

Nutfield News

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Union Members Voice Their Views on Right-to-Work Bill

HUNTER MCGEE
NUTFIELD NEWS

With state representatives attending, union members from the community Thursday praised unions while speaking out against a proposed Right-to-Work bill during a meeting at the Derry Public Library.

About 60 union representatives attended the meeting in a room in the library. The workers told how unions have helped them in their jobs and wanted to let state representatives know how they felt about the bill.

Derry's state representatives had been invited to the meeting in a Jan. 11 letter from the New Hampshire AFL-CIO President Glenn Brackett to discuss proposed

legislation such as Right-to-Know.

"This is an opportunity to meet with your constituents to discuss issues critical to workers, their families and our state's economy," Brackett wrote.

Under the Right-to-Work bill, unions would no longer be allowed to collect a fee, called an "agency fee," from non-union members.

According to federal law, unions are required to represent employees whether they are in a union or not. Employees don't have to join a union but still have to pay for the agency fee for their percentage of collective bargaining. Employees who aren't in a union but pay agency fees are called "agency members."

In New Hampshire, a union member pays 100 percent and an agency member pays half of the fee. Agency members pay the fee because they still receive representation, Brackett said after the meeting.

"They are paying for it because they are covered under federal law," Brackett said. "The union represents them."

For example, if an agency member is fired, the union represents the employee in arbitration and mediation, Brackett said.

"If they get fired we have to go to arbitration, mediation," Brackett said, adding "You pay for it, it's federal law."

Under Right-to-Work, Brackett said, "To those peo-

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Pinkerton Academy Pondering Addition of 100 Parking Spaces

HUNTER MCGEE
NUTFIELD NEWS

With Pinkerton Academy's parking lot filled to capacity, administrators are exploring options for possibly adding 100 more parking spaces.

The item came up during the Board of Trustees' annual Winter Meeting with sending schools on Wednesday, Jan. 18.

"We all know this is a touchy subject," Headmaster Griffin Morse said at the start of his presentation on parking.

The lot across from the high school on Route 28 is filled to capacity, according to officials.

Morse said the dilemma facing administrators is that,

while there is a shortage of spaces, adding more would place additional vehicles on the road.

"The question is do we have enough parking for everybody?" Morse said, answering his own question by saying that there isn't enough parking for students.

He provided parking figures that show of the school's 771 seniors, 450 of them have parking permits. In total 551 parking permits were issued this year. The remaining permits were distributed to a variety of students, according to the figures.

"So we are far from meeting the needs of all of the kids who have cars and the intention to drive them," Morse said.

As for the current parking situation, Dean of Students Tim Powers said staff assigned to parking do an excellent job each day in ensuring the lot is cleared within about 20 minutes after dismissal at 2:10 p.m.

He said it's remarkable that the lot is cleared so quickly, with "500 student cars in that lot, plus all of the busses leaving the parking lot as well."

He added that administrators have to consider what impact adding 100 parking spaces would have on traffic entering the school in the morning and then exiting in the afternoon.

Powers was scheduled to meet with Derry officials in the coming days to discuss

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Ooey Gooley Fun Catherine Meadows took part in the Ooey Gooley After School Club at the Derry Public Library Children's section last week. Attendees got to make their own slime and then search for hidden treasures in gooey substances. See more photos on page 8.
Photo by Chris Paul

Oldest Person In Derry Sought For Boston Cane

HUNTER MCGEE
Tri-Town Times

Who is the oldest person living in Derry?

The Derry Heritage Commission has begun a search to find the oldest person to hold the Boston Post

Cane. The cane was last awarded by the Town Council to Appolonia "Bella" Riccio, who passed away on Oct. 29, 2016 at 101, according to a press release.

Dating back to 1909, the Boston Post Cane was introduced by Edwin Grozier, the

publisher of the Boston Post Newspaper.

The newspaper donated Ebony canes to the 431 largest communities in New England with the instruction that they be given to the oldest man in each town or city

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Zoning Board Grants Variance for Proposed Self-Storage Facility

HUNTER MCGEE
NUTFIELD NEWS

Despite opposition from some abutters, Zoning Board of Adjustment members have conditionally granted a variance to build a 138-unit self-storage facility at 343 Island Pond Road.

ZBA members voted 4-1 at their Jan. 19 meeting to grant the variance for the applicant Robert Allen, who was represented by attorney Bernard Campbell.

The variance was approved subject to obtaining all required state and town permits and inspections; Planning Board approval; and establishing 12 business

hours and reducing lighting. The proposal will now move to the Planning Board for consideration.

If approved, the self-storage facility would consist of 138 units in four buildings on an approximately 3-acre lot at 343 Island Pond Road. In addition, it would have an office for an on-site manager at the property, according to officials.

For many years, an automotive related business, the Russell Dickey Motor Service, operated on the property that is zoned low density residential. Old equipment and vehicles that were left on the property accumulat-

ed. An environmental cleanup of the property was later conducted, according to officials.

