teaching local youngsters about the joy of technology.

Rafieymehr has also served as judge for a number of years for the Granite State FIRST Robotics Competition.

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## Fire Fighters Memorial Relocates to Benson Park

PAUL CONYERS  
HUDSON TIMES

The Benson Park Committee opened its August 22 meeting with an update on the placement of the Firefighters Memorial once it moves from its home on the corner of Lowell and Central Street in Hammon Park to the more spacious Benson Park. Its new home will be on a patch of open grassland across from Hudson's 9/11 Memorial.

"They want to run power down through a junction box just outside of the train station," Committee Chair, Jack Madden, explained, referring to the lighting in the area.

The relocation will likely take several weeks to complete, and originally had a rough starting date of

mid-August.

"My biggest question is if they have a timetable yet and when it might start," said Vice Chair, Judy Brouillette. "I'm assuming that they'd have to do it before the ground freezes, but maybe they're not starting it this year? Maybe they'll break ground next year?"

Secretary, Sarah Petkiewicz, expressed her belief it would probably start "before winter."

Brouillette suggested putting hay bales between the uphill train station and the downhill memorial location during snowier months to protect sledders.

"Once snow starts, it might become like projectile where somebody could go into it," she worried.

Dave Morin, who is in charge of the memorial placement, promised to talk the Fire Department and Public Works to see if that would be an issue.

"I think they had taken that into consideration," said Morin. "But we'll definitely look into that."

Madden had not talked with the lead paint and mold inspector regarding ongoing abatement efforts at the train station.

"I will call him and set up a meeting to go over things," Madden promised.

The Board of Selectmen official gave the green light for a donation of two lion statues for the park. After talking with Department of Public Works Jay **continued on page 2**

## Town's IT Director Retires, Replacement Search Begins

ALEX MALM  
HUDSON TIMES

The Board of Selectmen was presented with a request from Town Administrator, Steve Malizia, to begin the recruiting efforts to pick its next IT Director, after being notified of the current director's impending retirement.

"Attached please find a letter from IT Director, John Beike, notifying the Board of Selectmen of his intention to retire from the Town of Hudson effective Oct. 31, 2024," Malizia wrote in a memo to the Board of Selectmen. "I am recommending that the Board authorize the posting of this position and that the

Board engage the services of Municipal Resources Inc. (MRI) to conduct a recruitment for the position."

Malizia explained that three years ago, when they hired Beike originally, they had hired MRI to help them find different candidates.

Since it's a department head level position, and it's an important position within the town, Malizia argued that it would make sense to use a recruiting service to try to help find viable candidates for the position.

Malizia noted that he isn't sure how many candidates there would be out there, and said he wasn't sure if any internal candi-

dates may become available.

"I don't know if there is a big pool of folks," he told the Board of Selectmen.

Last time they searched for an IT Director, the subcommittee ended up interviewing four candidates, two of which were viable and made it to an interview with the Board of Selectmen.

"I sat here and interviewed four people," Malizia said.

Board of Selectmen Chair, Bob Guessferd, said he had no problem allocating the up to \$1,500 requested for MRI's services.

"From my perspective I don't have a problem," he **continued on page 3**

# Select Board Approve Funds For Upgrades to HVAC

ALEX MALM  
HUDSON TIMES

The Hudson Police Department leadership was in front of the Board of Selectmen during its most recent meeting with a request to make HVAC upgrades to the Police Department.

“On May 14, 2024, the Police Department presented a proposal to the Board of Selectmen requesting money from the Energy Efficiency Capital Reserve Fund to upgrade the current HVAC control system along

with five VAV units and room control sensors,” Police Chief, Tad Dionne, wrote in a memo to the Board of Selectmen. “The existing system is operating on outdated software and control systems which are no longer available for upgrade or replacement due to age.”

He explained that at the May 14 meeting, they asked that they be able to waive the competitive bidding requirement for the project.

The Board of Selectmen, ultimately, denied that

request.

“At the May 14, 2024, meeting the Board of Selectmen declined to waive the bidding process and requested the Hudson Police Department put the project out to bid,” Dionne said. “An RFP was written requesting a design/build upgrade/replacement of the current system with a maximum budget of \$45,000.”

Dionne explained that they had a mandatory pre-bid meeting with three potential bidders, and in the end only two companies

actually made a bid on the project.

“The two bids were evaluated using several methods including subject matter expert review and an in-house evaluation encompassing numerous rating categories,” Dionne wrote in a memo. “The first subject matter expert advised us after reviewing the proposals, he felt Control Technologies appeared to be a more “open” system while Alliance’s system seemed more proprietary. He also advised us the occupancy sensors proposed by Control Technologies were “nice to see for energy efficiency”. The opinion of the first subject matter expert was both proposals were similar in scope and cost, however, based on the above observations he would select Control Technologies.”

Dionne also noted that they asked Craig Putnam, to review the proposals “which he did at the Police Department.”

“After discussion and review, Craig Putnam also selected Control Technologies based on their understanding of the system and the addition of occupancy sensors which increases energy efficiency,” Dionne said.

Dionne said they also got an opinion from a third person.

“The third subject matter expert knew Control Technologies installed the current system and has been maintaining it for the life of the building,” Dionne wrote. “In his opinion, he stated “no one can do it but him” referring to Control Technologies. He explained that the Control Technologies representative had a tremendous understanding of the

building and currently “owns the building”. He also had questions about the scope of the project Alliance was proposing.”

Dionne said they were looking to award the bid for the upgrade and replacement to Control Technologies for an amount not to exceed \$44,850, which would come from the Energy Efficiency Capital Reserve Fund.

It was also noted by Town Administrator, Steve Malizia, that they were the lowest bid.

Selectman, Dillon Dumont, who said he pushed for them to go out to bid originally said he agreed that the Police Department was ultimately correct in seeking to waive the bid requirement.

“The process proved you correct,” Dumont said.

The Board unanimously approved the proposal.

## IT Director

Continued from page 1

said.

Selectman, Heidi Jakoby, asked what they would be getting in terms of services from MRI.

“What exactly are we getting for this,” she asked.

Malizia explained that they would be doing the advertising, a preliminary screening of candidates “but they will give you all the candidates,” he said.

He said more than likely they wouldn’t be eliminating any candidates from contention.

The Board of Selectmen

unanimously approved allowing for the recruiting of the town’s next IT Director, and to hire MRI to help them with the search, for the amount of up to \$1,500.

It was noted by Malizia that some of the advertising postings the Town may have to pay for directly.

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# School Board Get Update on Kindergarten Enrollment

ALEX MALM  
HUDSON TIMES

After approving the switching of one of their first grade teacher positions, which is vacant to a kindergarten teacher position due to enrollment, the Hudson School Board received an update on the issue during its most recent meeting.

At the Aug. 5 meeting, Superintendent, Dan Moulis, explained that they had hired 12 teachers so far

for first grade up to that point but said they are concerned about the number of students they may have enrolled for kindergarten before the end of the year.

He said at that time they had 182 kindergartners enrolled, which would be about 16-17 students per class.

