

THE Hudson Times

February 19, 2026 ♦ Volume 4 – Issue 7

A FREE Weekly Publication



DANCE PARTY

Attentees of the Hudson American Legion Post 48 Valentine's Day Dinner and Dance on Saturday night were having a ball on the dance floor. See more photos page 8. *Photo by Chris Paul*

Developers Detail Early Vision for 'The Meadows' Mixed-Use Project

PAUL CONYERS
HUDSON TIMES

The Hudson Conservation Commission met on Feb. 9 to hear a conditional use presentation from Ryan Kudak of Verdantas, who outlined early plans for a proposed development known as The Meadows. The project, still in its preliminary stages, would

bring a combination of residential and mixed-use buildings to a long discussed parcel on Central Street.

"It's generally a residential apartment development. There's one mixed-use building along Central Street," Kudak explained. "The building on Central Street has residential on the

second floor with eight units, and the first floor will be commercial use that is to be determined at the moment. The other three buildings on the south and central portion are purely residential buildings with associated parking and access. The plan shows water and sewer utilities **continued on page 7**

Citizens Group Look To Reopen Benson Dog Park

ALEX MALM
HUDSON TIMES

Following the Board of Selectmen's decision to temporarily close the Hudson Dog Park, the Selectmen were presented with a proposal by a citizens group to reopen the area at their most recent meeting.

"My name is Todd Pollack, and I'm here on behalf of a group of Hudson residents and dog park users who have been working together to form 'Friends of Hudson Dog Park, Inc.' Our goal is simple: to partner with the town to reopen the dog park the right way - safely, responsibly, and with minimal burden on taxpayers," he said.

Pollack explained that

since their discussions with town leadership they have "continued building the foundation of the organization so we can be a dependable partner."

"Our focus is on safety for people and pets, clear accountability, and long term stewardship," he said. "We are developing governance practices, maintenance planning, and volunteer coordination to demonstrate that this responsibility will be taken seriously, not just in the short-term but well into the future."

Pollack said they now have their official certificate of existence from the state, "confirming that the Friends of Hudson Dog Park, Inc. is formally established and in

good standing."

"We are also continuing our efforts to obtain appropriate liability coverage, including policies that would name the town as an additional insured," he said. "While the insurance market for off leash dog parks is challenging, the process has helped us better understand the structure and financial commitments required, and we are committed to meeting those expectations."

He said the group was seeking interim or conditional approval to reopen the dog park "while the remaining elements are finalized."

"We understand there is still work to do, and we are **continued on page 4**

Residents Clash Over Appointing, Not Electing, Planning Board Members

ALEX MALM
HUDSON TIMES

Hudson residents debated a citizen petition warrant article during the Town Deliberative Session that would change how Planning Board members are selected. The proposal, which will appear on the March ballot, asks voters whether Planning Board seats should shift from elected positions to appointments made by the Board of Selectmen.

The warrant article reads, in part:

"To see if the town will vote to amend the method of selection for Planning Board members by changing Planning Board positions from elected to appointed positions... If

adopted, all future Planning Board members shall be appointed by the Hudson Board of Selectmen in accordance with RSA 673:2 and RSA 673:5... Current elected members shall serve out the remainder of their elected terms."

Resident Michael LaCasse, who spoke in favor of the article, argued that an appointed Planning Board would provide stronger oversight and professionalism.

"This approach provides an added layer of oversight and accountability by allowing town staff to review candidates for potential conflicts of interest and to provide informed feedback to the Board of Selectmen prior to appoint-

ment," LaCasse said.

He emphasized that the petition is not political or personal.

"It is about accountability, professionalism, and protecting the town of Hudson," he said. "The Planning Board is a quasi-judicial body... With that responsibility comes an expectation of professionalism, fairness, and respect."

LaCasse said one of the challenges with an elected board is the difficulty of removing members who behave inappropriately.

"When a Planning Board member behaves in a rude and unprofessional manner, the town has very limited ability to respond if that member is elected," he **continued on page 6**

Erickson Lot Expansion OK'd After Debate Over Waivers, Site Conditions

PAUL CONYERS
HUDSON TIMES

The Hudson Planning Board met on Feb. 11 to hear a site plan presentation from Pete Madsen of KeachNordstrom Associates and applicant Matt Erickson of Erickson Foundation Solutions. The proposal included expanding parking and adding a gravel laydown yard to support the company's operations on its longestablished Clement Road property.

"We're here tonight looking for conditional approval," Madsen said, noting that several waivers were needed, including reduced parking space dimensions, exemptions from

minimum aisle width, and relief from certain setbacks. "It's an existing building on an existing lot that's been here a long time, since the 70s. A lot of it predates zoning, and we're just trying to keep things clean, make it safer for everyone, and add a little additional parking for Mr. Erickson and his building."

Erickson explained that business expansion was only part of the motivation behind the project. "To back up the impetus for this project, it was actually the fact that we have no access to the backside of the building, and last summer we had a small fire," he said. "If the Fire Department ever need-

ed to get to the backside of the building, there is absolutely no way to do it. When I had the opportunity to buy the nextdoor property, it occurred to me that we could actually add that fire lane."

He added that the cost of creating the fire lane was easier to justify when paired with the additional parking.

Board members raised several questions about the waivers and the site's proximity to a capped asbestos area.

"You guys are not excavating or digging in that area, you're adding product?" asked Board member Julia Paquin.

Both Madsen and Erickson confirmed there would be no digging and no risk of disturbing the asbestos cap.

"We discussed this with the Building Department, and they reached out to the state to ask if it was acceptable to add more material on top," Erickson said. "They had no issue with that. It was positive feedback."

Board Chair Tim Malley added that any asbestos was "10, 20, 30 feet in the ground," and that no special expert was needed unless excavation occurred.

Board member James Crowley questioned the proposed 8,000squarefoot gravel laydown area. "Is this a new use? It's never

been used for a laydown area before?"

Erickson said the property already had a gravel laydown area used for equipment storage, a detail that raised potential zoning concerns.

"Zoning ordinance requires that any locations parking vehicles or equipment has to be paved," Malley explained.

Board member Victor Oates noted that enforcement has not always been consistent. "There's an entire site across from Irvine that's unpaved, filled with parked equipment," he said. "Is it rock? Does it have to be paved? Could it be any sort of parkinglevel

material, like stone where water can get through?"

He questioned whether "storing" vehicles was legally different from "parking" them. To avoid conflict, Madsen offered to add a stipulation prohibiting parking in the laydown area.

Some Board members expressed reluctance to grant all waivers, urging the applicant to reduce impacts on surrounding greenspace. "It could've been more creative," Crowley said.

Despite the concerns, the Board ultimately voted to approve the site plan and the requested waivers, subject to final administrative review.

Sustainability Committee Welcomes Student Representative

PAUL CONYERS
HUDSON TIMES

The first February meeting of the Hudson Sustainability Advisory Committee included a renewed push for collaboration with local students as members welcomed their new student representative. Kayena Maharjan attended the meeting to serve as a liaison from Alvirne High School.

"Kayena has volunteered to be the Alvirne High School Sustainability Club's representative to the Sustainability Committee," said Chair Karl Huber, noting that Alvirne students have partnered with the

Committee in the past. "They really helped us during the Pumpkin Smash event. That was so, so much fun, and you were a big help."

Committee members expressed interest in involving the Alvirne Sustainability Club in Clean Energy New Hampshire's 2026 events and training sessions.

"I think it might be a good conference where we can ask Alvirne High School to attend with one or two students," said Committee member Chris Thatcher. "I think that'd be really educational and really interesting."

The Committee invited the Club to attend its next meeting, and Huber offered to keep students updated on upcoming sustainability activities.

