



The Town Crier



SPECIAL EDITION

Ruth Parker

“A History of Hudson’s Favorite Historian”

Have you ever heard of the “bell of two chapels”? It’s the one currently sitting in the belfry at the Alvirne Chapel on Derry Road ...



STORY OF TWO BELLS



Page 5

WELCOME TO THE PD



Page 9

PUSH BUTTON TECH



Page 10

DOG LICENSING



Page 12

– but it had a previous life, from 1886 to 1905, in the belfry of the former Chapel of the Angels on Lowell Road, which served as a mission chapel of the Good Shepherd Episcopal Church in Nashua. (You can read about it in more detail elsewhere in this issue of the Crier.)

Do you know who Richard Clark was? He was a student-teacher who lived in the Alvirne farmhouse on Derry Road during the 1948/49 school year – before there was a high school. Clark, a military man, taught agriculture to junior high school students before taking a job as a county agent in the northern part of the state.

Finally, do you know why no Alvirne football player wears No. 22? The jersey number has been retired because it was by that many votes – 232 to 210 – that the residents of Hudson approved a high school football program in 1994.

Historical town facts such as these are readily available to the public due to the enthusiastic work of longtime Hudson resident Ruth Parker, whose column, “Remember Hudson When,” was a must-read in the former Hudson-Litchfield News. These days, you can read it here in the Crier, as well as online at rememberhudsonnhwhen.com.

Parker, a 1957 Alvirne High grad who has resided for most of her life in the family home on Old Robinson Road, is known for her words. She’s the town’s honorary historian, and a longtime volunteer at the Hudson Historical Society, which meets periodically at the Hills House across the street from Alvirne High School.

But her favorite subject growing up was math, and she had a long career in computer programming and analysis with the iconic Digital Equipment Corp.

“I had a great mentor – Barbara Fuller,” Parker said in reference to her high school mathematics instructor during a recent interview with the Crier. “She was a legend in this town.”

Parker is a ninth-generation resident of her family home, which she pointed out was at one time part of Londonderry. Her father, Charles Parker, was a dairy farmer, and her mother, Ruth E. Parker, worked as a special education teacher. The couple had two daughters, Marilyn and Ruth.



Alvirne High School circa 1949– 1950



Hudson-Litchfield News, November 23, 2012 edition



Parker Family Home

The Parker family became affiliated with Farm Vacations and Holidays of New York. This provided city families a chance to spend vacations on the farm. The arrangement drew the attention of The Saturday Evening Post, which profiled the farm in August 1957.

“We took in boarders, two or three families every summer,” Ruth Parker recalled. “It was like a B&B. Some would even drive tractors and help with the hay.”

Upon graduating from Alvirne, Parker moved on to the University of New Hampshire, earning a degree in math in 1961. She admits to being “picky” about employment afterward.

“The choices (for math majors) were teaching or being an actuary – and I wasn’t interested in either,” she said. She went to work for United Aircraft in East Hartford, Connecticut as a computer programmer; she later moved on to Digital.

Parker, who never married (“It never came to pass”) moved back to Hudson and took early retirement. Not one to sit still, she sought a new hobby.

“I always liked research,” she explained. She took an interest in the Historical Society, and began writing articles after poring through records and artifacts.

Parker also shared her aptitude for technology with the Historical Society, helping the volunteer group move into the Digital Age.

Parker’s curiosity added to Hudson’s already rich history. It was she, along with a friend, the late Sue Misek, who discovered that the bell at the Alvirne Chapel was the same one that once sat in the belfry of the former Chapel of the Angels on Lowell Road.

Along the way, Parker’s writings found their way into the weekly Hudson-Litchfield News, first under the stewardship of Len Lathrop.

Parker’s columns frequently took a common name or place in town and provided the not-so-well-known story behind it. One example: Dr. Henry Onslow Smith, for whom the H.O. Smith School is named, began a 57-year medical practice in Hudson in 1888 – when he was but 24 years old.