However, he said the main concern was if they had more kindergartners who enrolled later on, then it would change their class

sizes, if they didn't add another kindergarten teacher.

Moulis explained during the Aug. 19 meeting that they had close 190 students as of Friday, Aug. 16.

He said they decided to make the move to advertise for a kindergarten teacher. The School Board had previously given the Administration the final decision on whether or not they should go with an additional

kindergarten teacher based on enrollment.

Moulis explained previously that they wouldn't be able to wait until the next meeting to decide on what to do, and added that it was essentially his last opportunity to get approval from the School Board. He explained that if they had stayed at 182 students for enrolment then they would have been OK with the number of kindergarten teachers they originally had.

"We did make the move," Moulis told the School Board, about adding an additional kindergarten teacher.

It was explained by Moulis that one of the key challenges was finding space for an additional kindergarten classroom.

He explained that they ultimately turned their occupational/ physical therapy classroom into a classroom "making that the 12th kindergarten classroom," he said.

The space for occupational/ physical therapy was then moved to what was used as a conference room and for administrators.

Moulis explained that because of that they also needed to find a space for the conference room and for administrators which "we worked out," Moulis said explaining that "space is at

a premium." "We're at our last classroom," Moulis said, explaining that there isn't anywhere else to go in the school, in terms of additional space.

The next Board of Selectmen meeting is set for Aug. 19 at 6:30 p.m. at Hills Memorial Library.

## Fire Memorial

Continued from page 1

Twardosky, Madden floated some ideas for the statues' new home.

"A proposed location is in the field behind the office building and down the hill from the Friends of Benson Park Elephant Barn," he said. "For the winter we can store them inside the ever-popular gorilla cage."

The Vice-Chair recommended putting the statues in the cage year-round.

"I think there would be no chance of it being touched and then it would not get weathered," she argued. "We don't want anybody climbing on them anyway. Now I know it's a gorilla cage, but I think that people could still observe it because we're not opening the gorilla cage. I think it would be a nice thing to put in there so it's not just a big cage with a mural on the back."

Twardosky agreed to

help move the heavy statues.

"Is the cage going to be permanently closed from now on?" asked Petkiewicz.

Brouillette expressed her belief that keeping it closed was a good idea. The gorilla cage has suffered repeated vandalism, an ongoing problem in many areas of Benson Park.

The lion statues go back to the days of Benson's Wild Animal Farm. Committee members raised the idea of making a plaque explaining the importance of the lions.

## OBITUARY

**Idalia Lopez-Carrasco**



Idalia Lopez-Carrasco, age 89, passed away peacefully with her family by her side at her residence in Hudson, NH on Aug. 26th, 2024. Idalia was born on Oct. 20, 1934 in Iquique, Chile to Silverio Carrasco and Juana Escalera.

She married her eternal companion Victor Lopez Paravicini in Colcapirwa, Bolivia and was sealed to her husband in the Washington, DC temple in 1991.

She loved to cook for her family and expressed her love through her service to others.

Idalia is survived by her husband Victor and their children; Constantino, Jose, Zaida, Jorge, Javier, and Oscar, along with their spouses, 22 grandchildren and 24 great grandchildren.

She will be loved and missed dearly.

Visiting hours were held on Friday Aug. 30 in the Dumont-Sullivan Funeral Home in Hudson NH. A Graveside Service was held on Saturday, Aug. 31 in Hills Farm Cemetery in Hudson. To share an online message of condolence, please visit [www.dumontsullivan.com](http://www.dumontsullivan.com). The Dumont-Sullivan Funeral Homes in Hudson is in charge of arrangements.

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# Editorial

## Never Forget

It's been twenty-three years since the hijacking of four planes that changed the lives of every American. A day where nearly 3,000 people lost their lives in senseless acts of terrorism. September 11th is more than the date of a horrific event, it also marks the day when almost everything we took for granted about life in America disappeared. It's the date when we ever so briefly put aside our political and philosophical differences and came together as a nation.

We are at a point where the people who remember the attack on Pearl Harbor are leaving us, along with those who remember where they were when they heard that President Kennedy had been shot. Most Americans can easily recall what they did on that ordinary day when almost everything we took for granted was lost.

Most of us will forever hold the images of the Twin Towers collapsing on themselves and those trapped within it. September 11th is more than the date of a horrific series of events, it's a day to remember the unity and selflessness that happened. It's the landmark when almost everything we considered normal became past tense.

Most of us still marvel at the bravery of the firefighters, police, and ordinary citizens who became unplanned participants in a disaster of epic proportions.

Unity was the operative word after September 11th, 2001. Strangers became neighbors, offering their help

and comfort during and after this event.

None of our differences mattered at that moment. Human beings rushed into the unknown to help out other human beings. They were doing their jobs. They were representative of the humanity we all share.

In the wake of this tragedy, Americans came together. The divide between us all disappeared during this tragedy. Sadly, 23 years later, we are divided again, with the mentality of "I'm right, you're wrong" and substance is ignored.

How did we lose the grand sense of unity that emerged as a response to the attacks?

Politicians and wannabes have resumed business as usual, going after each other to see who comes out on top rather than offering realistic solutions to the problems we face today. We must return to the idea that unity is not a sign of weakness. Patriotism comes in many forms. We show our love for our country in a myriad of ways.

We understood the importance of coming together as one nation. We must remember that today.

No one wants to remember a tragedy, but this year, on September 11th, we urge you to think about what we lost that day, and why we need to remember our past to make an even better future.

Hudson will hold an observance on Sept. 11 beginning at 6:30 p.m., at Benson Park. (Rain date Sept. 12)

# Public Hearing Set For Sept. 24 on Proposed Sewer Increases

ALEX MALM  
HUDSON TIMES

For close to three decades, the sewer flow rates and the meter rates for the Town of Hudson have gone unchanged.

Now, a proposal has come forward to change it.

"We need to make some adjustments to it," Town Engineer, Elvis Dhima, told the Board of Selectmen during its most recent meeting.

In a memo to the Board of Selectmen from Dhima and Finance Director, Lisa Labrie, it stated that the "Town of Hudson sewer flow rates and the meter rates have been the same for the past 27 years and 20 years, respectively."

"During this period, surplus sewer funds were used to offset the budget requirements and we have approximately enough funds to carry us through to the end of this fiscal year (June 2025). Also, during this period, Nashua treatment rates for our sewer have increased by approximately 35%," the memo stated.

It was explained by Dhima that there were a number of reasons why they feel

that it makes sense to look for an increase for the rates.

"Sewer rate adjustments are warranted based on the increased cost of treatment, limited fund balance in the surplus account, and the most recent financial audit," the memo stated. "The town sewer bill consists of a flat sewer meter charge and the usage, which is based on the water usage. We propose a 10% increase on the flat sewer meter rate and 10% increase on the unit price to take effect on Jan. 1, 2025 and July 1, 2025."

For flow rates, the present rate is \$1.1905, and will be increased to \$1.3096 in January, as part of the proposal and will go up to \$1.4405 in July.