"We'll add the Club's activities to our town's activities," Huber said.

"I feel like our Club can help out on a lot of the things you guys have planned," Maharjan added.

Committee member Bob Larson noted that several town surveys have shaped the Committee's priorities for 2026.

"A top interest was to have the municipality install more solar," Larson

said. "That could be introduced at the next Selectmen meeting."

Thatcher suggested pairing the community's interest in solar with the town's community power program and exploring a broader municipal energy policy.

"If we're suggesting an energy policy for the town, there are other towns that have done that, and we can look at their policies on energy goals," Thatcher said. "It needs to be factual and researched, why the town should have a policy that promotes solar bids or installations in capital proj-

ects."

Selectmen Liaison Heidi Jakoby encouraged the Committee to formalize any recommendations.

"If you're advising for any new projects or capital improvements, I would do that by making a formal recommendation from this board," Jakoby said. "You figure out where it needs to go, then it goes to the BOS and the town to implement it."

Committee member Jake Keller urged gathering more resident feedback before making any recommendations.

"I think for the town,

based on when I spoke to people, recycling was the most common response," Keller said, noting that solar ranked lower in priority. "I'm not saying solar isn't important, but I think there is a big push on the recycling side, especially with budget questions."

Keller said he is exploring ways to increase survey participation for more comprehensive data.

The next meeting of the Sustainability Advisory Committee is scheduled for Monday, Feb. 23, at 7 p.m. in the Buxton Meeting Room at Town Hall.



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Focus on School's Fire Safety at Deliberative Session

PAUL CONYERS
HUDSON TIMES

The School District Deliberative Session for Hudson's upcoming budget focused on several measures aimed at drawing money from leftover funds from last year in an effort to avoid impacting the local tax rate. This included Warrant Article 6, which requests \$180,000 from the June 30 fund balance to replace the fire alarm panel at Alvirne High School.

The article was recommended by both the School Board and the Budget Committee.

"The existing fire panel

at Alvirne High School is outdated and has reached the end of its usable life," said School Board member Ethan Beals. "Replacement is really necessary to ensure the continued reliability of the school's fire detection notification system."

The funding would also replace smoke detectors, heat detectors, dust detectors, and other equipment tied to the panel. The replacement is part of an ongoing district-wide safety upgrade. Several members of the public emphasized the importance of prioritizing the fire panel.

"Do not put this down

further on the list," said resident Deb Putnam. "Let this warrant article be at the top of decision making."

School Board Vice Chair Mike Campbell explained that all warrant articles drawing from the June 30 fund balance were originally ranked by importance.

"Warrant Article 6 was the first end-of-year fund balance article, so we do rate them in order of importance," Campbell said. "This warrant article was at the top of the list of the ones coming from fund balance. They will be taken in that order once expended."

There was little vocal opposition to the article, though some residents raised questions about the details.

"Are we upgrading this with a proprietary system or not?" asked resident Rob Everett. "With all the money that's been spent to renovate Alvirne, why wasn't there any forethought to do it while they were in there doing all those other projects?"

Beals responded that there is "no such thing as a non-proprietary system" and that finding replacement parts becomes difficult once a fire panel is

obsolete.

"It's a couple of vendors that control the entire market," he said. "When we select the final panel and what is actually getting installed, we'll have a fully detailed brief to the School Board."

He added that the Alvirne renovation focused more on alternative safety systems, such as new sprinklers.

"Is this a safety issue?" asked resident Craig Powers. "If it is, our strategy is dependent upon having money left over at the end of this year. I want to guard against the risk, what if

there is no money? At the December month-end, we've seen a pretty large increase in expected expenditures."

Beals replied that the old fire panel is not an "active safety issue today," but the Board wants it replaced before it becomes one in the future.

"Fire safety can never be something that is questioned at Alvirne High School," said resident Suelen Seabury, who reminded the audience of the massive fire Alvirne suffered in 1974.

Warrant Article 6 will appear on the March 10 ballot.

Town Moves Ahead With Group to Overhaul Financial Software

ALEX MALM
HUDSON TIMES

An agenda item during the Feb. 10 Hudson Board of Selectmen meeting focused on the next steps for replacing the Town's financial software system, an effort that has been under discussion since last year.

"As you know, we had previously submitted an item into the FY27 Budget

for new financial software," Town Administrator Roy Sorenson wrote in a memo to the Board. "The Board was supportive of the request; however, as you may recall, I moved to remove it due to a premature process given the magnitude of potential costs."

Sorenson said that after reassessing the scope of the project, he now

believes the Town should form a working group to guide the process and prepare a formal Request for Qualifications (RFQ). The goal is to gather accurate cost estimates in time for the next budget cycle.

"Because of this, I believe it would be prudent to assemble a working group to include staff, elected officials, and perhaps professional services," Sorenson wrote. "I would kindly request that such an arrangement be afforded to my preference so that we can move in a productive, albeit timely manner, that places us in a better position for FY28 budget preparation."

Sorenson said the group should include

Town staff, a member of the Board of Selectmen, and a representative from the Budget Committee. He emphasized that both boards need to understand the importance of selecting a modern, reliable financial system.

According to Sorenson, the timeline would begin with launching a public RFQ by May 2026, with the working group convening in April to finalize documentation and expectations. Once proposals are received, the group would evaluate vendors, conduct interviews, and negotiate terms.

"The month of June would be used to convene the RFQ working group for interviews and evalua-

tions and result in a final selection with certifiable costs in ample time for the FY28 budget season," Sorenson explained.

He noted that the process will require a significant commitment from whoever is appointed. "It's a pretty intense process. It takes some time and a commitment," he said.

Board of Selectmen Chair Dillon Dumont expressed full support for moving forward.

"I know the Board supported this," Dumont said.

"I think we all see it as an issue. Really appreciate the transparency that you highlighted an issue and you have a way to fix it. I don't think we could ask for any more. I'm in full support."

Selectman Heidi Jakoby also supported the plan and agreed that including a Budget Committee member would be beneficial.

The Board unanimously agreed to allow Sorenson to move ahead with forming the working group.

OBITUARY

David Bernier



David Bernier, 72, of Hudson, NH, passed away peacefully at his home on Friday, Feb. 6, 2026, following a long term illness. He was born on Oct. 2, 1953, in Lowell, MA, the son of the late Leo and Doris (Lanier) Bernier. David was also predeceased by his sister in law, Eileen Gauthier as well as by his sister-in-law, Joan Bernier.

David, known lovingly as Dave, was the beloved husband of Colleen (Gilligan) Bernier, with whom he shared 50 years of marriage. Together they built a life centered on love, laughter, and family.

He was a devoted father to his daughter, Kelley Phillips, and her husband, Mark Phillips, of Hudson, NH. Dave was a proud and loving grandfather to his grandsons, Mark Phillips and Jake Phillips, also of Hudson, who brought him endless joy.

He is also survived by his siblings: Wayne Bernier of Dracut, MA; Richard Bernier and his wife Kathy of Nashua, NH; Robin Lagasse and her husband Donald of Westford, MA. He is also survived by his sisters-in-law and brothers-in-law, Kathy and Larry Richard of Ashby, MA, and Maureen and Michael Rogers of Lowell, MA, along with many cherished nieces and nephews.

Dave had a passion for motorcycles, fishing, and music, but above all, he loved spending time with his family and his "little meatball," who held a very special place in his heart.

A time of visitation was held on Thursday, Feb. 12, followed by a Service of Remembrance at the Dumont-Sullivan Funeral Home. Burial will be private.

In lieu of flowers, the family encourages donations be made in Dave's loving memory to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital at www.stjude.org.