To gain approval, the applicant had to demonstrate that granting the variance met certain criteria necessary for approval, including meeting the spirit and intent of the low density residential zoning. In addition, Allen needed to demonstrate that a hardship existed.

During the meeting, several abutters went to the microphone to oppose the variance.

Abutters Neil and Gail Hitter said they have lived in the same house for 34 years. If approved, the self-storage business would be located directly across from them. They opposed granting the variance because they said the business didn't meet the spirit and intent of the low density residential zoning. The self storage business represents a large commercial operation that doesn't fit with the zoning, Neil Hitter said.

"It's a major commercial property," he said.

In addition, Neil Hitter

said he didn't believe that Allen had demonstrated that a hardship existed by not granting the variance. Even though it wouldn't be as profitable, Hitter said a house could still be built on the property and sold.

"I think an opportunity has been missed and there's still some money that can be made with a home," Neil Hitter said. "I don't see the hardship that's been described here. It's still a nice piece of property and he can still put in a home."

If the variance was granted and the business approved, Gail Hitter said it would increase traffic and cause light pollution.

She said Island Pond Road is already busy enough. Returning from work, she sometimes has to wait for eight to 10 cars to pass before she can turn into her driveway.

"The traffic on that road and the speed is an issue," Gail Hitter said. "And I think that should be taken into consideration for a business like this."

And despite some vegetation on the property, the business would still be visi-

ble to the Hitters, she said.

"We'll be able to see this out of every window in our home, so it's not like it's going to be hidden from us, it's going to be pretty visible," Gail Hitter said.

She added that, "The lighting and hours will impact us in a negative way because it is right across the street and we will be able to see it."

Several other abutters also voiced opposition to granting the variance, saying the proposed business didn't fit into the neighborhood and that it would cause light pollution.

In response to the abutters, Campbell was given an opportunity to speak.

As for whether a hardship is present, Campbell proposed applying the current zoning and determining "can it be used for what it is zoned for?"

Campbell said under the current zoning the house would have to be on a three-acre estate and wouldn't fit.

"The fact is where this house sits and with its history it simply doesn't fit to be a three-acre estate house in this location with the traffic

we've already heard about and with the uses that are clearly visible in the aerial photos," Campbell said.

He added, "It has to do with the character of the neighborhood."

Campbell said Island Pond Road has an extremely mixed character and is not a three-acre estate subdivision area to fit with the low residential zoning.

"We believe that there are special circumstances of this property that make it not feasible, not reasonable," Campbell said.

ZBA members who voted for the variance said it had met all of the criteria necessary for approval.

ZBA member Heather Evans, who cast the lone vote against granting the variance, said she believed it didn't meet the character of the neighborhood.

"The variance I believe is contrary to the public interest with regard to change to the character of the neighborhood," Evans said.

Conditions were added to require 12 business hours of operation and to reduce lighting.

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Post Cane

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and upon his passing the cane was to be presented to the new oldest citizen.

The first recipient of the cane in Derry was Patrick Gillespie who in 1909 was 92 years old, according to the Heritage Commission.

In 1956 the selectmen changed the rules and declared that the cane would be given to the oldest man or woman in Derry. In addition, a further requirement is that the person receiving the cane must have lived in Derry for at least 5 years, the release said.

Following the selectmen's decision that same

year, the Boston Post cane was given to 98-year-old Nellie Huckins, according to the Heritage commission.

The Heritage Commission is asking anyone that knows of a Derry resident, man or woman, who is at least 90 years old and has been living in Derry for at least 5 years, to please fill out the Nomination Form.

To receive a form, contact the Heritage Commission; via mail; Heritage Commission c/o the Derry Municipal Center 14 Manning Street, Derry, N.H. 03038; emailing to derrymuseum@gmail.com or by calling 603-434-1247. All submissions must be received by March 17, 2017.

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Chamber Holds Business and Government Reception

HUNTER MCGEE
NUTFIELD NEWS

With the legislative session beginning in Concord, community business members met and mingled with legislators Friday during the 2017 Greater Derry Londonderry Chamber of Commerce's Business and Government Reception.

As dozens attended, the reception was held in the main hall of the Searles School and Chapel.

"I'm hoping that all of you in the business community are using this opportunity to chat with our elected officials here and tell them what's on your mind," Chamber President Will Stewart said to those attending the reception. He urged them to tell legislators about the issues facing their organization, "because these are the folks here in this room that can do something about it."

"This is really again the purpose why we have these type of events to bring the business community and elected officials together, because when we are in alignment we all win," Stewart said.

Some of the legislators on hand for the event included Sen. Regina Birdsell, of Derry; Rep. David Bates, of Windham; Rep. Jess Edwards, of Auburn; Rep. Joseph Guthrie, of Hampstead; Rep. John O'Connor, of Derry; and Rep. Doug Thomas, of Londonderry.