For meter rates, the current cost is \$23, and will increase to \$25.30 in January, and will go to \$27.83 in July.

"The sewer rate increase will be applicable to all values on the attachment. The rate adjustment will provide the necessary adjustment we need to make so we can continue to provide a reliable and sustainable sewer utility infrastructure in 'town,'" the memo to the

Board of Selectmen stated.

It was explained during the meeting that for about 97% of users, they would have an increase of about \$40 per year.

"An average single family household would be about \$40 more a year approximately," Labrie said.

One question raised during the meeting, by Selectman, Dillon Dumont, was in regards to what would happen if they don't increase the rates.

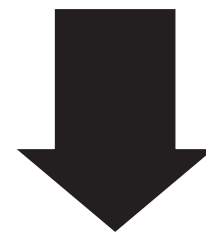
Labrie explained that if they don't do it, then they will have to borrow from the General Fund, explaining that essentially as it stands now, the sewer fund can't keep up with paying back the General Fund, which pays for all the bills up front.

"We're behind in paying back the general fund," she said.

It was also noted that the sewer fees don't apply for those who are on septic.

The Board of Selectmen ultimately approved setting a public hearing to take place on Sept. 24.

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118 Hardy Road, Londonderry, NH 03053

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# Planning Request Explanation for Campbello Extension Plan

**PAUL CONYERS**  
HUDSON TIMES

The Planning Board met on Aug. 28 to find themselves unable to wrap up the site extension plan and conditional use permit for a stormwater basin for 11 single-family condominiums at 36 Campbello St. The property owner wanted to move their hearing to the Oct. 23 meeting, while some members of the Planning Board thought pushing it back another month or two would be a better idea.

"I wanted to kick it out to Dec. 11," said Board member, Victor Oates. "I feel like with everything that's going on around the project and related to it, this the second time they've asked for it, the first time they wanted the initial referral a month ago and we

pushed it out another month under the assumption that hopefully everything would be in line."

It was not the first time the Campbello St., proposal has run into trouble after two rejections by the Zoning Board related to frontage requirements. Several neighbors have also expressed opposition to the project, and such issues will likely need to be addressed with an extensive redesign.

"When I'm viewing everything, I want to make sure that we're not just continuing to save a place where somebody else potentially could be," said

Oates "I feel like they maybe need a little bit more time to get everything ready."

"My thoughts on it, I think it should be a later date too," said Board member, James Crowley, citing the property owner's lack of approval for the site plan. "Now, I don't know where they're going to go, and it doesn't look like this is going to be straightened out very fast."

Board Chair, Tim Malley, noted that without approval, the application could be considered "invalid" as it did not conform to townwide zoning regulations and lacked a

variance.

"The Board has the option to move it to October 23, to December, or maybe to deny without prejudice," he said. "We could just tell them to straightened out their issues."

Vice-Chair, Jordan Ulery, did not want to deny the application without giving the property owner a chance to make their case in person, which would require a deferral.

"They can always

request deferral without prejudice in two months," argued Ulery. "It's up for the applicant to come up for the information, not for us to wait around for them to do something."

Oates agreed that denying the application outright was a bad idea, although he implied the Board should not entertain deferral requests indefinitely.

The Planning Board eventually voted to stick with the requested Oct. 23 deferral date for both the

conditional use permit and the site plan, stipulating that any further deferral requests from the applicant would require an in-person explanation.

"On Oct. 23, either they're going to be ready to move, or they'll need to have a detailed explanation on moving forward," said Malley. "

The next meeting of the Planning Board is set for Wednesday, Sept. 11, at 7 p.m. in the Buxton Room of Town Hall.

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# Net Zero Duplex Project Clears Final Zoning Hurdle

PAUL CONYERS  
HUDSON TIMES

The Zoning Board of Adjustment on Aug. 22 to hear a presentation regarding the building design for the ongoing net zero duplex project at 75 Barretts Hill Road. John Gargas spoke for the property. The design would have firewalls between different garages instead of between the principal dwelling units, something not allowed under Hudson's fire safety regulations without a variance.

"These are actually increasing the general safety of the public. These are all-electric homes, there's no open flame anywhere in these homes, no natural gas, no propane. It's actually a safer home," said Gargas.

"In this case, we have a garage with a firewall located between I guess between what the definition of 'principal dwelling unit' is versus that ordinance wanting to compress the firewall and put the garages on the outside."

He worried a redesign would be detrimental to the aesthetics of each duplex without making them safer.

The Barrett Hill plan initially provoked other safety concerns from members of the Planning Board, although the project was overlooked and approved by the Fire Department. Gargas maintained the proposed design matched that of other homes in the area and that extensive effort went into making them safe,

including the firewall placement.

"It takes significant engineering upfront to obtain this goal of net zero in the subdivision," he said. "We're were unanimously approved by the Planning Board. We've incurred significant time and expense to develop the plan, and if we were forced to alter the plan it would be both technically challenging to meet the requirements we've set

forth, but also, we would have significant additional costs, further delay progress on construction."

Construction has been approved on the project, with a ceremonial groundbreaking for the 13 duplex units occurring earlier in August with the property owner ready to "pour it's first foundation" once it gets final ZBA approval.

There were no questions from the Zoning Board or

members of the public.

"The net zero that they're doing is going to be a great improvement to the area," said ZBA member, Tim Lanphear. "The design is very well thought out, and the improvements to the build is actually a plus to the ordinance as well. To make it a little bit better than it has to be."

Other members agreed there was no good reason to delay the Barrett Hill project.

"The Zoning ordinance doesn't allow this type of design, but I don't understand why it doesn't allow this type of design," added Vice Chair, Norm Martin. "It makes for a safer house."

Without debate, the Zoning Board unanimously approved the variance request.

The ZBA is set for Wednesday, Sept. 26, at 7 p.m. in the Buxton Meeting Room of Town Hall.

## Fun For All at Benson Park on Sept. 14

BILL ZINK  
SUBMISSION

The 4th Annual "Friends of Benson's Family Fun Day" is scheduled for Saturday, Sept. 14 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Benson Park. The Friends of Benson Park have been hard at work preparing for this free event

and predict that it will be the best ever! A special treat for the kids this year will be The Old Woman Who Lived in a Shoe making a personal appearance to greet the kids! Also, the kids will love the animals visiting for the first time from the Carriage Shack Farm in Londonderry.

This day of fun is for all ages and includes music, magic, face painting, games, and more: music by The Southern NH Ukulele Group (11 a.m. - noon); Petting Zoo from the Carriage Shack Farm (11 a.m. - 3 p.m.); music by Beatles Instrumental Tribute Band featuring "While My Guitar Gently Weeps" (12:30 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.); Face Painting by Girl Scout Troop 12070 ; Ballons by Michelle (noon - 3 p.m.); FUN GAMES for the kids by Cub Scout Pack 20;

music by "Let's Play Music" soloist Aryanna Cabrera (2:30 - 3:30 p.m.); Sidewalk Magic with Jim Leach; a Nursery Rhymes Book Walk at The Old Woman Who Lived in a Shoe attraction.