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Editorial

State Inspections: Two Weeks of Total Confusion

If you ever wanted to see New Hampshire's "Live Free or Die" spirit collide with the realities of government bureaucracy, the state's vehicle inspection saga of 2026 has delivered quite a show. In just two weeks, drivers went from being told the program must continue to learning the entire system had collapsed. The result is a level of confusion that has left mechanics, motorists, and even state officials shaking their heads.

The timeline alone tells the story.

On January 30, the Department of Justice and Department of Safety announced that, despite the Legislature's vote to end the inspection program on January 31, a federal court had stepped in. The judge ruled that New Hampshire must keep inspections in place until the EPA approves a revised air quality plan. The message to drivers was clear: the program stays, and inspections must be completed by April 10. Officials even noted that the Executive Council was expected to extend the state's contract with Gordon Darby NHOST, Inc., the vendor that operates the inspection system.

But on February 13, everything changed. The Executive Council voted not to extend the contract. Without an approved vendor, the state suddenly had no legal authority to run the inspection program at all. The DOJ issued an urgent update: inspections

are suspended "until further notice," stations cannot issue stickers, and drivers are not required to obtain one.

The state now finds itself in a strange position - appealing a federal court order to keep a program alive that it physically cannot operate. The Departments of Safety and Environmental Services say they are "exploring all options," but the reality is simple: without a vendor, there is no system to run.

For drivers and inspection stations, this isn't just inconvenient. It's chaotic. Mechanics who invested in NHOST equipment are left with idle machines. Drivers are unsure whether they'll be penalized for missing a requirement the state can't enforce. And the public guidance, while earnest, has done little to settle nerves.

Perhaps the most striking shift is in tone. After decades of insisting that annual inspections are essential for public safety, the state now reminds drivers that they are personally responsible for ensuring their vehicles are safe under RSA 266 - something that has always been true, but rarely emphasized.

It raises a fair question: if New Hampshire trusts drivers to maintain safe vehicles during a suspension caused by administrative gridlock, why wasn't that trust sufficient before?

Selectmen OK Fire Truck Upgrade Bullet Proof Vests Reimbursement

ALEX MALM
HUDSON TIMES

The Hudson Board of Selectmen approved two public safety funding requests during its most recent meeting, including a change order for the Fire Department's new tower truck and reimbursement for expiring bulletproof vests for the Police Department.

One agenda item involved a proposal from the Hudson Fire Department to add a breathing air system to the platform truck currently under construction.

"The original specifications for the platform truck do not include a breathing air system," Fire Chief Scott Tice wrote in a memo to the Board. "A breathing air system consists of a large air tank mounted on the aerial device that supplies breathing air to ports plumbed in the bucket."

Tice explained that the system allows firefighters working in the bucket to connect their Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) directly to the truck's air supply rather

than relying solely on their smaller individual tanks.

"This would provide an extended time for the firefighters to work in the bucket," Tice said. "It increases the working time of the platform truck and decreases the amount of time the platform needs to be maneuvered away from its assignment so firefighters can swap their SCBA bottles."

The system must be installed at the factory during construction. The cost is \$38,103, which Tice recommended funding through the Hudson Logistics Center Fire Department platform truck account.

"There is a current balance of \$138,277 plus interest in this account," he noted.

Because the upgrade can only be performed by the manufacturer, Tice requested that the Board waive the competitive bidding process.

"This is not something that would go out to anybody else," he said. "This is something they would be doing only at the factory

while they're building the truck."

The Board unanimously approved waiving the bid process and releasing the funds.

Police Department Reimbursed for Bulletproof Vest Replacement

The Board also considered a request from the Hudson Police Department to replace 17 bulletproof vests that have reached the end of their five-year service cycle.

"The Bullet Proof Vests utilized by the Police Department are on a 5 year cycle, and 17 of them are expiring," Police Chief David Cayot wrote in a memo. The department had already purchased the replacements using FY26 budget funds.

The Police Bullet Proof Vest Replacement Capital Reserve Fund currently holds \$33,608.91 as of Dec. 31. The department requested reimbursement of \$26,446.00 from the fund to offset the cost.

The Board of Selectmen unanimously approved the reimbursement.

Dog Park

Continued from page 1

moving forward as quickly and as responsibly as we can," Pollack said. "Our intention is not to shortcut the process, but to show good faith and maintain momentum while continuing to coordinate closely with the town."

Board of Selectmen Vice Chair Bob Guessferd asked what the risks would be of reopening without insurance in place.

Pollack said they are hoping to secure coverage

as soon as possible.

Board of Selectmen Chair Dillon Dumont said there is a draft lease that "lays out several stipulations that would need to be met."

Town Administrator Roy Sorenson said it would ultimately make sense to enter into a memorandum of understanding (MOU).

"The MOU says each party agrees that we're going to take on this partnership," he said. "The onus is on them to get the insurance."

Sorenson added that the MOU "is just going to

memorialize everything - the intent, the spirit of what we're talking about tonight."

He said that once all the requirements are met, the park could be reopened, and the Board of Selectmen would take official action at its next meeting.

The Board of Selectmen unanimously authorized the Town Administrator to draft a Memorandum of Understanding in consultation with Mr. Pollack and, subject to favorable legal review, to authorize the Chair to sign and execute the agreement.

THE Hudson Times

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Election Letters

It has been a longstanding policy of Nutfield Publishing to not publish campaign letters in the newspaper on the week prior to the town and school election. Reason being: It does not give those affected by a letter published the chance to rebut any inaccuracies in the statements made. The only letters pertaining to the March 11 election appearing in the March 6 issue will be to correct inaccuracies made in letters/articles in prior publications.

Town Officials Explore Possibility of Styrofoam Recycling

PAUL CONYERS
HUDSON TIMES

The Hudson Sustainability Advisory Committee met on Feb. 2 to discuss potential new events for 2026, following a report from member Deb Putnam, who volunteered at Nashua's Styrofoam Collection Day on Jan. 17.

"What I found out is that it was a nonprofit group, not the City of Nashua, that ran a collection day last year and intends to hold two this year," Putnam said. "They have an ingot machine where the Styrofoam is

melted down into a brick, for lack of a better term, and there's a market for those bricks."

The Nashua event collected 280 pounds of Styrofoam, including 10 drop-offs from Hudson residents.

"It would not cost us anything to offer manpower, and that's what they need," Putnam added. "They're a very positive, very helpful group, and if we can spread the word early in Hudson, the number of vehicles will go up and the amount of Styrofoam going into our trash will go down."

The Committee agreed to add the next Styrofoam Collection Day to its calendar.

"Is there any reason why we couldn't organize a similar event here in Hudson on a separate date to bridge a gap in the Nashua ones?" asked Committee member Chris Thatcher. "It doesn't seem like it would take much to do."

Putnam noted that transporting the collected Styrofoam to the recycling facility in Gilford would involve some cost, but said the idea was still feasible.

"That's one reason it

would be good to have someone from that group come in and explain who covers costs, what the actual expenses are, and what the expectations would be if we wanted to host one of these," Thatcher said.

Committee Chair Karl Huber said he had already contacted Hudson Public Works Director Jay Twardosky and local providers to explore options.

"Casella does not offer this service, and neither does Nashua or anyone else except Gilford," Huber said. "There are sponsorship organizations, but Sty-

rofoam collection is tough, there are a whole bunch of different points to consider."

Putnam agreed to reach out to the nonprofit that runs Nashua's event to gather more information.

In addition, Huber announced he had been in contact with John Puc of Resource Lighting & Energy to explore potential sustainability related capital projects.

"This company offers services to help plan for capital expenditures and projects," Huber said. "They do energy efficient

measures, utility optimization, EV charging infrastructure, it sounds like there's a whole series of things they can bring insight to."