In another article, “Story Behind Nottingham West Elementary,” Parker notes how an original 1988 proposal was to build not one, but two 600-pupil elementary schools – one on Pelham Road and a



1961 University of New Hampshire Yearbook



United Aircraft Corp., East Hartford Connecticut



Dr. Henry Onslow

second on Derry Road opposite Alvirne. But after heated discussion at what Parker described as “the largest and liveliest” annual school district meeting, the plan was amended to build a single, 800-pupil school at the Pelham Road site.

For Parker, her enthusiasm to expound on Hudson’s history goes beyond her propensity for research.

“Hudson has a unique history – it was once part of four other towns, including two in Massachusetts,” she said.

“There are great stories, from Dr. (Alfred) Hills to Benson’s, the Alvirne Chapel and the high school.

“But most of all, it’s the people. A lot of people helped make Hudson what it is today.” ♦



Hills House

Ms. Ruth Parker was interviewed on May 2, 2023 by Dan O’Brien, editor for Metro West Newspapers in Framingham, MA

SUBSCRIBE

**Click here to receive
The Town Crier!**

**Have Something to Say?
Send Us a Comment!**

Submit

SIGN UP NOW TO RECEIVE

**NEWS
Public Notices
PUBLIC HEARINGS**

BY EMAIL!

GET THEM NOW!

Town Hall Announcements



TOWN OF HUDSON
Planning Board
Timothy Malley, Chairman Robert Grassford, Selectmen Liaison
12 School Street • Hudson, New Hampshire 03051 • Tel: 603-885-0000 • Fax: 603-304-1142

MASTER PLAN PUBLIC HEARING
March 22, 2023

The Town of Hudson Planning Board will hold a public hearing on Wednesday, March 22, 2023 at 7:00 p.m. in the Buxton Meeting Room at Town Hall, 12 School Street, Hudson, NH for adoption of updates to:

1. Community Facilities Chapter of the Master Plan
2. Historic Resources Chapter of the Master Plan.



Holy Angels Chapel

Alvirne Chapel

a Bell TWO of CHAPELS

*One bell and two chapels! One chapel was hidden in history,
the other is well known to most of us.*

THE CHAPEL OF THE HOLY ANGELS

Between 1886 and 1905 the Chapel of the Holy Angels served as a mission chapel of the Good Shepherd Episcopal Church of Nashua. This chapel was located near Stewarts Corner in Hudson (the intersection of Lowell, Dracut, and River Road). This mission originated when three families residing in Hudson were transferred to the pastoral care of the Rev. William Hall Moreland, then rector of the Church of the Good Shepherd. At first services were held monthly in the No 2 Schoolhouse. In 1890, when the town of Hudson

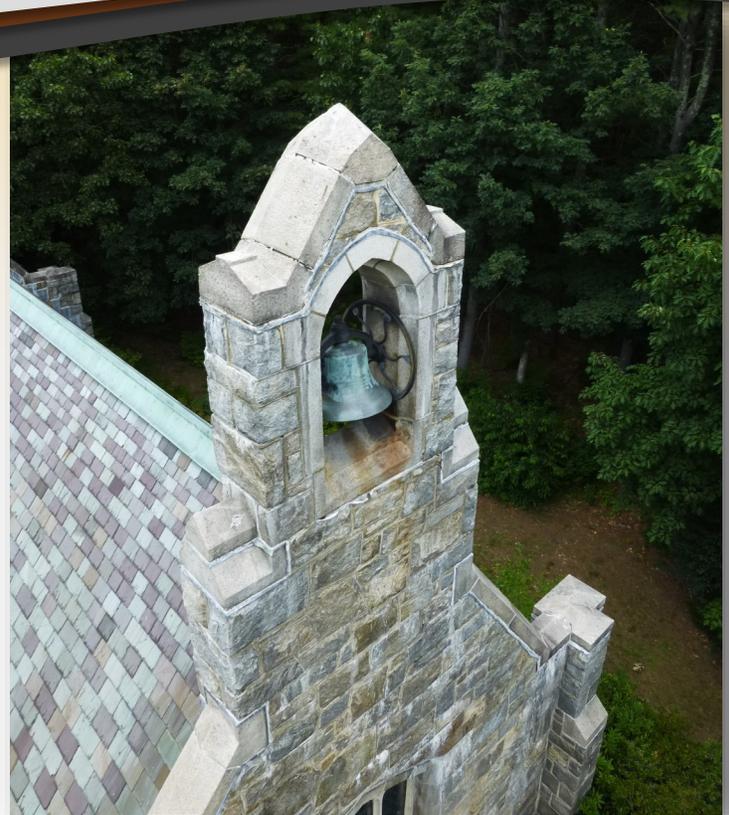
built a new schoolhouse, the old house was purchased by the church. The church then moved the house onto land provided by Henry T. Colburn and remodeled it. At the opening service on May 11, 1890 the church was filled beyond its capacity of 65 seats. It was consecrated on September 4, 1892. Records show that the first marriage was performed at this chapel on May 21, 1901.