State Sen. Chuck Morse,



Elizabeth LaRocca, Community Relations Specialist with Eversource Energy, converses with Executive Tax Services owner David LaRochelle.

senate president, spoke on the legislative session and the cooperation between legislators and new Gov. Chris Sununu

"It's exciting times in New Hampshire right now," Morse said. "The governor is energetic; he wants to make change. He certainly is looking at things in a different fashion. I think federally it's going to be the same way."

Although they don't always agree, Morse said legislators are cooperating and putting partisan politics aside.

He added, "I can tell you right now that we've been working over the holidays with the governor and we are getting ready to produce a budget in a month."

Legislators are also working on ways to get government "out of the way,"

Morse said.

"That's the problem with government they aren't getting out of your way," Morse said. "I think that's what we are looking now in New Hampshire is how can we get out of your way."

Morse said legislators want to begin examining every rule in New Hampshire and "see how it affects the economy and people."

Derry Medical Center CEO Tom Buchanan, who also spoke at the reception, addressed the need to simplify the healthcare system.

"We need to simplify things, and we just need stronger and clearer incentives," Buchanan said. "Things have just gotten too complicated. We have a health care system that is almost beyond words to explain to people."



New Hampshire State Representative Brian Chirichiello of Derry, left, talks with Pinkerton Academy Headmaster Griffin Morse during the 2017 Greater Derry Londonderry Chamber of Commerce's Business and Government Reception.

Courtesy photos by Will Stewart

While it took a long time for the health care system to become so complicated, Buchanan said there are a number of opportunities to simplify it and make it better

for New Hampshire residents.

"There's lots of opportunities to enhance the delivery system in the state and make it more affordable. It's

not just about insurance it's also about affordability. We can't afford to sell products that none of our citizens can afford."

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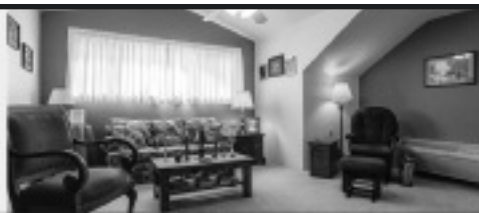
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Editorial

How We Provide Community News

It has been Nutfield Publishing's duty and honor to provide our communities with the stories that matter every week.

It has been a privilege to be able to get the word out to the public at no cost to our readers, so that they may stay informed of the decisions being made on their behalf, and so that they may continue to be connected to their community.

Of course, this task does not come without a price. Between printing the papers, paying our writers, and a list of other business expenses, we certainly couldn't produce these publications each week without the help from our advertisers.

The local businesses you see in the margins of and below your weekly news stories are what help make this all possible. Without them, we wouldn't be able to keep you informed.

If you visit these places regularly already, or have first heard of them through one of our papers, please let these businesses know that their advertising is what brought you in. This helps to strengthen our relationship with local advertisers, and encourages them to continue to support your papers.

A year ago, we had to come to the difficult decision to make two of our publications subscription-based, while still providing several pick-up locations. The fees paid by our subscribers help to cover the cost of mailing, so all other expenses are picked up by - you guessed it - our advertisers.

About a week ago, the office had received a troubling phone call that word had been getting out to local businesses that Nutfield Publishing was no longer taking advertising.

We can only imagine that this falsehood was being spread by a competitor, and we have been working to pick up the pieces. Another rumor in recent circulation is that your local newspaper is going out of business. While times are tough, and more and more businesses turn to online and social media marketing, let us assure you that we intend to do all we can to continue to provide you your hometown news.

While not easy, getting our publications out week after week continues to be a labor of love.

It has been our mission all these years to look out for the people of our communities, and thanks to the help of our advertisers, so far we have been able to compete this mission. If you happen to hear anyone say that we are no longer taking in ads, no matter the reason, please inform them otherwise, and remind them that we couldn't do this without their support.

Not unlike PBS, your community newspaper is made possible by contributions from local businesses, and of course, by readers like you.

So to all of our dedicated readers, thank you. And to our advertisers, old and new, thank you. We couldn't do this without you. Together, we can make a difference.

Derry CERT Program Will Be Starting Up Again

HUNTER MCGEE
NUTFIELD NEWS

After a hiatus of almost a decade, emergency management officials are planning a relaunch of the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) program.

The primary mission of the CERT will be to assist with emergency, over-night mass sheltering when the need arises, said Derry fire Lt. Ryan Bump.

The CERT of Derry is a partnership between the Town of Derry and the residents of Derry. The team will be made up entirely of volunteers and be focused on several key objectives,

Additional objectives based on capability may include: assisting with traffic control during large scale emergencies; conducting door-to-door canvassing (welfare checks) during large scale emergencies; assisting New

Hampshire Fish and Game with light-duty search and rescue efforts when appropriate; providing auxiliary emergency services during times of large scale emergencies (i.e. filling sandbags); conducting community outreach, educating the public and participating in ongoing team recruitment efforts, Bump said.

"CERT educates individuals about disaster preparedness for hazards that may impact their area and trains them in basic disaster response skills, such as fire safety, light search and rescue, team organization, and disaster medical operations," Bump said.