Questions? Go to [friendsofbensonpark.org](http://friendsofbensonpark.org) or [facebook.com/friendsofbensonpark](https://www.facebook.com/friendsofbensonpark). Or, if you are in the park on Saturday or Sunday between the hours of 12 p.m. and 4 p.m. visit the park store to chat with the Friends of Benson Park volunteers.

## OBITUARY

### Bernadette (McGurrin) Case



Bernadette (McGurrin) Case, 87, of Hudson, NH passed away on Thursday Aug. 22, 2024 surrounded by her loving family. She was born April 23, 1937 in County Leitrim, Ireland, daughter of the late Patrick and Kathryn (McFadden) McGurrin. She was one of ten siblings. Bernadette was predeceased by her loving husband Paul and her cherished son Philip.

Bernadette was a beautiful Irish rose with an adventurous spirit. She immigrated to America at the age of 17 on her own. Leaving rural Ireland for the opportunities in New York City, she exchanged pastures for skyscrapers. She settled in New York City and worked at Meinhardt & Company. It was there that she met her loving husband, Paul.

Bernadette and Paul shared 53 years of marriage together, raising their four children in New York and Hudson, NH. Later in life, she started a career in the community banking industry where she spent ten years with NFS Savings Bank in Hudson, NH before retiring as assistant branch manager.

Bernadette was always up for a lively conversation and often entertained her friends and family with stories about her life whether about the Irish countryside, the dance halls of Manhattan, or her daily trips to the YMCA. She gave selflessly to her family and community. She was a volunteer for many years with the St. Vincent DePaul Society. Bernadette was a longtime member of the YMCA and the Hunt at Home community. She was an avid reader and enjoyed tending her flower gardens, traveling with her husband, and spending time with her children and grandchildren.

Bernadette is survived by her devoted children: Maureen Grier and her husband Brian of Raleigh, NC, Vincent Case and his wife Irina of Lexington, MA and James Case of Hudson, NH, six grandchildren, Kathryn Grier, Philip Grier, Laura Case, Elizabeth Case, Ryan Case and Emily Case, and sisters Josephine Hogan and Vera Johnston and brother Stoney McGurrin. Predeceased by siblings Mary McGurrin, Kathleen Griffin, Una Findlay, James McGurrin, Anna Henry, and Nuala Kenny.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Sisters of the Good Shepherd, 420 Hemenway St., Suite 466, Marlborough, MA 01752.

Following cremation, a time of visitation was held on Wednesday, Sept. 4 in the Dumont-Sullivan Funeral Home. A Mass of Christian Burial took place after in St. Kathryn Church. Burial followed in St. Patrick Cemetery in Hudson. To share an online message of condolence, please visit [www.dumontsullivan.com](http://www.dumontsullivan.com) The Dumont-Sullivan Funeral Home in Hudson is in charge of arrangements.

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## Have an Announcement?

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

# Selectmen Approve Contract For Lowell Road Design

ALEX MALM  
HUDSON TIMES

The Board of Selectmen was presented with a request during its most recent meeting to award a contract for design work to be done at Lowell/Birch/Belknap Road. “During the March 13, 2019 Planning Board meeting, a list of possible projects for Capital Improvement were discussed, including this project,” Town

Engineer, Elvis Dhima, wrote in a memo to the Board of Selectmen. “In July of 2024, the Planning Board recommended the expenditure of \$200,000 to (the) Board of Selectmen to complete the design and permitting of this project.”

He explained that they advertised for engineering services on the town’s website, along with in the Union Leader, and also they sent

out the bid invitation to four different vendors.

“We had a mandatory pre bid meeting and three consultants attended,” Dhima wrote in a memo. “Our estimate was \$200,000.”

Dhima explained that they received three different bids for the project, ranging between \$181,300, and \$249,905.

He explained during the meeting that they were rec-

ommending awarding the contract and they would be using corridor funds, which would not impact the taxpayers.

“The Engineering Department’s recommendation to the Board of Selectmen is to approve this expenditure,” Dhima wrote in a memo. “This project is 100% funded by corridor funds, collected by Planning Board for capital proj-

ects like these.”

Dhima explained that the funds come from new developments.

“This is funds the planning board collects from developers for projects exactly like this,” Dhima said.

Dhima said they were recommending awarding the contract for the engineering and design services to the lowest bidder, which was Wright Pierce Engineers, for a total amount of 181,300.

He was also recommending that they assign Dhima as the principal for the project.

The Board of Selectmen unanimously approved the request.

In terms of the construction of the eventual project, Dhima explained that they

were hopeful to be able to receive grant funds from the Nashua Regional Planning Commission, and they hope to potentially be able to receive funding from the State.

“On Aug. 14, 2024 we presented this project at NRPC to be included in the 10 year plan for the construction phase and will find out in September if this will be recommended to NHDOT for consideration,” Dhima wrote in a memo to the Board of Selectmen.

Dhima said they are hoping to be able to get a 80% match from the State, if they are put on the 10 year plan for the project, and explained that if they are awarded funds from the State they could pay for their portion through fees they have already collected.

# Renovated Old Woman in the Shoe Set to Open

PAUL CONYERS  
HUDSON TIMES

The August meeting of the Benson Park Committee included an announcement on what to expect at the Park’s Fourth Annual Family Fun Day, organized by the Friends of Benson Park.

Natalie Newell of the Friends outlined activities for the five-hour event, including a few additions to the roster.

“We have some exciting things happening this year that we haven’t had in the past,” she said.

A highlight of the Fun Day will be the opening of a fully restored Old Woman Who Lived in a Shoe, one of the few surviving exhibits from the old Animal Park.

“The Shoe’s been renovated thanks to Paul Tracy and his wife Claudia’s help,” said Newell. “That whole area has been cleaned up and looks beautiful. The Shoe will be open on Family Fun Day, and the Old Woman in the Shoe will be there to

welcome the children.”

Committee member, Sue Clement, and others volunteered to lead a nursery rhyme walk in the area. Photos of the Shoe will be encouraged.

“I had an art teacher from Hudson that came and helped me today drawing the murals for photo opportunities for kids and families,” said Clement. “We also have the Rodgers Memorial Library that will be coming in and setting up a table to do a raffle with the kids. It should be a really fun day and I hope people will be able to enjoy actually getting to go into the Shoe.”

She was looking forward to seeing what the inside of the Shoe was like.

“We’ll also have a petting zoo and that’s going to be fun for kids and families,” said Newell. “The petting zoo will be there for three hours, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.”

Fun Day is set to include two live bands: the Southern NH Ukulele Group playing from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m., and

the Beatles instrumental tribute band While My Guitar Gently Weeps from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m.

Additionally, the local organization Let’s Play Music and Make Art will perform in the afternoon from around 1:30 to 2:30 p.m.

Girl Scout Troop 12070 is returning to Fun Day for face painting. Cub Scout Troop 21 will have a mobile unit at the event, complete with games. Several other sponsors have booth space for games and

giveaways.