The building was a plain meetinghouse type of wooden construction. There was a belfry with a cross on top located over the front gable. In the

belfry was a Meneely bell, with the inscription “Let him that heareth say come.” The belfry and bell were the gift of Dr. and Mrs. (Virginia) Alfred K. Hills. The interior was furnished with memorials and gifts.

Weekly services continued through 1905. By 1905 the electric street railway enabled the people of Hudson to attend the services of the mother church in Nashua. Services at the Chapel of the Holy Angels were discontinued. By 1907 the building was sold to Miss Eliza Groves (later Mrs. Palmer Thompson) and she converted it into a dwelling. She resided there as recently as 1942, No record was found as to the disposition of the bell.

Amongst the photographs at the Hudson Historical Society are these showing the interior and exterior of the Chapel. If you look closely at the exterior photo, you can see the electric car tracks in the foreground.



Alvirne Chapel

ALVIRNE MEMORIAL CHAPEL

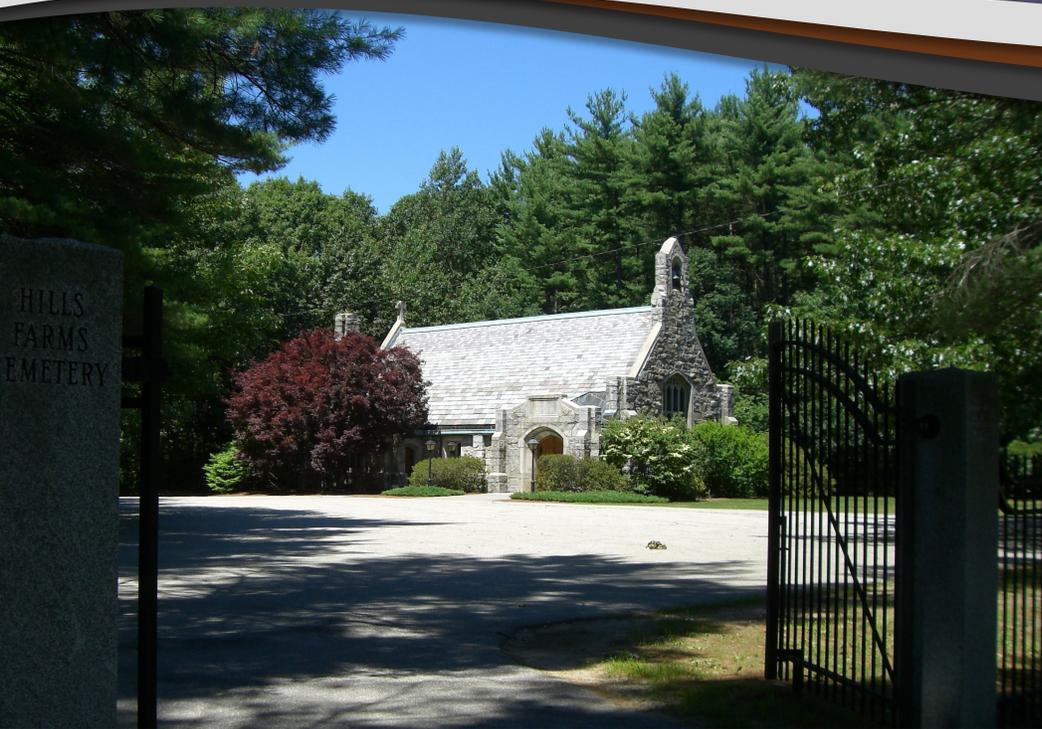
In 1890 Dr. Hills built the Alvirne summer house on his ancestral farm for himself and his family. Dr. and Mrs. Hills had two daughters, both died as infants. Gladys Marguerite died in 1891 and Mary Virginia died in 1895. By 1908 Mrs. Hills became ill and passed away. Dr. Hills commenced his plans to construct the Alvirne Chapel as a memorial to his wife Virginia. It is now one of Hudson’s most beautiful landmarks, located at 160 Derry Road (Route 102).