Using training learned in the classroom and during exercises, CERT volunteers can assist others in their community following a disaster when professional responders are not immediately available to help.

CERT volunteers are also encouraged to support emergency response agencies by taking an active role in emergency preparedness projects.

Bump said the Town of Derry had an active CERT program up until around 2008, but the team disbanded due to a number of factors. Administrators are hoping to relaunch in the coming weeks. He said there is absolutely no associated cost to the public.

"All of the uniforms, training and equipment given to each of the residents that volunteer are paid for out of the Town of Derry, Emergency Management budget," Bump said.

At press time, an informational meeting was scheduled to be held at the Municipal Center on Jan. 25.

For more information on the program, call (603) 365-8590.

Union

continued from page 1

ple who don't want to pay anything, you can get all of the advantages and not have to pay anything. That's the inherent unfairness of it."

Proponents of Right-to-Work say it will help improve the economy by increasing employment and wages for workers.

The state Senate approved the bill by a razor-thin margin of 12-11 on Thursday. The proposal now moves to the state House.

After the meeting, long-time union member Dana Savageau said he opposed Right-to-Work because non-union members would receive all of the benefits union members receive without having to pay for them.

"Right-to Work is a

scary thing," said Savageau, who has been a carpenter for 35 years and belongs to Carpenters Local 111.

Savageau said unions help workers in such areas as on-going education. He said workers continually have to learn about new equipment such as hydraulic lifts and scaffolding.

"Dues pay for our education, he said. "We have on-going education, it never ends."

Savageau said he and other union members have lived in the community for years. They wanted to let state representatives know where they stood on the bill.

"We're part of the community and want them know that we really care about the Right-to-Work," he said.

If approved, Savageau said union members believe that Right-to-Work would weaken unions, while lower-

ing wages and negatively impacting benefits.

After listening to the union members, State Rep. Phyllis Katsakiores said she thought the meeting was very informative and she was impressed by the workers' stories. Katsakiores is opposed to Right-to-Work.

"I think the union has done a great job," she said, adding, "And my people I represent as a town councilor, almost all of them are union employees. How do you turn your back on your people, you can't do it? So that's why I support them."

State Rep. Richard Tripp also attended the meeting and said afterward that he hadn't yet read the bill and wasn't ready yet to make a decision.

"Since I haven't read the bill I don't know what it does," he said.

Nutfield News

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New Children's Library Director Seeks Input From Community

KATHLEEN BAILEY
NUTFIELD NEWS

Before becoming the new director of Children's Services at the Derry Public Library, Ray Fontaine spent a lot of time visiting the facility with his children.

Fontaine, who moved to Derry 14 years ago from Massachusetts, liked to bring his two children, Angel and Elizabeth, to the library and to use some of the books to help in his job as a teacher.

"It's always been a place to come and be a part of," said Fontaine, who began his new job on Jan. 9

Fontaine graduated from North Andover High School and earned his bachelor's degree from Rivier University. He went on to earn his master's degree in Community Engagement from Merrimack College.

Before his new job, Fontaine worked as a teacher and spent seven years running an education center in Lawrence, Mass. as part of the Head Start program.

As to why he wanted to move into a somewhat different career path, Fontaine said he's always liked libraries and working with children.

"I love working with children; I'm a big fan of libraries and what they do for the community and this library really has a lot to offer," Fontaine said.

Since starting his new job he said he has been reaching out to get community members to become more involved with the children's library. He also wants residents to know that they can donate toys and other items to the library.

"To me what is a big part of the children's library is making this place completely welcoming all of the time to all of the children and families so people feel wel-

come and ready to come in," Fontaine said. "So it's also important to have the community involved because this isn't just our library, but it belongs to everybody that lives in town. We are really open to any ideas people have when they come in, things their children are interested in."

In addition, he is trying to find out what programs they would like to see at children's library.

"I'm having these conversations with the kids and with their families so that the programs we do offer are meaningful to the people who do use the space," Fontaine said.

Like other children's libraries, technology is a part of the experience. But some of the more traditional activities, such as story time, are still popular, he said.

"Things move and change but the traditional story times are still popular," Fontaine said. "People want to have that time to kind of connect with family, with children."

He added, "Studies show when you are reading a book kids actually interact more with a parent. So we want to make sure people have



New Derry Children's Library Director Ray Fontaine began working earlier this month. Fontaine said he wants to get the community more involved in the library since "it belongs to everybody that lives in town."

access to the materials so they are spending time reading. The books are a big part what we do here."

Storytime is offered for various age groups during the week: Preschool Storytime for ages 3-5, Mondays at 10 a.m.; Bedtime Storytime, for ages 2-7, Tuesdays at 6 p.m., an evening storytime with stories, flannel boards, games and crafts;

Infant storytime, ages birth to 12 months, Wednesdays at 10 a.m.; and Mother Goose on the Loose, for ages 12 to 36 months, Thursdays, (with two sessions due two sessions due to popular demand) 10 a.m. or 11 a.m.