While no major project is planned immediately, Selectman Liaison Heidi Jakoby said she would stay in contact with Resource Lighting as future capital needs arise.

"It'll be another resource as capital projects come forward," Jakoby said. "I know we like to work with local contractors."

Selectmen Warned of Accelerating Revenue Decline at HCTV

ALEX MALM
HUDSON TIMES

The Hudson Board of Selectmen received a sobering update on Hudson Community Television's finances during its Feb. 10 meeting, as Director of Community Media Mike Johnson outlined a continued and accelerating decline in cable franchise fee revenue.

"I would like to provide a brief informational update... regarding our most recent Cable Franchise Fee revenue payment," Johnson wrote in his memo to the Board.

According to Johnson,

HCTV brought in \$370,521.06 in FY24. That number dropped to \$340,108.46 in FY25. As of February in FY26, the station has received \$229,776.03, a trend that shows no signs of slowing.

Johnson said each quarterly payment this year has been lower than the last.

"This week, we received the quarterly payment, with our share totaling \$72,532.43, reflecting a continued and accelerating decline from the second-quarter payment of \$77,670.68," he said. "The decrease from Q1 to Q2 was

\$1,901.32, compared to a larger decrease of \$5,136.60 this quarter."

Based on current trends, HCTV anticipates \$297,776 in revenue for FY26, against projected expenses of \$315,000.

One potential boost for HCTV is a warrant article on the March ballot. If approved, 100% of cable franchise fees would go directly to HCTV, instead of the current 80%, with the remaining 20% going to the Town.

"While Warrant Article 16 would provide near-term support for Community

Media, a sustained decline at this level could result in budgetary pressures sooner than anticipated, even if the full revenue is allocated to us in the next fiscal year," Johnson cautioned.

He also noted that Comcast recently raised its rates, an action that could push more residents toward streaming services and further reduce cable subscriptions, and therefore fran-

chise fee revenue.

"It's been no secret of a revenue decrease," Johnson said.

Despite the financial challenges, Johnson highlighted a bright spot: the station's new underwriting program, which allows local businesses to sponsor programming.

"It's been great interacting with our business community," he said.

HCTV has already secured a contract with the American Legion for July through June, and Johnson said several other businesses are considering sponsorships.

"We're very, very thankful for them," he added, noting the strong support the station has received as it explores new revenue sources.

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State Suspends Vehicle Inspection Program Amid Legal and Contract Disputes

New Hampshire's annual vehicle inspection program has been suspended until further notice, leaving drivers temporarily exempt from the requirement to obtain a new inspection sticker. The announcement came in a joint update from the Department of Justice and the Department of Safety on February 13, following weeks of legal and administrative turmoil surrounding the program.

The suspension stems from a combination of factors: a federal court order, the expiration of the state's inspection contract, and the Executive Council's deci-

sion not to extend that contract. Without an approved vendor to operate the program, the state says it currently lacks the legal authority to continue inspections.

How the State Got Here

The Legislature voted last year to end the inspection and emissions testing program, with the phase out scheduled for January 31. But on January 27, U.S. District Court Judge Landya McCafferty issued a preliminary injunction ordering New Hampshire to continue the program, citing federal Clean Air Act requirements.

The judge ruled that the state cannot terminate inspections until the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency approves a revised air quality plan.

Despite that order, the Executive Council voted days later to let the state's contract with Gordon Darby NHOST, Inc. expire, leaving New Hampshire without a vendor capable of running the program.

State officials say that without a contract in place, they cannot legally operate the inspection system - even though the federal court has ordered them to do so. The Departments of

Safety and Environmental Services say they are "exploring all options" to comply with the court's ruling but are constrained by state law.

What Drivers Need to Know

For now:

- No inspection stations are authorized to issue stickers.

- Drivers are not required to obtain an annual inspection.

- Vehicles must still be safe to operate under RSA 266, which covers brakes, lights, tires, and other safety standards.

Officials emphasized that even without the sticker requirement, drivers remain legally responsible for ensuring their vehicles are safe on the road.

What Happens Next

The state has filed a Notice of Appeal with the First Circuit Court of Appeals and has asked the federal court to stay the injunction while the appeal proceeds. The status of the inspection program may change again depending on the outcome of those legal actions.

In the meantime, the Department of Safety says

it will continue issuing public updates and may provide additional regulatory flexibility if the program resumes.

A Program in Limbo

The situation leaves New Hampshire in an unusual position: a federal court order requiring inspections, a state law ending them, and no vendor available to carry them out. As the legal and administrative disputes continue, drivers are left with a temporary pause - and a reminder that safety requirements still apply, even without a sticker on the windshield.

Residents Change Funding Source for Hudson Memorial Window Plan

PAUL CONYERS
HUDSON TIMES

The Feb. 7 School District Deliberative Session reviewed a long list of warrant articles set to appear on the March ballot. Warrant Article 5: a \$135,000 proposal to replace 52 windows at Hudson Memorial School, drew notable discussion from both officials and residents. The article was recommended by the School Board but not recommended by the Budget Committee.

"This project represents phase eight of 11 in the district's long-term window replacement plan for Hud-

son Memorial School," explained School Board member Dan Kilgour. "When windows become inefficient, they allow heat to escape during winter months and allow moisture and rain to enter the building. This leads to higher energy costs and the need for ongoing repairs." He added that the 52 windows targeted in this phase were "most in need" of replacement.

Resident Joseph Beals proposed amending Article 5 so the \$135,000 would come from the June 30 fund balance rather than directly from taxpayers.

"My concern is that if

we don't do preventative maintenance in an established plan and something goes wrong, bug infestation, water leakage, anything, we have a bigger issue," Beals said. "I'm not 100% certain this wasn't originally done with fund balance."

Budget Committee member Shawn Jasper countered that there was "no compelling information" suggesting that delaying the project one year would harm the building.

"Yeah, this is a plan moving forward, but sometimes plans, due to monetary considerations, have to

be interrupted," Jasper said. He noted that the committee's recommendation might have been different if there were signs of immediate damage. "We felt that perhaps it was not necessary this year."

The original proposal would have added three cents to the tax rate.

Resident Peggy Huard argued that the project should not be tied to the fund balance. "It really isn't a continuing project. This should stand alone, it

shouldn't be a next phase or project. This represents the front of the school and, in my opinion, is just cosmetic at this point."

Resident Rob Everett questioned whether the current phase involved the front of the building at all. "The front of the building looks like it's got all new windows," he said. "It's not the front of the building."

After discussion, the amendment to use the June 30 fund balance was approved, changing the origi-

nal wording of Article 5.

A competing amendment from Budget Committee member Kevin Walsh proposed using the School Renovation Capital Reserve Fund instead, citing concerns about multiple warrant articles drawing from the fund balance. However, that amendment was ruled out of order due to legal requirements that the public be notified in advance before spending from a capital reserve fund.

Planning

Continued from page 1

said. "Even when conduct undermines public confidence... the town must simply wait for the next election. That is not good governance."

He argued that an appointed board "provides real accountability," allowing the Selectmen to set expectations and take corrective action if needed.

Planning Board member James Crowley spoke against the article, stressing that he was speaking only as a resident.

"I do not support this article," Crowley said. "Our current method of electing Planning Board members ensures that every Hudson voter has a direct voice in choosing who represents them and in deciding whether to support or replace a member."

Crowley noted that he has been elected twice and believes the current system preserves democratic control.

The warrant article advanced to the March ballot without amendments. The Board of Selectmen previously voted 3-2 not to recommend the article.

The Town and School District election will take place on March 10.