This Tudor style chapel, built by Dr. Alfred K. Hills in memory of his deceased wife, Ida Virginia Creutzborg, has been used for services by various groups and denominations; more recently it has

become a popular place for weddings.

In the early 1900’s the chapel was easily reached by the Manchester electric railway at Derry Lane. After leaving the trolley, the chapel was a five-minute walk away.

The building is an adaptation of some of the best examples of English country chapels. The exterior walls were constructed of weathered granite. It is said that this granite was taken from ancient stone walls of the Hills Farm Cemetery. The roof is solidly constructed and covered with heavy graduated slate in various shades of green and purple; the cornices and trimmings of the roof are in heavy copper.



Alvirne Chapel

Oak was the wood of choice for the interior. This wood was used for all the trusses and beams in the ceiling, doors, and choir stalls. The interior walls are lined with gray brick. The floor is red Grueby tiles laid in a pattern of hexagons and quatrefoils. The walls of the chancel are also lined with Grueby tiles, many of them made especially for this chapel. The floor of the chancel is of gray Tennessee marble; the altar is of this same material. The front of the altar contains the letters "I.H.S." and a cross of gold.

The windows are of stained and leaded glass which is set directly into the stone. The colors of purple and amber were used in the stained glass; giving a pleasing and warm tone to the interior of the chapel. The outside of the windows is protected by heavy copper wire screens. The gable over the chancel is marked by a granite cross. On the front gable there is a small belfry containing a cast bronze bell.

On the south side of the chapel is a small vestry with a fireplace and a separate entrance. This provides a place for records and a gathering place for processions prior to service. The entrance to this vestry and to the main chapel is through large oak doors, made extra heavy and thick, paneled and cusped, and ornamented with heavy

wrought iron hinges made from a special design.

The architectural drawings of the chapel by Hubert Ripley were documented in *Architectural Review* January 1910. Oddly enough the drawings for the belfry stated, "bell not included". We were puzzled over the significance of this statement.

The chapel was consecrated on November 12, 1909, with the Rev. William Niles of Nashua, and the Rev. William M. Grosvenor of New York, officiating.

Of the four crypts under the chancel only two are marked. These identify the resting places of Dr. Alfred K. Hills and his wife Ida Virginia. We do know that once the chapel was completed the remains of Mrs. Hills and their two infant children were laid to rest within the chapel. At the rear of the chapel there is a scroll plaque in memory of the children. Given this information it is concluded that the remains of the children were interred with their mother.

Indeed, this chapel is a permanent part of Hudson's heritage. This was made possible by the man known as Hudson's greatest benefactor, Dr. Alfred K. Hills.



THE MENEELY BELL

Fast forward to July 2014. While doing maintenance on the trees and shrubs at the chapel, Tim Marshall of Atomic Tree was asked to photograph the bell. Equipped with a digital camera and his bucket truck he was able to get up close and obtain pictures of the bell.