“We are going to have our tent set up down by the amphitheater near the field and we’ll be offering for sale ice cream, t-shirts, souvenirs, and things like that,” said Newell. “We just have our fingers crossed that the weather will cooperate, because there is no rain date.”

Apart from the sales tent, everything else is free to Hudson families who want to attend.

Family Fun Day is scheduled for Saturday, Sept. 14, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

## OBITUARY

### Kathleen Rose (Amelio) Whall

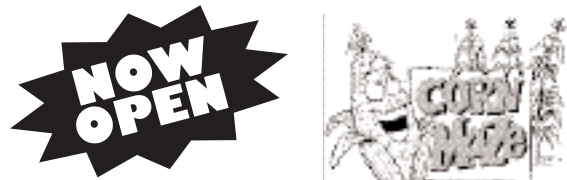


Kathleen Rose (Amelio) Whall died on Sept. 1 at The Fairview Inn in Hudson, NH after living many years with Alzheimer’s. Kathy grew up in Nashua, graduated from Mount Saint Mary Seminary and received her nursing degree from the Moore General Hospital School of Nursing in Goffstown, NH. Kathy truly loved being a nurse and practiced in Miami, Providence, Buffalo, Lebanon, NH, and at her beloved St. Joseph Hospital in Nashua where she worked for over 40 years, retiring in 2013.

Kathy loved to travel, enjoyed attending musicals and concerts (especially Barry Manilow!), and being with her dearest friends Pat Allen and Jan Lapine. She also enjoyed attending sports events (all the Boston teams!), the NH semi-professional teams and watching sports on TV. Most of all she enjoyed being with her children and their families: Timothy and Kecia Whall, and their children Tyler and Abby, of Gilbert, AZ; Maureen and Scot Austin of Nashua, NH, and their children Jessica, Hannah, and Nathan Austin, and Sean and Mary Kate Whall of Vallejo, CA. All three of her children followed her in working at some point at St. Joe’s. Kathy is also survived by her brother, Robert Amelio and his husband Timothy Williamson, of Jamaica Plain, MA, her nephew William Merchant, Jr., his wife Melissa, and daughter Amelia, of Tampa, FL, and her brother-in-law William Merchant, Sr., and his wife, Darlene, of Florida. Kathy was predeceased by her parents Mary (Hansberry) and Carl Amelio, and her sister Mary Elizabeth (“Betsy”) Amelio Merchant. She is also survived by many cousins and her beloved aunt Eleanor Wilson of Cranston, RI, and uncle Eugene Amelio, FL.

Kathy’s family deeply appreciates the love, dedication, and care shown to Kathy by the Fairview Inn staff in the last 18 months of her life, and to the Home Health and Hospice Care staff in the final months of her life.

A memorial service will be held for Kathy at Dumont-Sullivan Funeral Home, 50 Ferry St., Hudson, NH on Friday, Sept. 6 at 11 a.m., with burial to follow at St. Patrick Cemetery in Hudson. In lieu of flowers please consider a donation to either the Carl Amelio Nursing Scholarship at Rivier University (checks should be made out to Rivier University and indicate the Carl Amelio Nursing Scholarship on the check. Address is: Rivier University, Office of University Advancement and Alumni Relations, 420 South Main St., Nashua, NH 03060), or to the Alzheimer’s Association (<https://act.alz.org/site/Donation>). To share an online message of condolence, please visit [www.dumontsullivan.com](http://www.dumontsullivan.com). The Dumont-Sullivan Funeral Home in Hudson, NH is in charge of arrangements.



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Ali Rafieymehr is teaching elementary school students about robotics and prepares them as a FIRST LEGO League team. *Photos by Chris Paul*



## Robotics

continued from page 1

When Rafieymehr's nearly eight-year-old grandson became interested in robotics, he started teaching

him how to program an Ozobot robot.

Following that, Ali started offering classes on programming to a small group of elementary school aged students at the

Rodgers Memorial Library, free of charge.

Those beginnings have evolved into a new FIRST LEGO League - Explore Team, currently consisting of seven students.

On Thursday, Aug. 29, the group had their first meeting where Ali explained what would be entailed in the FIRST LEGO League program and what the competition would be like.

Starting the club is not without some challenges, he found that out pretty quickly, but wanted the club to remain free of charge.

Hoping to use space in the local library for meetings, he found that meeting

more than once a month there wouldn't be possible. He also looked into using a classroom after school at Nottingham West Elementary School, but that wasn't possible either, so he is currently renting a room at the Sensory Center.

This year's FIRST LEGO League's challenge is called "Submerged" and will get the team to come up with ways to help the ocean.

The team name began as the "Nottingham Warriors"

since many of the students went to school there, but has since evolved into the "New Techies for the Future."

Last week, the "Explore Team" read some of the materials provided in the packet Rafieymehr purchased and were assigned roles on the team. Each member was given a job and the team will be working toward completing the 13 sessions necessary to participate in the November Explore Exhibitions.

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# BOS Look For Grant From Nashua Planning Commission

ALEX MALM  
HUDSON TIMES

During the Aug. 27 Board of Selectmen meeting, one of the agenda items was a request to send a letter of support to potentially receive grant funding from the Nashua Regional Planning Commission.

“The Town of Hudson has been working towards improving watershed quality throughout the town and complying with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) permit regulations,” Town Engineer Elvis Dhima explained. “Some of the most recent efforts have been focusing on improve-

ments of water quality at Robinson Pond.”

He explained that in 2020, they worked with the NRPC to secure a \$50,000 grant “with no match required to complete the Robinson Pond Water Quality Protection Plan, completed in 2024.”

“At that time, we provided a letter of support to NRPC for the grant,” Dhima said.

Dhima explained that unlike most other grants, there isn’t any kind of requirement for the Town to match the funds.

“NRPC has the opportunity at this time to file for

another grant, with no match required and it will be managed by NRPC,” Dhima said. “This grant will help with development of a complete Environmental of Protection Agency (EPA) nine-element watershed management plan and will provide further grant opportunities for the town for implementation of any project at this location.”

Board of Selectmen Vice Chair Dillon Dumont noted that it was one of the benefits of being part of the NRPC, and if they weren’t part of it then they wouldn’t be able to qualify for the grant funding.

The Board of Selectmen ultimately approved signing the letter of support.

As part of the letter being sent to NRPC it states “The Hudson Conservation Commission offers its commitment to the Nashua Regional Planning Commission (NRPC) grant application to the NH Department of Environmental Services Section 604(b) Water Quality Planning Grant program and endorses the participation of the Town of Hudson Conservation Commission to participate in an advisory capacity for this initiative.”

“The Conservation Com-

mission is dedicated to Robinson Pond water quality improvements,” the letter from the Conservation Commission and Board of Selectmen states. “The Commission is currently funding engineering design and permitting costs to improve public access and provide structural stormwater treatment at the Town-owned boat launch and beach on Robinson Pond. In addition, the Board of Selectmen continues to fund efforts to comply with the EPA MS4 permit, including development of a Lake Phosphorus Control Plan for Robinson

Pond.”