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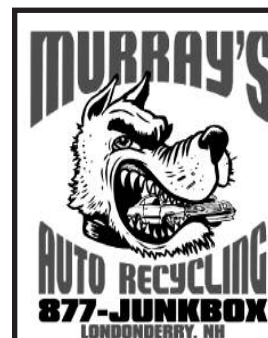
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Alvirne Graduation Set for June 11; December Discipline Report Reviewed

ALEX MALM
HUDSON TIMES

During the most recent Hudson School Board meeting, members unanimously approved the proposed graduation date for the Alvirne High School Class of 2026.

“Alvirne High School would like to hold our 75th Commencement Exercise (Graduation) on Thursday, June 11, 2026, at the SNHU Arena in Manchester beginning at 7 p.m.,” Principal Steve Beals wrote in a

memo to the Board. “Please know at this time, a contract has not been sent from the arena to our school, but we are expecting that soon.”

With no objections, the Board approved the June 11 date, allowing the high school to move forward with planning its milestone 75th commencement ceremony.

The Board also received the district’s December 2025 discipline report during the correspondence portion of the meeting. The

data showed a mix of increases and decreases across schools, with several buildings reporting no disciplinary incidents at all.

Early Learning Center, Library Street: No detentions, No in-school or out of school suspensions, No bullying reports, No personal communication device violations

Early Learning Center, Dr. H.O. Smith: No detentions, Four in-school suspensions, No out of school suspensions, No bullying

reports, No personal communication device violations

Hills Garrison Elementary: No detentions, Five in-school suspensions (down from seven in December 2024), No out of school suspensions, No bullying reports, Two personal communication device violations

Nottingham West Elementary: No detentions, No in-school or out of school suspensions, No bullying reports, No personal com-

munication device viola-

tions Hudson Memorial School: Four detentions (down significantly from 23 last December), Nine in-school suspensions (up from three last year), Four out of school suspensions, One bullying report, No personal communication device violations

Alvirne High School: 126 detentions (up from 72 last December), Ten in-school suspensions and 13 out of school suspensions

(both down from last year), One bullying report, Ten personal communication device violations

The report highlighted notable contrasts: several elementary schools saw no disciplinary issues at all, while Alvirne experienced a sharp increase in detentions but decreases in suspensions compared to the previous year.

The next Hudson School Board meeting is scheduled for March 9 at 6:30 p.m.

The Meadows

Continued from page 1 and the whole works.”

The proposal includes limited wetland impact near the access driveway, with the design intended to avoid wetland buffers wherever possible. Even so, the Commission noted that the amount of development within the buffer area was greater than what they typically see.

Hudson’s Engineering Department raised questions about the required buffer width. “One of the comments was that the wetland buffer seems to be 50 feet, as opposed to 75 feet,” said Vice Chair Ken Dickinson. “Is that indeed 50 feet? Or 75?”

Civil Engineer Don Kirkland confirmed that a 50-foot buffer applies to residential uses under the town’s zoning ordinance. “It just so happens that the way this works out is that

all of the residential is in the zone identified as a 50-foot buffer,” he said. “It’s not the zone, it’s the use. It turns out this plan is labeled correctly.”

He added that even mixed-use residential buildings do not trigger the 75-foot buffer requirement.

Dickinson noted that several technical elements still need refinement. “In general, the first impression is how much development is still in the buffer area. There’s more than we typically would see,” he said. “Other things aren’t totally worked out with the infiltration basin.”

Kudak acknowledged that the plans remain conceptual. “These are, I would say, oversized for the moment, just to show the maximum impacts here,” he said. “We understand that we’re right up against the wetlands, and it’s a sensi-

tive area.”

Commissioners also discussed the site’s history. The Central Street parcel has drawn interest from commercial developers in the past, but a previous land purchase fell through due to complications involving capped asbestos on the property.

“The town has no say over that with asbestos, the state of New Hampshire does,” said Selectmen Liaison David Morin.

Kudak said the development team will coordinate with state officials on asbestos related requirements and work with the town on issues such as wetland impact, storm-water management, wildlife corridor disruption, and grading.

“When do you anticipate having all of the other permitting completed?” asked Conservation Chair Carl Murphy. “A lot of the material is ‘pending’ on the application.”

Kudak estimated that permitting could take two to five months, depending on required review timelines. He emphasized that the purpose of the meeting was to introduce the project and

gather early feedback.

“Our goal here with this meeting is not necessarily to gain formal approval now,” he said. “We fully anticipate having a subsequent meeting, and we fully

anticipate a site walk as well. The goal is only to present the project, to iron out the larger picture with concerns and comments, and to make sure those are integrated into the final set.”

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American Legion Post Holds Valentine's Day Dinner Dance



The Hudson American Legion Post 48 held a Valentine's Day Dinner and Dance party on Saturday night, Feb. 14 with those attending enjoying their fill of a buffet-style Italian dinner with a strawberry short-cake dessert. The D.J. at the event kept dancers moving after their meals for a night of fun for all. *Photo by Chris Paul*

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HUDSON SPORTS

Alvirne Girls' Basketball String Together Two Victories

CHRIS PAUL
HUDSON TIMES

The Alvirne High School Girls' Basketball Squad strung together two victories last week, an accomplishment that has eluded the Broncos thus far in the season.

The Lady Broncos hosted a pair of games last week, holding the Spaulding Red Raider and the Merrimack Tomahawks to under 40-points and coming away a couple of much-needed wins.

In the contest with the Red Raiders on Thursday, Feb. 12, a game that was

postponed from earlier in the week, the Broncos came out of the gate strong, scoring 12-points and limiting Spaulding to just four-points.

The home squad was able to keep the scoring momentum in the second quarter outscoring their opponents 18-13 for a 30-17 lead heading into the break at the half.

In the second half, scoring slipped a bit for AHS, scoring just nine-points in each quarter, but they were able to hold the Raiders to 21 for the 48-38 victory.

Senior Lexi Floyd came

away with 17-points to lead both teams in scoring, getting three, triples, three for two-points and two foul shots.

Fellow senior Haylie Christman put up eight-points with five-baskets; freshman Ochanya Adikwu had six points; sophomore Izzy Haven-Tate finished with five-points and Adrienne Chipfunde put up four-points in the win.

The following night, the Broncos kept the momentum going, with a 57-36 Friday night victory over the Tomahawks of Merrimack.

Once again, Alvirne came out strong in the first half, outscoring the visitors 22-9 in the first and 18-12 in the second for a 40-21 halftime lead.

Scoring dropped considerably in second half, with AHS getting just nine in the third and eight in the fourth quarter. The Broncos were able to hold the Tomahawks to just 14-points in the final stretch for the 21-point win.

Senior Julia Adams, who didn't play the night before, led the game in scoring with 14-points,

going two-for three at the foul line and getting six, two-point baskets.

Floyd finished with 13-points; Christman had nine-points and Taylor Small and Adikwu both finished with eight-points in the team's second straight win.

The team began the week at 4-8 and hopes to finish strong in their final six games of the season.

They are scheduled for three games this week, playing the Dover Green Wave (3-12) on Tuesday; Manchester Central-West (9-5) on Wednesday; and Winnacunnet (6-9) on Friday night at home, starting at 6:30 p.m.

Head coach Frank Giginis is hoping for enough wins to snag a spot in the post-season.



Ochanya Adikwu



Haylie Christman

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Alvirne Indoor Track & Field Team' Year in Summary

SUBMISSION
HUDSON TIMES

The Alvirne High School Boys' Indoor Track and Field team took second at the NHIAA Division 1 Indoor Track & Field Championships with the last time the Broncos reached the podium was 38-years ago.

The performance ties the highest placement for the boys team in school history. In 1986 and 1988, the team also placed second.

Season's Meet Highlights
UNH Meet 1: Alvirne was second out of nine teams.