On the side of the bell facing Derry Road is inscribed:

**CLINTON H. MENEELY
BELL COMPANY
TROY, NY
A.D. 1890**

Overlooking the chapel roofline:

**PRESENTED BY
Dr AND MRS ALFRED K HILLS**

In a circle below these inscriptions are the words:

“Let Him That Heareth Say, Come”

This bell is the bell of two chapels. First placed by Dr. and Mrs. Hills in the belfry of The Chapel of the Holy Angels in 1890. Then some 18 years later Dr. Hills placed the same bell in the belfry of the Alvirne Chapel as part of his memorial to his wife Virginia.

Acknowledgments:

1. Thanks to the Episcopal Diocese of New Hampshire for sharing their information about the Chapel, which they had in their archives. Courtesy of Joyce Hurd.
2. To my research mentors, Doris Ducharme and Sue Misek.
3. To Mrs. Ernest Lyon and the Good Shepherd Guild for the pictures of the Chapel. These were given to the Hudson Historical Society in 1966.



Welcome!

to the Hudson Police Department



Stephanie Sabetti



Cheri Hughes



Ethan Jones



Kody Palladino



Sith Prak

Stephanie Sabetti - Legal Assistant Clerk

Stephanie Sabetti was hired by the Hudson Police Department in December of 2022. She is a resident of Hudson and the mother of two children. Prior to her employment with the Hudson Police Department she worked for the Lowell Public Schools and also as a records clerk and later the Chief's Secretary for the Lowell Police Department.

Cheri Hughes - Dispatcher

Cheri Hughes recently retired from the Massachusetts Bay Transit Authority after completing over 26 years of service. She is also a graduate from Snowden International High School in Boston, MA. Dispatcher Hughes started with the Hudson Police Department on April 3rd of 2023. She is currently training and learning the roles and responsibilities as a dispatcher.

Ethan Jones - Officer

Ethan Jones comes to the Hudson Police Department as a Certified Officer from the Newington, NH Police Department, where he worked since 2019. He graduated the New Hampshire Police Academy on August 23rd, 2019. Further, he is a graduate of Norwich University in Vermont with a bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice with a minor in

Sociology. Ethan Jones started with the police department on April 27th, 2023.

Kody Palladino - Officer

Kody Palladino is a graduate of Saint Anselm College with a double major in Criminal Justice and Criminology. After graduating college, he worked as a journeymen carpenter. He was hired by the Hudson Police Department on March 21st of 2023 and officially started his career with the Hudson Police Department on May 1st of 2023. He is eagerly awaiting to attend the New Hampshire Police Academy in June of 2023.

Sith Prak - Officer

Sith Prak attended two years of college at the University of Southern Maine. He is currently an active member of the Air Force Reserve. Along with his service to the country, Sith also worked as an asset protection manager for over 16 years. He was hired by the Hudson Police Department on April 11th of 2023 and officially started his career with the Hudson Police Department on May 1st of 2023. Like Kody, Sith is ready to attend the New Hampshire Police Academy in June of 2023.

Modern Safety *for* Traffic Concerns

The pedestrian is undeniably the most vulnerable participant in road traffic. Municipalities and all other responsible parties must therefore develop solutions that particularly take into account the situation and the needs of pedestrians. The focus of this is on conveying a real sense of safety, despite the often stressful situation on our roads.

Numerous research studies have shown that this objective can be principally achieved by providing clear information at traffic light installations. Pedestrians feel well protected when traffic light systems are easy to use and give reliable information and clear signaling. In addition, with this they are more likely to be patient enough to wait for the green light phase, so that fewer of them will cross against a red light.

Recently, the Town has been evaluating and researching the next generation of pedestrian push button technology for traffic signals. At this time, we have the opportunity to upgrade one of our existing pedestrian push button systems with real-time transport protocol. RTB push buttons are in use around the world meeting technical solutions and requirements specifically modified for each unique request. These push button and acoustic devices are more technology friendly and easier to operate for people with vision limitations. In addition, the new technology provides advanced detection through the user's phone Bluetooth or phone app.