It also states that the “NRPC’s recently completed Robinson Pond Water Quality Protection Plan has increased our understanding of the current water quality conditions of Robinson Pond, and the Town is committed to developing a full EPA nine-element plan. Continuing this work by completing a full watershed plan will help the Town take further action to restore the watershed.”

The next Board of Selectmen meeting is set for Sept. 24 at 7 p.m.

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# HUDSON SPORTS

## Alvirne Girls' Soccer Drops Season Opener to Dover

BLAKE SANTANA  
HUDSON TIMES

On Thursday, the Alvirne girls' soccer team kicked off their season at home against the Dover Green Wave. Alvirne, unfortunately, was unable to get their season off on the right foot, as the Broncos fell 4-1 to the Green Wave on their home turf.

The Green Wave opened the scoring early, getting the first goal with 35-minutes

left on the clock in the first half. Goal two game before the end of the half

Dover tacked on another goal early in the second half to put themselves ahead 3-0.

Alvirne's lone goal came about midway through the second half making the score 3-1 in favor of the visitors when Haylie Christman scored for Lady Broncos, taking the shutout away from Norah O'Malley and the Green

Wave.

Dover would then tack on an extra goal for insurance with around seven minutes left to put the game on ice for the Green Wave, sending Alvirne to an early 0-1 start to the season.

The Broncos is scheduled to play twice this week, starting with a road game against Timberlane on Tuesday. The Owls are the defending champs and opened their season on



Junior mid-fielder, Haylie Christman, left had her team's only goal last week.



Alvirne junior, Sammy DeSilva, battles for possession at mid-field against a Dover defender during the Broncos Home Opener. Photos by Chris Paul

Thursday with a 2-0 victory over the Spaulding Red Raiders in Rochester.

Alvirne's bench may be shortened depending on decisions made by the coaching staff, as some players are rostered both on

Varsity and Junior Varsity, and both squads will be kicking off at 4:00 p.m. on Tuesday.

Alvirne will then take on the Salem Blue Devils on Friday, Sept. 5, starting at 5:30 p.m. on the Broncos

home turf. Salem opened their season with a 1-1 tie against the Merrimack Tomahawks on Thursday and will take on Exeter on Tuesday afternoon.



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# Alvirne Boys' Soccer Begins Campaign With 2-2 Draw

**BLAKE SANTANA**  
HUDSON TIMES

To open their season, Alvirne's boys' soccer team hit the road for an away match against the Dover Green Wave last Thursday. In their first regular season match of the season, the Broncos battled the Green Wave, a team the Broncos beat 2-1 a year ago, to a 2-2 draw.

The 2-2 draw saw two

different goal scorers for Alvirne as Nathan Chava opened the scoring for Alvirne and Garrett Howard picked up the other goal for the Broncos.

Solid defense and goal-keeping kept the Broncos in the game, but Thursday was an example of a game where their opponent was able to keep up with them and create issues for the Broncos at times, leading

to the pair of Dover tallies. Owen Suprenant was still solid in the draw, making saves when he was called upon. This was a game that Alvirne entered as the favorite, even with a relatively young squad, going up against a team that was just 3-13 a year ago, and the Broncos were unable to prevail. A tie isn't the end of the world, though,

as it does give each team two points, which may end up being critical for the Broncos in their quest to return to the playoffs. Every point matters in high school athletics, so Alvirne, like any other team on the bubble of playoff contention, will need to do what they can to get points, and when they get them, take the positives from their per-

formance and build off them by improving in areas where they may have struggled.

Alvirne will, once again, play just one game this week, traveling to Salem to take on the Blue Devils on Thursday. Salem lost their opening game last week against Merrimack and will take on Exeter on Tuesday before the matchup between the

Broncos and Blue Devils. The Broncos will not play their first full week of action with multiple games until next week when they finally get a home game on September 10 against Nashua South before hitting the road for the third time in four games when they travel to Keene to take on the Blackbirds in the original Elm City.

# Adopt-A-Spot to Make T-Shirts Available for Volunteers

**PAUL CONYERS**  
HUDSON TIMES

The Benson Park Committee met on Aug. 22 to discuss the status of t-shirts and signs for those participating in the increasingly popular Adopt-A-Spot program, where volunteers maintain designated "spots" in different locations across the park.

With help from Natalie Newman and the Friends of Benson Park, Committee member Sue Clement ordered a set of shirts for Benson Park volunteers.

"I went ahead with Natalie's suggestion of where she gets her t-shirts and it was easily made," Clement explained. "I did, the last Volunteer Clean-Up, put a sign up for people that wanted a shirt, and everybody wanted one."

Each shirt will cost \$12.50. There was some

debate over whether volunteers, Friends of Benson Park, or the Benson Park Committee would cover the cost.

"I think, at least for right now, it would be nice for us just to have everybody that wants one, they can pay for it," suggested Vice Chair Judy Brouillette. "It's \$12.50, I think it's reasonable for them to do that. But going forward, it is something we should talk about."

Signs marking the many spots have been made but have not been placed.

"These are the signs we wanted mounted, and I only had four mounts at the time," set Clement.

While this delayed the process, she assured the Committee that every sign had been properly mounted and was ready for installation in the near future.

The University of NH

fisher cat research project ran into bureaucratic trouble when Chair Jack Madden realized a key form "has to be signed by the land owner."

"I was going to fill this out, but got to thinking: I am not the land owner," said Madden. "What I thought would be an easy job is turning into a major production."

According to the park deed, town officials will need to write a letter to the

purveyor of the deed, in this case, the NH Department of Transportation, for permission. The Board of Selectmen will also need to approve the project. As the university study will include the live capture of fisher cats, NH Fish and Game is also involved in the permitting process.

Madden seemed to think none of this would derail the University of NH study in the long run.

The next Volunteer

Clean-Up Day is scheduled for Saturday, Sept. 21, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

"That day is going to be the Veterans Appreciation Picnic, hosted by VFW Post 5791 at our post on 15 Bockes Road from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m." Madden added. "Veterans, it doesn't matter what branch of service

you're in: active or reserve, national guard, and we're also inviting some widows of veterans. A good time will hopefully be had by all."

The next meeting of the Benson Park Committee is scheduled for Thursday, Sept. 19, at 7 p.m. in the HCTV Meeting Room.

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# Some History About the Hudson-Litchfield Rotary Club

CHRISTINA MADDEN  
SUBMISSION

If you've ever sat in one of those benches in Library Park, you're enjoying a benefit of the Hudson-Litchfield Rotary. Yep, those benches have Rotary wheel medallions on them to recognize the Rotary's donations of the benches. The Hudson-Litchfield Rotary, like many of the non-profit organizations in Hudson, does a lot that most people benefit from, but don't really know who to thank.