For more information, call 603-432-6140 or visit www.dplkids.org.



Snow Construction Students at Pinkerton Academy took advantage of the snow and some down time during last week's Mid-Term Testing to build an igloo on the school's campus near the parking lots across from the Hackler Gymnasium.

Photo by Chris Paul

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Man Pleads Guilty To Conspiracy Charges in Sales of Synthetic Cannabinoids

HUNTER MCGEE
NUTFIELD NEWS

A Derry man who allegedly sold synthetic cannabinoid products at stores that he operated in Londonderry and Hooksett has pleaded guilty to conspiracy charges.

United States Attorney Emily Gray Rice announced Monday that Tony Aoude, 45, pleaded guilty to Conspiracy to Violate the Travel Act and Conspiracy to Receive Misbranded Products, according to a press release.

According to court records, the products were sold in packages with false and misleading labels that stated that the products were “not for human consumption” or were “legal in 50 states.” Despite being aware that the products were intended for human consumption, he allegedly sold various forms of the product that bore multiple labels, including “Toxic Blue Magic” and “Caution Platinum,” according to the release.

During the course of a

law enforcement investigation, undercover officers asked to purchase quantities of these products for resale in Florida. Despite being told by a co-conspirator (Robert Costello) that the products were unlawful in Florida, Aoude allegedly arranged for the undercover officers to purchase the drugs at his store in Londonderry. He also allegedly received payments for facilitating the shipment of additional products to Florida, according to the release.

Sentencing for Aoude has been scheduled for May 4, 2017, the release said.

The investigation led to the arrest and prosecution of multiple individuals, according to the release. Costello, who allegedly provided synthetic cannabinoids to Aoude, is serving a 60-month federal prison sentence. Kyle Hurley, who allegedly arranged to manufacture and distribute these drugs, is serving a 114-month prison sentence, according to the release.

Synthetic cannabinoids

are green leafy materials that have been sprayed with chemicals, the release said. These products (commonly referred to as “spice” or “K2”) are often marketed as incense or potpourri. As in this case, the packaging materials often contain attractive logos that are designed to appeal to young people, the release said. Although the products are often identified as “not for human consumption,” the products are smoked in order to obtain a high, the release said. The chemicals that are sprayed on the products to produce the high are often illegal controlled substances or analogues of illegal controlled substances. The ingestion of these types of illegal products has caused some users to experience a variety of medical side effects and has led to numerous hospitalizations, according to the release.

“There is a misconception that synthetic cannabinoids, known on the street as synthetic marijuana, K2, and spice, are safe. Synthetic

cannabinoids are anything but safe,” said DEA Special Agent in Charge Michael J. Ferguson. “They are a toxic cocktail of lethal chemicals with serious health and safety risks. This investigation represents local, state and federal law enforcement’s efforts to combat this emerging public threat.”

U.S. Attorney Rice agreed, saying, “while we are in the midst of an opioid epidemic, some individuals may believe that synthetic cannabinoids are a safe alternative for those looking to get high. These products are far from safe. They are made in highly unsanitary conditions and users have no idea what potentially deadly chemical may be

inside these glossy packages. This packaging can give consumers a false sense of security about using a product that could harm or kill them.”

This case was supported by the Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Force (OCDETF), according to the release. The OCDETF program is a federal multi-agency, multi-jurisdictional task force that supplies supplemental federal funding to federal and state agencies involved in the identification, investigation, and prosecution of major drug trafficking organizations, according to the release. The Drug Enforcement Administration’s Tactical Diversion Squad led the investigation in collaboration

with the US Postal Inspection Service and Homeland Security Investigation, the release said. The investigators also received the invaluable assistance of DEA-NH/HIDTA and DEA’s Air Wing, the New Hampshire and Massachusetts State Police, the U.S. Marshals Service, Portsmouth Police Department, Somersworth Police Department, Kingston Police Department, the Dover Police Department, the Londonderry, Police Department and the York and Kittery, Maine Police Departments, the release said. It is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorneys John J. Farley and Charles Rombeau, according to the release.

Pinkerton

continued from page 1

the parking situation.

One of the potential sites for adding the 100 parking spaces administrators are considering lies just below the varsity football field, Morse said.

But because of the location, selecting this site would involve addressing such issues as security and policing the lot, Morse said.

“Kids go to their cars, who’s policing that; do we have security cameras?” he said. “Do we send more security up there during the course of the day if we have to?”

And selecting the lot near the football field could affect where the high school can place its athletic fields in the future, Morse said.

Administrators are also

considering possibly using local property that could be purchased from neighbors.

“We might be interested in turning a piece of local property into parking,” he said.

But choosing this option could be problematic if the property is too far from campus. This would create pedestrian traffic in high density areas and require more supervision from staff, he said.

Morse said administrators already have to supervise the parking lot, with two associate deans assigned there each school day.

While considering where to locate the additional spaces, Morse said administrators recognize they have drivers coming from Hooksett and Candia who must travel a long distance to the

school.