The Highway Safety Committee also acknowledged the local traffic safety concerns at the intersection of Ferry Street and Library Street. An approximate five year analysis, January 2018 - April 2023, revealed 59 accidents were caused by failure to yield or a violation of the traffic control device.

In conclusion, the Committee recommends the installation of white strobe bars within the traffic signal for the purpose of heightened awareness in alerting drivers when a red light is activated.

With both of these systems installed, Hudson can begin improving safety at our most critical intersections and cross walks.

This equipment will be installed by the Department of Public Works upon approval from the Board of Selectmen.



Pedestrian push-button system



White strobe bar in traffic signal



A Gentle Reminder ...

Dear dog owner,

This is a friendly reminder that dog licenses expired this past April 30th. Any dog not licensed is subject to a \$25.00 civil forfeiture fine per state law. Rabies vaccines must be current to license and it's the owner's responsibility to notify the Clerk's Office if any updates.

Your dog must be licensed by June 16th, 2023

If your dog is not licensed by this date, a \$25 civil forfeiture fine, as well as a \$7 certified letter fee, will be issued in accordance with NH State Law (RSA 466:a) that requires all dogs be licensed each year by April 30th.

The last day to process your registration online is June 16th, 2023

Our office hours are Monday through Friday 8:00am - 4:30pm. Note, the Clerk's office will be closed for lunch 12:00pm - 1:00pm, May 19th to June 2nd.

If you choose to license your dog by mail, please return your payment with a self-addressed stamped envelope with \$1.00 postage. Please note the fees below:

License Fees are as follows:

- \$9.00 Male/Female
- \$6.50 Neutered/Spayed
- \$2.00 Senior Citizen - owner over age 65 (1st dog only)
- \$20.00 Group fee of 5 or more dogs per owner

If you have already licensed your dog, please disregard this notice.

Sincerely,

Town Clerk, Hudson, NH





A RECIPE FROM TOWN HALL

Veggie Lasagna-Stuffed Portobello Mushrooms

- 1 tsp. olive oil
- 2 loose c. baby spinach, chopped
- 3 cloves garlic, chopped
- 1/3 c. chopped onion
- 1/3 c. chopped red bell pepper
- Kosher salt
- 3/4 c. part skim ricotta
- 1/2 c. grated Parmesan cheese
- 1 lg. egg
- 4 lg. basil leaves
- 4 lg. portobello mushroom caps
- 1/2 c. marinara sauce
- 1/2 c. part skim shredded mozzarella

- Preheat oven to 400 degrees and spray baking sheet with oil.
- Gently remove stems, scoop out the gills and spray tops of the mushrooms with oil, season with salt and pepper.
- Heat a large nonstick sauté pan over medium heat, add oil, onion, garlic and red pepper and season with salt.
- Cook until soft of, 3 to 4 min. then add baby spinach and sauté until wilted.
- In a medium bowl add ricotta, Parmesan cheese and egg, mix well.
- Add the cooked vegetables and basil and mix.
- Stuff mushroom with ricotta mixture and top each with marinara and mozzarella. Bake in oven for 20 to 25 minutes.

Kathy Wilson — Finance Department



In your role as Board or Committee member, you will review various Town topics and issues assisting the Board of Selectmen in making informed decisions and formulating policy.

CURRENT OPENINGS

Board/Committee	Member	Alternate
Benson Park Committee	1	2
Cable Utility Committee	3	0
Conservation Commission	0	1
Recreation Committee	2	1
Sustainability Committee	3	2
Zoning Board of Adjustment	0	2

To find out more, simply click on the name of the Board or Committee of interest. For an application, click [here](#).

We're HIRING

Thank you for your interest in joining the Town of Hudson Team.

Paper applications are available at the Town Administration Office or online. You can email, snail mail, or apply in person. Applications are accepted only in response to listed vacancies.