Rotary was founded in 1905 by a group of what I'm pretty sure were rich white businessmen. Rotary has come a long way since then. Rotary is now Rotary International, so it is now a diverse group of people of

all ages, religions, genders (yes, they finally let women join in 1989 after quite the battle!), nationalities, and races who share Rotary's motto, "Service Above Self." Rotary International's biggest accomplishment has been the eradication (or near eradication, since a few cases crop up occasionally) of polio in the world. If you grew up before the polio vaccine, you know how huge this feat is. Rotary works on numerous projects throughout the world, as well as in local communities, to provide clean water, combat HIV, malaria, and promote health and hygiene, all while striving to promote peace and understanding.

On the local level,

Rotary Clubs strive to serve their communities in numerous ways, as well as partnering through donations with other clubs to promote Rotary goals world-wide. Here, the Hudson-Litchfield Rotary Club has held two Electronic Recycling fundraisers where anyone can bring electronic items from computers and televisions, to vacuum cleaners and microwaves in for recycling. Not only does this event raise money for the club's charitable efforts, but it also helps our environ-

ment. The recycled electronics are disassembled and recycled so that the material doesn't wind up in a landfill or sit alongside the road polluting the area with litter. Club members have helped the Hudson Community Food Pantry collect items to fill its shelves. In the past, members helped sort food at the New Hampshire Food Bank and sponsored a trail run through the Alvirne Tree Farm and Hills House grounds.

Donations are the Club's primary service currently, so fundraisers such as the Electronics Recycling and the sale of Christmas ornaments which highlight local buildings and locations such as Benson Park, Alvirne High School, Alvirne Chapel and the Hills House, are important to the club. Each year, the Hudson-Litchfield Rotary donates scholarships to graduating seniors at Alvirne and Campbell High Schools. At Alvirne High

School, two scholarships go to "Toolships" for CTE students going into a profession that may require tools of any sort or further technical education for their field. The Club adopts a Christmas Family each year through the Hudson Community Food Pantry.

At most meetings, a speaker is invited to speak briefly about their organization, whether it be a charitable or governmental agency, further educating the members on ways they might serve or donate to. The Club has donated to the Hudson Community Food Pantry, Litchfield food pantry, Wreaths Across America Hudson NH Cemeteries, the Greater Nashua Humane Society, Make-a-Wish NH, Family Promise, Meals on Wheels, St. Gianna's Place, Homeland Heroes Foundation, Black Heritage Trail, CASA of NH, Operation Care for Troops, and many more. Most recently, the Club contributed to "Gear Up for School Backpacks

with School Supplies" for children in foster programs. The fundraisers make these donations possible, while the speakers expand the members' knowledge of services, both private and governmental, that are available to residents. Recently, under President Alejandro Urretia, our speakers' presentations have been recorded so they can be shared with the community through Hudson Community TV.

The Hudson-Litchfield Rotary Club meets twice month for one hour, at 7:30 AM the second Thursday of the month at the Rodgers Memorial Library and the fourth Thursday at the Litchfield Fire Stations's Community Room. Guests are encouraged to attend to see if Rotary is for them or just to hear the speaker and enjoy coffee and donuts. To keep up with the club's activities, follow us on FB at [www.facebook.com/HudsonLitchfieldRotaryClub](http://www.facebook.com/HudsonLitchfieldRotaryClub).

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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](mailto:hudsontimes@nutpub.net).

## 9/11 Observance

The Town of Hudson will host an observance for 9/11 anniversary on Sept. 11 beginning at 6:30 p.m., at Benson Park. (Rain date Sept. 12)

## Book Sale/Book Donation Cancelled

Due to water damage at Hills Memorial Library basement, the Library book sale (secondhand Prose Sale) on Sept. 8 is cancelled along with the Book Donation event on Sept. 12. Please watch for announcements concerning the October sale.

## 37th Fall Artisan Craft Fair

Saturday, Sept. 7, from 9:30 a.m. - 4 p.m., and Sunday, Sept. 8, 9:30 a.m. - 3 p.m. At St. Peter's Church, Mammoth Rd., at 3 Peabody Row, Londonderry. Visit over 70 skilled craftspeople as they showcase their creativity in areas such as jewelry, baskets, quilts, wooden goods, multiple types of artworks, hats, hair accessories, soaps, essential oils, candles, pet

accessories, windchimes, and a host of many others. While there, satisfy your appetite with apple crisp or at food trucks including B's Tacos on Saturday. A selection of homemade baked goods will be available for purchase and a candy sale will be held to benefit the Nashua NH Crop Hunger Walk. Try your luck with raffles or look for bargains at the great-deals tag sale. For more information, visit <https://stpeterslondonderry.org>.

## 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. Ques-

tions? Please contact Erika LaRiviere at 603-816-3248 or [elariviere@hudsonnh.gov](mailto:elariviere@hudsonnh.gov)

## Explore Girl Scouts

New friends. New adventures. Shine bright with Girl Scouts and discover a whole new world of possibilities. Come explore Girl Scouts on Wednesday, Sept. 18, both from 6 - 7 p.m. at Hudson Memorial School, 1 Memorial Dr., Hudson. RSVP to 888-474-9686 or [customer-care@girlscoutsgwm.org](mailto:customer-care@girlscoutsgwm.org) - or just drop in. Girls in grades K-3 and a caregiver are invited to learn about opportunities to get involved in your community. Try out sample activities and see the many ways to get involved in Girl Scouts while having a fun family evening. Walk-ins are welcome. Join Girl Scouts. See [www.girlscoutsgwm.org](http://www.girlscoutsgwm.org)

## Benson's Family Fun Day

The "Friends of Benson's Family Fun Day!" is set for Saturday, Sept. 14 from 11 a.m. - 4 p.m. at Benson Park. Fun for all ages! Music, free

games and prizes, face painting, balloon twisting, petting zoo, sidewalk magic, and a nursery rhymes book walk at The Old Woman who Lived in a Shoe attraction, and more! Any questions? Go to [friendsofbensonpark.org](http://friendsofbensonpark.org) or [facebook.com/friendsofbensonpark](https://facebook.com/friendsofbensonpark). Or, if you are in the park on Saturday or Sunday between the hours of noon - 4 p.m. visit the park store to chat with the Friends of Benson Park volunteers.

## 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.

## Retiree Day Luncheon

The NH Army National Guard (NHARNG) will hold its 15th Annual Retiree Day Luncheon on for Thursday, Sept. 19. Retirees who have not attended prior luncheons or have relocated are urged to contact Command Sergeant Major (Ret) David Follansbee via e-mail: [dave\\_follansbee@comcast.net](mailto:dave_follansbee@comcast.net) or (603)

623-7757. Please RSVP no later than Sept. 13. This year's luncheon will be at the Joint Force Headquarters building on the State Military Reservation in Concord and will feature a briefing on the current status of the NHARNG as well as exhibits and displays of interest to retirees. A group photo is also planned. The luncheon fee is \$5 at the door.

## Dungeons & Donuts

Looking for fellow Dungeons & Dragons players? Come and grab a donut at Rogers Library on Saturday, Sept 7 and 21 at 9:30 a.m.