Sam Oquist won the 55m Dash; Shane Plumley and Jaden Taylor finish 2nd and 3rd in the 300m; 4x160m places 2nd; and Charlie Barrett places 3rd in shot put.

UNH JV Meet #1: Elijah Hurley places 2nd in the 55m; Drew Barton placed 4th in the 1500m; and Devon Arsenault placed 3rd in Long Jump.

The PEA Meet: 10th out of 13 teams.

Sam Matson placed 3rd in the 3000m; Charlie Barrett placed 4th in Shot Put; and Alex Drown placed 7th in the 600m.



Broncos celebrate the team's second place finish at the States last week.



Alvirne Broncos Girls' Relay team. Courtesy photos

The Beantown Classic: 31st place out of 120 teams (2,500 athletes)

Shane placed 5th in the 600m; Joey Marcotte placed 7th in the 55m Hurdles; 4x200m Relay placed 6th school record 1:33.53 and hit the Nike Nationals Qualifying Standard; and 4x400m Relay placed 6th

Winter Warrior Invite: Non-scoring event with over 1,000 athletes competing.

Joey Marcotte placed 2nd in the 55m Hurdles and 7th in Long Jump; and

4x200 relay placed first.

Pinkerton Field Meet: Competing against 15 teams

Joey Marcotte placed 1st in the Long Jump and 2nd in High Jump; and Charlie Barrett placed 3rd in Shot Put.

Plymouth State Meet: Third out of nine teams

Sam Oquist placed 1st in the 55m Dash; Joey Marcotte placed 1st in the 55m Hurdles and Long Jump; 4x200m placed 1st; Charlie Barrett placed 2nd in Shot Put.

Wildcat Relays: Non-Scoring meet with 28 teams

Jaden Taylor, Jeremiah Caraballo Sophos and Elijah placed 3rd in 3x55m Dash; Joey Marcotte, Zev Young and Jack Zakos placed 2nd in the 3x55m Hurdles; and 4x160m placed first. *School Record, 1:15.27

UNH Meet #2: Fourth out of 11 teams

Michael Landmesser placed third in the 55m Dash; Joey Marcotte placed 1st in the 300m; Jaden Taylor and Shane Plumley placed 4th and 5th in the 300m; Aiden O'Leary placed 6th in the 1000m; Logan Hould placed 7th in the 1500m; Zev Young placed 5th in the 55m Hurdles; Jaden Taylor placed 1st in the High Jump; Marcus Hebert placed 7th in the Long Jump

East Coast Invite: Non-scoring meet against 100 teams.

Sam Oquist placed 8th in the 55m Dash; Joey Marcotte placed 1st in the Long

Jump 22' 2.5" *School Record; Marcotte placed 3rd in the 55m Hurdles * hit the Nike Nationals Qualifying Standard; Alex Cataldo placed 8th in the Shot Put emerging elite; and Charlie Barrett placed 11th in the Shot-Put Championships
UNH Meet #3: Seventh out of 10 teams

Jaden Taylor placed 4th in the 300m and 4th in High Jump; Shane Plumley placed 5th in the 300m; Evan Harmen placed 5th in the 600m; Alex Drown placed 6th in the 600m; and 4x160m relay placed 2nd
South Throwers Meet: Competing against 16 teams.

Charlie Barrett placed 9th

PEA Meet: Second out of 15 teams

Shane Plumley placed 2nd in the 600m; Joey Marcotte placed 1st in the 55m Hurdles; 4x200m relay placed 1st; 4x400m relay placed 5th; 4x800m relay placed 4th; Charlie Barrett placed 4th in Shot Put; and

Joey Marcotte placed third in Long Jump.

Names that made Division I Battle Notes Standards:

Charlie Barrett - Shot Put
Alex Cataldo - Shot Put
Evan Harmen - 600m, 4x400m
Sam Oquist - 55m Dash, 300m

Jeremiah Caraballo Sophos - 4x400m, 300m

Evan Harmen - 600m, 4x400m

Alex Drown - 600m
Sam Matson - 3000m, 1000m

Joey Marcotte - 55 Hurdles, 300m, 4x200, Long Jump

Shane Plumley - 600m, 300m, 4x200m

Michael Landmesser - 55m, 300m, 4x200m

Jaden Taylor - 55m, High Jump, 300m, 4x200m

Aiden O'Leary - 1000m, 4x800m

Ameer Salman - 300m, 4x400m, 4x800m

Jack Zakos - 55m Hurdles, 4x400m

continued on page 11

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Alvirne Wrestlers Steamroll Mascenic in Regular Season Finale

CHRIS PAUL
HUDSON TIMES

The Alvirne Broncos wrestling team didn't need any Valentine's Day sweets this past Saturday; they were too busy handing out pins. In their final regular-season dual meet on Feb. 14, the Broncos put on an absolute clinic against Mascenic, walking away with a dominant 66-15 victory that signals they are primed and ready for the post-season.

The "Lightning Round"

The story of the after-

noon was the sheer speed at which the Broncos worked. While wrestling matches can often be wars of attrition, Alvirne's middle and upper weights seemed to be in a hurry to get to the bus.

Joseph Lydon (190) stole the show with the fastest pin of the day, needing only 15 seconds to put his opponent's shoulders to the mat. Not far behind was Tim Malley (132), who secured a devastating fall in just 47 seconds.

Grit and Endurance

While the quick pins provided the highlights, the "grind-it-out" victories showed the Broncos' conditioning as they head into the

Division II Championships. Mason Verrocchio (113): Battled through a nearly full match before securing a fall at the 5:42

mark. Noah Gendreau (175): Showed incredible late-match strength, pinning his opponent at 5:28 after a grueling three periods.

Jillian Boncore (165): Continued her standout season with a clinical 64-second pin, proving once again that she is a force to be reckoned with in the middle weights.

Looking Ahead: Road to the State Meet

With the regular season in the rearview mirror, the

Broncos turn their attention to the NHIAA Division II Championships. With a heavy-hitting lineup that features both technical precision (Gilson, Sullivan) and raw power (Lydon, Antilus), Alvirne is positioning itself to be a podium threat.

The Division II State Championship will be held on Saturday, Feb. 21, at Goffstown High School.

The Girls' Meet of Champions will be held on Friday night, Feb. 27, starting at 3 p.m.

Weight	Winner	Method	Time
106	Paige Bickford	Forfeit	-
113	Mason Verrocchio	Fall	5:42
120	Crue Anderson	Fall	3:44
132	Tim Malley	Fall	0:47
138	Joshua Sullivan	Fall	1:35
150	Nicholas Gilson	Fall	1:01
165	Jillian Boncore	Fall	1:04
175	Noah Gendreau	Fall	5:28
190	Joseph Lydon	Fall	0:15
215	Marcus Bain	Forfeit	-
285	Amare Antilus	Forfeit	-

Track

continued from page 10

Roarke Brandt - 4x800m

Camden Griffith -4x800m

Girl's Team Summary

UNH Meet 1: Fourth out of nine teams.

UNH JV Meet #1: Non-

Scoring.

PEA Meet: 11th out of 13 teams.

Beantown Classic: Did not Score, but competed against 2,500 athletes.

Winter Warrior Invite: Non-scoring meet but over 1,000 athletes.

Pinkerton Field Meet: competed against 15 teams.

Plymouth State Meet: Fifth out of nine teams.

Wildcat Relays: Non-Scoring meet with 28 teams.

UNH Meet #2: Fourth out of 11 teams.

East Coast Invite: Non-

scoring meet, against 100 teams.

UNH Meet #3: Ninth out of 13 teams.

South Throwers Meet: Competed against 15 teams.

PEA Meet: 12th out of 15 teams.