Because of the lack of spaces, some students are parking at other sites in town. In one incident in the fall, a student was hit by a driver after leaving a site near the Rotary, he said.

Another factor in considering additional parking involves the \$65 fee students are required to pay for an annual parking permit. The funds generated from the fee aren’t sufficient to pay for such items as paving, he said.

If additional spaces are added, Morse said the high school would like to pay for the expansion through parking permits but finding the right formula is complicated.

With no definite decision in sight, plans call for school officials to continue exploring parking options in the coming months.

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Towns Mull Impact of All-Vet Property Tax Credit

KATHLEEN D. BAILEY
NUTFIELD NEWS

A new law enabling towns to extend the veterans' tax credit to all veterans, whether from wartime or peace, has some area officials wondering about the impact on other taxpayers, while others say the service is long overdue for those who served.

RSA 72:28 currently allows the standard deduction of up to \$500 for veter-

ans who served in the following wars or conflicts: Spanish-American War, Philippine Insurrection, Boxer Rebellion, World Wars I and II, Korean and Vietnam conflicts, Persian Gulf War and "any other war or armed conflict that has occurred since May 8, 1975, in which the resident earned an Armed Forces expeditionary medal or Theater of Operations service medal.

A new law, RSA 72:28b, was signed into law by for-

mer Gov. Maggie Hassan. The law's primary sponsor was outgoing State Rep. Fred Rice of Hampton, who wrote in a press release, "The newly enacted law (RSA 72:28b) is exactly the same as the old one, but without the time periods."

Rice explained, "Individuals can volunteer to enter the military, but they have little or no say as to where or when they will actually serve. All veterans should all be recognized for

their service, and not be deprived of a benefit because of something they had no control over."

The legislation is "enabling legislation," meaning that each municipality in the state must formally adopt the All Veterans Tax Credit by a vote of town meeting or equivalent in order for it to take affect in that town, Rice further wrote.

According to Rice, the time periods that will be eliminated under the new option are those that fall between "periods of conflict," such as from the end of WWII to the start of the Korean War, from the end of Korea to the start of Vietnam, and from the end of Vietnam to the invasion of Grenada.

Rice further explained, "Not everyone who was deployed was necessarily in combat, however. Only ten percent of those in uniform ever see combat, according to government statistics. Naval crews at sea, support troops at logistics installations or air bases, and administrative, legal and medical personnel are examples of those who may have served "in country" and are

eligible for the current tax credit, but were never in danger of enemy action."

Derry has increased its standard tax credit by increments, reaching \$450 in the summer of 2016. Derry also offers the \$450 credit to widows of veterans who have not remarried, and in addition, allows for the \$2,000 for totally and permanently disabled veterans.

Town Councilor Richard Tripp, a Vietnam-era Navy veteran, was part of a subcommittee to study the amendment along with fellow Councilors Charles Foote, an Army veteran, and Jim Morgan, son of a veteran. "We have not yet made a recommendation," Tripp said.

The sticking point, according to Tripp, is how many veterans will register for the credit once the criteria is expanded.

Tripp said he doesn't know of any of New Hampshire's 234 cities and towns who have adopted the amended law.

Though he'll accept whatever his peers decide, Tripp said he is not personally in favor of the change. "I've talked to American Legion members who ask

me, 'Why can't I join the VFW?'" Tripp said. His answer usually is, "When did you serve overseas?"

There is a distinct difference between peacetime and wartime service, Tripp believes.

"I spent two years at sea, and it was not a pleasure cruise," Tripp said.

Tripp has done his homework, including poring over spreadsheets from the Office of Energy and Planning, the agency responsible for the national census, and studying the history of veterans' benefits. No such thing existed until after the Civil War, he said, and such benefits were restricted to those who had served and suffered disabling injuries. The main benefit, he said, was, "They did not have to pay the poll tax."

After the First World War, benefits for veterans were "greatly enhanced," according to Tripp.

Tripp, who does not personally take the veterans' exemption, speculated that the amendments to RSA 72:28 came about in part because last year was an election year.

"Nobody," he said, "wants to look like they're against veterans."

Candia Students Learn About Pinkerton Academy

HUNTER MCGEE
NUTFIELD NEWS

Following the approval of a contract last year, Candia students who will attend Pinkerton Academy for the first time next year are getting a glimpse of the high school.

Candia's entire eighth-grade recently visited the high school, chanting "Pinkerton, Pinkerton, Pinkerton!" on the way back on the bus, said Headmaster Griffin Morse during last week's Board of Trustees Winter Sending Towns meeting.

"Families are all electrified; it's a very nice time in Candia," Morse said as students prepare to begin attending classes at the high school. "They are getting in on the

early planning stages now just as your eighth graders are."

Last year, Candia voters overwhelmingly approved a 20-year tuition contract with Pinkerton.

Candia was the last remaining district in School Administration Unit 15, which includes Hooksett and Auburn, that had a long-term contract to send its students to Manchester High School Central. The town signed a 20-year contract in 2003 with Manchester, but the contract included an opt-out clause in 2016, according to officials.

