

HINSDALE/PERU--Lobster, meatballs and quick tales of a local American Revolutionary's midnight ride, a bar-room "wrasslin'" match and a popular but bogus "Gold Rush" will be some of the topics discussed Thursday, August 17 at 12 noon during the 2023 "Lobster Fest" at Hinsdale's Fire Station Pavilion.

The luncheon is sponsored by the Hinsdale/Peru Council on Aging to encourage participation, provide services and promote activities for seniors to enhance the quality of life here.

Lobster rolls (\$10.00) and meatball grinders (\$4.00) will be served. Fees will be collected at the Pavilion. Reservations are strongly recommended. Seating is limited. Contact Cathy Spinney (413 655 2929) by Monday August 14 for yourself and a guest.

Featured speaker will be Hinsdale resident Bruce H. Alexander. He began submitting three or four paragraph "thumbnail" histories to the Hinsdale town website ([www.HinsdaleMass.com](http://www.HinsdaleMass.com)) in January this year. The short columns -- "This Was Hinsdale" -- are published monthly. The ambition is to increase readership of the town's website.

He will challenge guests' knowledge of some of the region's more unique historical anecdotes -- including next month's piece on a fake "Gold Rush", a wrestling match between a Hinsdale minister and an Albany "tough guy" as well as the story of the five-day horse ride to Philadelphia announcing "To Arms! The British Are Coming!" by the man--Israel Bissell-- now buried in a local cemetery.

Mr. Alexander, who moved to Hinsdale in 2015 from Florida, was a reporter and editor at *The Hartford Times*. He owned several successful businesses in Maryland, California, Connecticut, Florida and abroad before retiring here.

End

Bruce H Alexander of Hinsdale Photo