Division 1 Championship 15th out of 19 teams

Season Highlight

Girls who met Division 1 Championship Battle Notes Standards:

Lisa Amadi - in Long Jump
Jane Makoviy - in the 55m Hurdles and 4x400m relay
Ella Marcotte - in the 55m Hurdles

Reese Wanamaker - in the 300m and Long Jump

Taelyn Downey - in the 600m and the 4x400m relay

Mae Guiraud - in the 600m, 300m, and 4x400m relay

Celia Smalley - in the 4x400m relay

Charlie Downey - in the 1000m

Cadence Bice - in the 1000m

Olivia Cartagena - in the 1000m, 1500m, and the 4x400m relay

Bella Hatcher - in Shot Put



Joey Marcotte

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Admirals Bounce Back With Two Convincing Victories

CHRIS PAUL
HUDSON TIMES

The Alvirne-Milford High School hockey team snapped back from two close road losses in the first week of February to notch a pair of victories in the second week. These wins put the team at 10-4 and secured fourth place in the Division II standings.

The Admirals began last week with a 12-0 rout of the Winnacunnet Warriors in Exeter, then beat Lebanon-Stevens-Mascoma 5-2 at home over the weekend.

In the one-sided affair against the Warriors, eight different players found the back of the net as the Admirals scored in every period. The scoring started at 12:57 in the first with Luke Green netting an unassisted marker to put the visitors on the board. Six minutes later, Brandon Callahan doubled the lead with a goal assisted by Evan Pargas.

Entering the second period with a 2-0 lead, Landon Briand took an assist from Green to score goal number three. The Admiral squad then exploded for four more goals in the middle frame, courtesy of Brandon Ganas, Dylan MacLeod (2), and Callahan. Second-period assists were credited to Wyatt Pepin, Mason Tomkins, MacLeod, and Nathan Ricci.

With a 7-0 advantage heading into the final period, the Admirals didn't let up. At 12:30, Green notched his second of the night with an assist from Ganas. One minute later, the duo combined again, switching roles, with Ganas netting the goal this time. At 7:09, Ryan Sutton joined the scoring, assisted by Green. Tomkins then scored at 6:20 to push the margin to eleven, assisted by Ganas and Green. The final goal of the night went to Chris Bozza, assisted by Tomkins.



Alvirne senior Brandon Ganas broke the Admirals scoring record on Saturday, hitting 102 points.

Kian Corcoran started in net for the Admirals, turning away all 15 shots from the Warriors. In addition to the 12 unanswered goals, the Admirals peppered the Winnacunnet tender with 21 shots, and only one penalty was charged to each side.

On Saturday, Feb. 14, the Admirals returned home to secure their second win of the week against the Raiders of Lebanon-Stevens-Mascoma. Three players combined for five goals in the 5-2 victory, while six players contributed assists.

The Admirals' offense ignited in under 30 seconds, with Ganas scoring his first of the night, assisted by Tomkins. While the Raiders briefly tied the game by putting one past Alvirne junior Ari Scarbro, Alvirne-Milford took the lead back for good at 8:40 in the first with a goal by MacLeod, assisted by Riley McCarthy.

The home squad extended their lead to 3-1 at the start of the second, with Ganas scoring his second of the night, again within the first 30 seconds of the period. This time, assists went to Green and Pepin. The Raiders netted their final

goal four minutes later, but the Admirals answered at 10:58 when Green scored to provide a three-goal cushion, assisted by Briand.

The final period mirrored the previous two: Green scored his second goal just 15 seconds after the puck drop, assisted by Ganas. The home team held a massive offensive advantage, recording 48 shots, while Scarbro stood tall with 22 saves. Penalties were largely even, with the Admirals receiving four calls and the Raiders five.

Ganas broke the team record in the game with 102-points.

The Admirals have just four games left in the regular season to fine-tune their seeding for the upcoming playoffs. This week, the team travels to Goffstown (10-2) on Wednesday before hosting Timberlane-Pelham (2-12-1) on Saturday afternoon.

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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.

Blood Drive

The Rotary Club of Londonderry, in partnership with the Red Cross, will be hosting a Blood Drive in March. It will be held on Wednesday, March 18, at Orchard Christian Fellowship, in the Sanctuary, 136 Pillsbury Rd., Londonderry. The Blood Drive will run from noon - 5 p.m. Please call 1-800 - Red Cross (1-800-733-2767) or visit "RedCrossBlood.org" and enter "Londonderry Rotary" to schedule and appointment for your blood donation. There continues to be a critical need for blood, so please consider making an appointment to donate.

Family Pizza Shabbat

On Friday, March 6, at

5:30 p.m., Etz Hayim Synagogue will old the Monthly Family Pizza Shabbat for all generations. A free pizza dinner will be followed by an intergenerational service for everyone. There will be kids' activities while adults enjoy a sermon. Bring a nosh for our potluck oneg. Join us to share in the mitzvah of L'Dor V'Dor, transmitting Jewish heritage and values across generations. RSVP by March 5 to office@etzhayim.org.

Mah Jongg Tournament

On Sunday, April 26, from 9:30 a.m. - 4 p.m., join the Etz Hayim Synagogue for a fun-filled day of tiles, prizes and friendship! Entry fee is \$30. There will be 4 rounds of game play, 4 games per 1-

hour round. There will be prizes for placement, a 50/50 raffle and additional raffles, and sandwiches, desserts and refreshments. Sign up by April 12. Doors open and check-in from 9:30 - 10 a.m. Pre-register and pay at www.etzhayim.org/mah-jongg-tournament. Rules and scoring provided after payment receipt. Questions? Contact Jean Lisien at jbortz@comcast.net or Deb Eisner at rlc800@aol.com.

Sunday Family Camp

Come to the Etz Hayim Synagogue on Sunday, March 8, from 10 a.m. - Noon for a Monthly Sunday Family Camp for ages 4 - 6. This month's theme is Purim. March's class will focus on Purim in preparation for the

holiday in March. Children will learn about the Purim story (using an age-appropriate text) and how we celebrate this fun holiday. RSVP to sarahjohnplater@aol.com by March 6 to ensure we have enough materials. To learn more about this free program, visit www.etzhayim.org/learn/grades-0-1

VFW Meat Raffle

Are you ready for a fun night out while giving back to Veterans and supporting local Air Force Junior ROTC cadets? Come on Friday, Feb. 20 for a VFW Meat Raffle at VFW Memorial Post 5791, located at 15 Bockes Rd., Hudson. Proceeds benefit the AFJROTC program at Alvirne High School. Try your luck at Bingo, and win great cuts of meat, raffle baskets, and a 50/50 prize. Doors open at 6:30 p.m., and the meat raffle begins at 7 p.m.

Veterans Assistance

American Legion Post 27, 6 Sargent Rd., Londonderry, will host representatives from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs on

Saturday, March 14, from 9 a.m. noon, to provide direct assistance to veterans in the community. During the event, VA representatives will be available to: Sign veterans up for VA benefits and services; Help resolve existing VA-related issues; Answer questions about eligibility, health-care, and benefits; and Provide guidance on navigating the VA system. This event is open to all veterans, not just members of the American Legion. Veterans who need to sign up with the VA are asked to bring a copy of their DD-214. Veterans, family members, and caregivers are encouraged to attend and take advantage of this opportunity for one-on-one support. For more information, veterans may contact American Legion Post 27 directly via mail@alpost27.com or stop by during the event.