Candia joins Auburn, Chester, Derry, Hampstead, and Hooksett as the sixth sending town. For the first time, Candia will have a

table with the other sending towns for the June 7 sending towns meeting, Morse said.

Along with eighth-grade students bound for Pinkerton, incoming Candia students have had plenty of opportunities in the recent weeks to learn about the high school, with events such as Preview Night, Morse said. Upcoming events include Course Night, scheduled to run from 5:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. on Feb. 1. Course Night will involve presentations on standard core curriculum courses, such as math, science, social studies, English and foreign languages.

Approximately 200 Candia students will attend Pinkerton Academy over a four-year period, according to administrators.

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Library Public Library Experiments with Slimy Substances



Derry Public Library Children's Librarian Jen Morton hosted the Ooey Goey Club last Thursday afternoon where attendees got to enjoy squishing and squelching their way through slimy, drippy, gooey substances that they made from ordinary materials from around the house. Around a dozen children took part in the after School activity. *Photos by Chris Paul*





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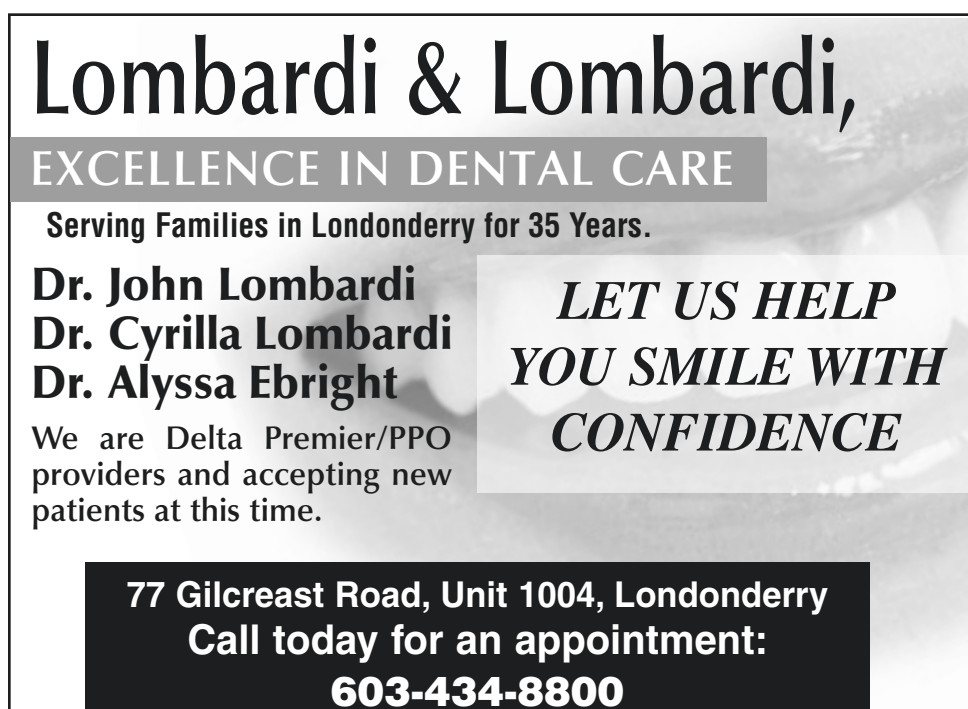
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DERRY SPORTS

Lady Astro Hoopsters Outlast Pesky Manchester Central Crew

CHRIS PANTAZIS
NUTFIELD NEWS

After contemplating its first, disappointing Division I loss of the 2016-17 season for nearly a full week, the Pinkerton Academy girls' basketball squad jumped right back on the winning track with an impressive victory over the Manchester Central Little Green in Derry Friday, Jan. 20.

Due to the fact that mid-term exams were going on for the majority of the week of Jan. 15, the Lady Astros didn't have a chance to negate the frustrations they were feeling by playing another game after dropping a 43-36 defeat to the visiting

Alvirne High Broncos from Hudson on the night of Friday the 13th. So they practiced diligently during the ensuing week in preparation for the Jan. 20 game with Central. And the practice paid dividends, with coach Lani Buskey's academy bunch claiming a pleasing 50-37 victory.

Central - which also dropped a decision to Pinkerton in Manchester prior to Christmas - was very pesky through the first three quarters of the rematch. The Little Green's only lead of the evening came with the very first basket, and the Astros then held leads of five points to low double-digits until late in the third

period when the visitors sliced the PA lead down to just two points at 35-33.

That trimming occurred with 2:14 remaining in the third stanza, but the Lady Astros showed their considerable mettle and skills throughout the rest of the contest by outscoring their guests by a big 15-4 tally to win going away.

"In a moment when we could have let the game get away we didn't, and everybody helped," said coach Buskey. "After the loss to Alvirne where we pretty much lost in the fourth quarter, we spent the week worrying about us. We didn't concern ourselves with what anyone else did or might do,

we just worried about us."