We appreciate your interest with the Town of Hudson.

CURRENT OPENINGS

[FIREFIGHTER-EMT/AEMT/MEDIC](#)

Fire Department

[FULL TIME DISPATCHER](#)

Fire Department

[TRUCK DRIVER/LABORER](#)

Public Works Department

June 2023 Meeting Calendar

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<p><i>Click on any meeting to view the agenda for the specified date.</i></p>			<p>1 <u>Recreation Cmte.</u> 6:30pm</p>	<p>2</p>
<p>5 <u>Conservation Comm.</u> 7:00pm</p>	<p>6 <u>Board of Selectmen (Workshop)</u> 7:00pm</p>	<p>7 <u>Hwy. Safety Cmte.</u> 8:30am <u>Budget Cmte.</u> 7:00pm</p>	<p>8</p>	<p>9</p>
<p>12 <u>Conservation Comm.</u> 7:00pm <u>Cable Utility Cmte.</u> 7:00pm</p>	<p>13 <u>Board of Selectmen</u> 7:00pm</p>	<p>14 <u>Planning Board</u> 7:00pm <u>Code of Ethics</u> 7:00pm</p>	<p>15 <u>Benson Park Cmte.</u> 7:00pm</p>	<p>16</p>
<p>19 <u>Sustainability Cmte.</u> 7:00pm</p>	<p>20 <u>Municipal Utility Cmte.</u> 7:00pm</p>	<p>21 <u>Library Trustees</u> 6:30pm <u>HEAC</u> 7:00pm</p>	<p>22 <u>Zoning Board</u> 7:00pm</p>	<p>23</p>
<p>26</p>	<p>27 <u>Board of Selectmen</u> 7:00pm</p>	<p>28 <u>Planning Board</u> 7:00pm</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30</p>

SUBSCRIBE

**Click here to receive
The Town Crier!**

**Have Something to Say?
Send Us a Comment!**

Submit



NEWS & Announcements

Contact Us:

- Administration 886-6024
- Assessor 886-6009
- Board of Selectmen 886-1224
- Fire Department 886-6021
- Finance Department 886-6000
- Human Resources 595-6518
- Information Technology 886-6000
- Inspectional Services 886-6005
- Land Use 886-6008
 - ◇ Engineering
 - ◇ Planning
 - ◇ Zoning
- Police Department 886-6011
- Public Works 886-6018
- Recreation Department 880-1600
- Rodgers Memorial Library 886-6030
- Sewer Utility 886-6029
- Town Clerk 886-6003
 - ◇ Car/Boat Registrations
 - ◇ Taxes
 - ◇ Voter Registration
 - ◇ Vital Records

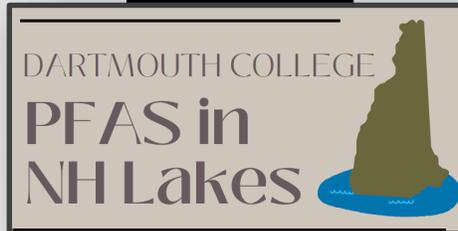
Board of Selectmen:

- Kara Roy**
- Bob Guessferd**
- Marilyn McGrath**
- David Morin**
- Dillon Dumont**



HUDSON POLICE EXPANSION

Week 5 of Construction is wrapping up at the Hudson Police Department. Check out this week's update with Captain Steve McElhinney and HCTV.



PFAS STUDY IN HUDSON

Researchers from Dartmouth college are studying PFAS found in fish at 6 lakes across southern New Hampshire during the summer of 2023. See where the studies will be.



2022 WATER QUALITY REPORT

This report is a snapshot of the quality of the drinking water that we provided last year. We hope you will find it helpful to know the sources of your water and the process to deliver it to your home.



HERBICIDE USE NOTIFICATION

National Grid plans to apply herbicides along certain rights-of-way in New Hampshire in 2023. See the list of surrounding towns.



hudsonnh.gov

For ALL current News & Announcements