Women's Defense League

The Southern New Hampshire Republican Women (SNHRW) will host a special guest speaker at its March meeting on Monday, March 2, from 6 - 7 p.m., at

Windham Restaurant. Guests are welcome to attend and may enjoy refreshments, appetizers, and entrees at their own expense during the meeting. The evening's program will feature a representative from the Women's Defense League, an organization dedicated to empowering women through education, training, and advocacy. This informative session is open to members and guests alike and promises to be an engaging discussion on safety, education, and civic involvement. For more information about SNHRW membership and upcoming meetings and programs, visit the SNHRW.org

2026 Hudson Lions Club Scholarships

The Hudson Lions Club will award multiple scholarships consisting of four individual \$1,500 scholarships, two \$1,500 memorial scholarships, honoring Lion Al Rodgers and Lion George Philip Rodgers, a \$2,000 memorial scholarship in memory of Lion Joe Kasper, and a single \$1,500 scholar-

continued on page 14

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Around Town

Continued from page 13

ship for an Alvirne Leo's Club Member. Applicants must be a Hudson resident, graduating from any high school and have been accepted at a school of higher learning. Applications are available at Alvirne High School Guidance Department or email: scholarships@hudsonschools.org. Application deadline April 10, 2026

Dungeons & Donuts

Come play Dungeons & Dragons and grab a donut on Saturday, Feb. 21 at 9:30 a.m., at the Rodgers Library. All skill levels are welcome.

Inhouse Secondhand Prose Book Sale

Check out the Secondhand Prose sale area in the Children's Room of Rogers Memorial Library, running during normal library Hours. The book selection offers something for everyone, is restocked frequently and offered at the same bargain price as the big sale. Stationary featuring work of local artists, adorable tote bags, and handmade gifts are also available. The prices are extremely reasonable.

Cookbook Club

This club will be held on Monday, Feb. 23 at 11:30 a.m., prepare a recipe from this month's topic, then engage with others about your recipe adventures at the Rodgers Library.

(how to avoid) "Death in Glacier National Park"

On Monday, Feb. 23 at 7 p.m., join in virtually to discuss Randi Minetor's book "Death in Glacier National Park: Stories of Accidents and Foolhardiness in the Crown of the Continent." Hosted by Rodgers Library.

Read 'Em & Eat @ Friendly Red's

Come to Friendly Red's on Monday, Feb. 23 at 7 p.m., to discuss February's book is Get a Life, Chloe Brown by Talia Hibbert.

Comic Book Flowers

On Thursday, Feb. 26 at 5 p.m., Tweens (Grades 4-8) will use/cut up comic books provided by the Rodgers library (or feel free to bring your own) and use chopsticks or pens as a stem to create your forever living flower(s).

Paws4Safety for Kids

On Friday, Feb. 27 at 10 a.m., Children in grades K-5 are invited to join Hudson Animal Control at the Rodgers Library for a fun, hands-on learning experience where kids will discover how to stay safe around their own pets, other people's animals, and local wildlife.

Girl Power PJ Party

Wear your pajamas as to watch the Disney film Tangled, make friendship bracelets, paint our nails, and eat some pizza at the Rodgers Library on Tuesday, Feb. 24 at 5 p.m. This event is for grades 2-7.

Paws4Safety for Teens and Tweens

On Friday, Feb. 27 at 11 a.m., Patrons ages 11-18 are invited to join Hudson Animal Control for a fun, hands-on learning experience at the Rodgers Library to discover how to stay safe around their own pets, other people's animals, and local wildlife.

Legion Meat Raffle

American Legion Hudson Post 48's Meat Raffle will be held at Post 48, located at

37 Central St. On the following dates: Saturday, Feb. 21, beginning at 2 p.m.; Saturday, March 21, beginning at 2 p.m.; Saturday, April 18, beginning at 2 p.m. This event is open to the public. You must be 16+ to play. The proceeds from this event are to benefit the Alvirne HS CTE Honor Society. Pre-buys are available in the Foxhole. For more information please call 603-889-9777.

Lego Glasses

On Wednesday, Feb. 25 at 5:30 p.m., Design your own pair of LEGO glasses to take home at the Rodgers Library. Ages 4+.

Legion Karaoke

American Legion Hudson Post 48 will be hosting DJ Mike on the following dates: Friday, March 20, from 6 - 10 p.m.; Friday, April 17, from 6 - 10 p.m. In the Foxhole located at 1 Fulton St for Karaoke and Dancing. This event is open to members and bona fide guests 21+. For more information please call 603-889-9777.

Explorers Storytime

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

Adventurers Storytime

Come to the Rodgers Library for songs, stories, bubbles and a craft or activity for children ages 3-5 and their caregivers at 10 a.m. on Tuesdays.

Teen Hangout

Middle and high school students ages 13+ are invited to enjoy the Rodgers Library's teen space after school, most Weekdays at 2:30 p.m. Snacks, charging stations, video games, and crafts provided. Contact the Library with any questions.

Buy-a-Brick and Show Gratitude

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

BINGO!

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

A Good Yarn

On Tuesdays at 5 p.m., come to the Rodgers Memorial Library to Share tips, tricks, and stories while you work on your latest project

and connect with fellow fiber enthusiasts. Bring your own supplies and stitch the evening away.

Drop In Stitchers

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

Baby Lapsit and Playtime

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

Movers & Shakers

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

Laptop Donation Program

United Way of Greater Nashua is reintroducing their Tech Connect United Laptop Donation Program. Donate your working laptops, tablets, and smartphones, and they will in turn refurbish them for use by low-income individuals and families. The client recipients are low-income, and living in our Greater Nashua area. Devices can be dropped off at the United

Way office located at 20 Broad St., Nashua between 9:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. on weekdays or by appointment email info@unitedway-nashua.org if you have any questions.

Overeaters Anonymous

Is food a problem for you? Do you eat when you are not hungry? Is your weight affecting the way you live your life? Overeaters Anonymous, no dues, no fees, no weigh-ins no diets. Meetings are on Tuesday's from 9 - 10 a.m., at St. Elizabeth Seton Church 190 Meetinghouse Rd., Bedford, use the rear doors for access to the meeting room in the church basement. Contact Pat At 603-289-8476 Or Jane At 603-674-6540 With Any Questions (Not Affiliated With Any Private Or Public Organization)

Clean Water Survey

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



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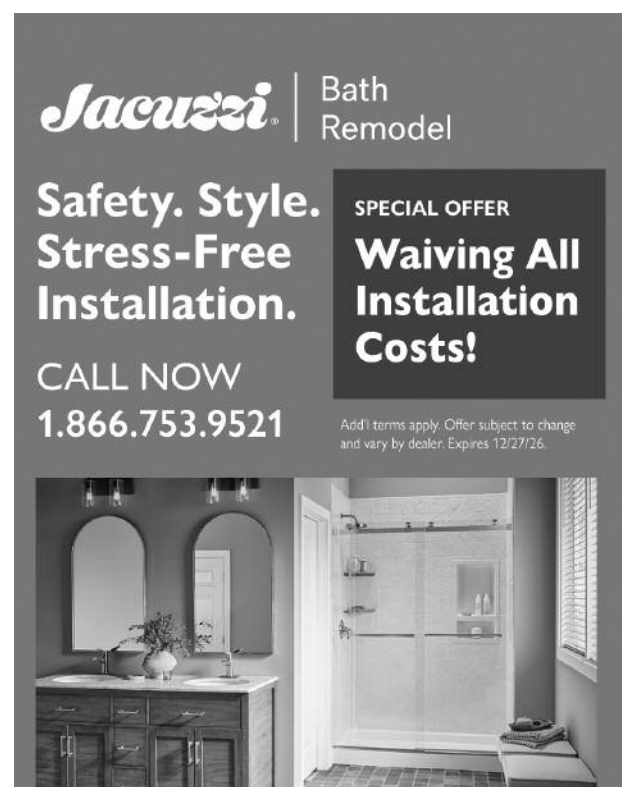
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