## Renaissance Tile Zentangle Class

On Wednesday, Sept 11 at 1 p.m., and Thursday, Sept. 19 at 6:30 p.m., join Diane MacKinnon, Certified Zentangle Teacher, and create a beautiful tile together at Rogers Library.

## 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' organi-

zation 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 horse-shoes, 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.

## 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.

## Galaxy Jar Art

On Tuesday, Sept. 10 at 6 p.m., students in grades K-4 are invited to Rogers Library to create their own galaxy in a jar.

## Access Wisdom Book Club

On Thursday, Sept. 12 at 7 p.m., certified life coach Diane MacKinnon leads a discussion of "I Thought it Was Just Me: Women

continued on page 15

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## Around Town

Continued from page 13

Reclaiming Power and Courage in a Culture of Shame” by Brene Brown, at Rogers Library.

### Stitchers' Circle

On Saturday, Sept. 14 at 9:30 a.m., come and stitch/cross stitch, blackwork, embroider, knit, crochet, hand craft with Oonagh Williams at the Rogers Library.

### Outdoor Storytime

On Saturday, Sept. 14 at 10 a.m., come to Rogers Library for stories, songs, and bubbles on the library lawn.

### Mystery Lovers Book Club

On Monday, Sept 16 at 1 p.m., come to this Rogers Library Book Club. This month's book pick is “The Other Woman” by Hank Phillippi Ryan.

### Planning Disney Vacation

On Tuesday, Sept. 17 at 6:30 p.m., join Katie Midgley to learn some tips and tricks to help you navigate your Disney vacation at the Rogers Library.

### Apple Boats

Can you use an apple to make a boat that will float? Find out on Wednesday, Sept. 18 at 6 p.m., at the Rogers Library. For grades K-4 and their grown ups.

### Crime & Cookies

True Crime Podcast Club at the Rogers Library on Wednesday, Sept. 18, at 7 p.m. This month will discuss “BOOTH” from Infamous America.

### Teen Splatter Paint

On Thursday, Sept. 12 at 6 p.m., help the Rogers Library Decorate Paper Mache Letters for the Teen Area! Whip, Throw, and Splatter Paint.

### Characters & Cocoa

On Thursday, Sept. 19 at 5:30 p.m., Rogers Library will hold its is a monthly group for writers to socialize and talk about the craft. The

emphasis will be more on discussion than workshopping.

### Tween Disney Trivia

On Thursday, Sept. 19 at 6:30 p.m., Grades 4-8 are invited to join Ms. Maggie at the Rogers Library to test their knowledge of Disney songs, characters, and movies. Prizes awarded. Snacks served.

### 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 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 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.

### 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.

### 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.

### 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.

### 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 Rogers Memorial Library website rogerslibrary.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 Thursdays Sept. 12, 19 and 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.

### 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](mailto:info@unitedway-nashua.org) if you have any questions.

### Movers & Shakers

Every Wednesday at 10 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. (except Sept. 4)there will be a Toddler storytime for kids that don't sit still for long at the Rodgers Memorial Library.

Songs, stories, games, and activities for ages 1-3. Registration is required. Please indicate how many will attend including adults, infants, and siblings. Caretaker participates.

### PFOA Water Test

You can request a water sampling here: Southern NH PFOA Investigation Private Well-Testing Request Form Survey ([surveymonkey.com](https://www.surveymonkey.com)) Questions contact Amy Rousseau | PFAS Response Ad-

ministrator - MtBE Remediation Bureau at NH Department of Environmental Services Email: [Amy.Rousseau@des.nh.gov](mailto: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.

## OBITUARY

### Donald H. Gowdy



Donald (Don) H. Gowdy, 95, of Nashua, died peacefully Tuesday, Aug. 27, 2024 at the Community Hospice House in Merrimack, NH.

Don was born in Fitchburg, MA on May 6, 1929, son of the late Earl and Lillian Gowdy. He attended school at Leominster High School, graduating in 1948 and subsequently completed an Associate degree in electrical engineering before he found his calling as a radio and electronics specialist. Don started out as a TV repair man, then moved on to work in the defense industry with Lincoln Labs (MIT), and later with Sanders/Lockheed Martin as a Senior Engineering Associate, a career that spanned 40 plus years.

Fortunately for Don, he met “the most beautiful girl at the dance”, Registered Nurse, Berthe (Maurice), whom he married in 1951. They ultimately made their home in Hudson, NH, and raised five children along with a bountiful vegetable garden and a “wicked tall” Ham radio tower that sported a large brightly lit star that could be seen miles away on Christmas Day.

Don was passionate about Ham radio, communicated throughout the world and participated in local Ham radio clubs for many decades. He volunteered in the US Naval Reserve from 1950 to 1958. Don was also a Little League coach, Boy Scout Leader, grill master, fisherman, hunter, bird watcher, tinkerer, and carpenter, building out his modest house to add two bedrooms and a bathroom; and if he wasn't fixing his house, he'd come over and fix yours. Don loved to sing. He sang in the choir at St. John's and St. Kathryn's church in Hudson and St. John's XXIII in Nashua, as well as in a men's choir. And when he wasn't singing, he was busy whistling a tune instead.

Most importantly, he was passionate about his family, always extending his hand and his generous spirit, from his children to his great grandchildren. We will fondly remember Don for his endless good nature, singing voice (especially via Johnny Mercer's Dream), bad dad jokes and corny dadisms, the latter of which have already spanned multiple generations and show no sign of fading out anytime soon.

Don was predeceased by his beloved wife of 58 years, Berthe (Maurice) Gowdy, in 2009; his cherished daughter, Patricia (Gowdy) Malik; in 2018 and two sisters, Norma (Gowdy) Albert and Lucille (Gowdy) Delbove.

Don is survived by his daughter, Mary Gowdy and partner Christopher Burns of Fitchburg, MA; three sons and daughters-in-law: Marc and Rebecca Gowdy of Berwick, ME; Bruce Gowdy and his wife Eve Aldridge of Oakland, CA; and Scott and Michele Gowdy of Wilmington, NC; and one sister, Louise (Gowdy) Watson. He also leaves seven grandchildren, who loved Gandpa dearly: Benjamin Gowdy; Stuart Gowdy, Alia (Malik) Pharr, Jaheed Malik, Brendan Gowdy, Heather (Gowdy) Wiand and Alyssa Gowdy and many beloved great grandchildren, nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends.

The family would like to thank the staff of the Hunt Community in Nashua, NH for their loving and devoted care of Don for the past 10 years, and Community Hospice House in Merrimack, NH, for their compassionate care of both Berthe and Don in their final hours.

“Dream, dream, dream” on, dear Dad. We will miss you.

The immediate family will hold a private celebration of life in the spring of 2025. To share an online message of condolence, please visit [www.dumontsullivan.com](http://www.dumontsullivan.com). The Dumont-Sullivan Funeral Home in Hudson is in charge of arrangements.

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

### SERVICE HOURS

Monday	7:00AM - 6:00PM
Tuesday	7:00AM - 6:00PM
Wednesday	7:00AM - 6:00PM
Thursday	7:00AM - 6:00PM
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