Pinkerton pushed its Division I record up to a pretty stellar 7-1 with the victory, in which eight players scored and the hosts netted no less than eight three-point shots. Central slipped to 3-5.

The Little Green netted the first basket of the game but then watched its host reel off an impressive 13-0 run. And at the end of one period, the Lady Astros grasped a 16-7 lead.

Both teams netted 13 points apiece in both the second and third quarters, so Pinkerton's leads sat at 29-20 at the half and 42-33 after three stanzas, with Central showing its toughness in remaining in the fray.

"He (Central coach Mike Wenners) gets the most out of his players he can, no question," said Buskey. "They're going to give somebody a tough first-round (tournament) game, and I hope it's not us."

But as stated above, the Lady Astros netted 15 of the final 19 points of the contest and tucked away the pleasing win.



Pinkerton sophomore hoop standout Brooke Kane looks to the baseline for a teammate during her team's pleasing win over Central. Photo by Chris Pantazis

Astro Tracksters Excel at Open Meet

CHRIS PANTAZIS
NUTFIELD NEWS

Pinkerton Academy's boys' and girls' track and field athletes made the trip out to the University of New Hampshire in Durham on Sunday Jan. 22 to see if they could improve on their times and placements and keep sharp for the forthcoming Division I meets.

And even though no team scoring was kept, Lady Astros and Astro males did all kinds of productive work and nabbed bunches of high finishing spots while staying in the competitive flow.

"This was the first of two open meets to end the (regular) season," said PA boys' coach Ian French.

The five-time defending Pinkerton males bagged a slew of top-three finishes, with an event victory being claimed by the talented and speedy 4x400-meter relay quartet of Pat Hanlon, Cam Phelps, Kyle Hajj, and Noah Woodman (time of 3 minutes, 40.94 seconds).

Second places came from Nico Buccieri in the 55-meter dash, Calvin Graves in the 3,000-meter run, Adam Spencer in the 55 hurdles, and the 4x160 relay

team of Kayden Baillargeon, Jayden Ruimwijk, Evan Rodgers, and Buccieri.

Thirds were snared by Woodman in the 600, Pat Bastek in the 3,000, and Kaleal Cerafici in shot put.

On the girls' side, first places were taken by Amelia Graves in the 300 (43.04), Britney Johnson in the 1,500-meter run (4:42.24), and Meghan Cross in the 3,000 (11:03.44).

Maria Virga claimed third places in both the 300 and the 55-meter hurdles, and Maison D'Amelio collected third place in the 3,000.

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Academy's Bowlers Finish in the Middle of Three-Team Match

CHRIS PANTAZIS
NUTFIELD NEWS

The Pinkerton Academy bowling squad rolled into its three-team road match at Maple Lanes in Claremont last Saturday, Jan. 21 in a three-way deadlock for first place in the state.

And the academy bunch finished right in the middle

of the three-team pack at the most recent event, defeating Keene but falling to the host Stevens contingent.

The varsity Astros - who began the day's play knotted up in first place in the state standings with Raymond and Goffstown - ended up being the second seed in Baker round play after tallying a Standard round score

of 1,667 to end up behind top-seeded Stevens (1,717) but ahead of Keene (1,573).

The PA varsity bunch rolled first and second Standard games of 802 and 865, with captain David Pierson scoring a tough first game of 138 but rebounding with a 210 in the second, and his fellow captain Austin Caux bagging games

of 182 and 203.

Additionally, Keenan Nash rolled fine games of 214 and 183, Eric Reardon had a 134 and a 143, Brian Wilkinson notched a 134 and a 126, and Matthew Clark tallied a 176 and a 120.

In Baker play, the locals began by facing Keene and won two out of the three

games. They took game one by a 198-185 tally, lost the second 181-98, but took the third 161-144.

With that success, Pinkerton then faced Stevens and lost two out of three in the battle for first place.

The locals lost the first contest 174-138, came back to win the second game 192-174, but lost a close third

game 169-162.

In junior varsity competition, the academy bunch finished in the third position out of three contingents despite some strong efforts from skilled bowlers Bryant Nourse, Lauren Sylvain, Ben Tripodi, Kyle Vachon, Liam Padian, Nathan Stallings, and Matt Morrison as well.

Lady Astro Gymnasts Hit the Heights in Winning Road Meet

CHRIS PANTAZIS
NUTFIELD NEWS

The Pinkerton Academy girls' gymnastics squad outdid itself where team scoring was concerned in winning its meet at A2 Gym and Cheer in Salem last Friday,

Jan. 20.

After notching a season-high winning score of 140.75 at the beginning of the week in a big meet which included the defending Division I champions from Londonderry High, the Lady Astros went a few

impressive steps beyond in taking first place at the five-team event on Friday.

Veteran coach Chelsie Burland's Lady Astros tallied a new team-high score of 142.5 to easily win the meet, with Pelham more than 10 points behind (132)

in second and Salem an even more distant third (129).

The locals had senior star Julianna Corsetto take first place on bars (9.2) and in the all-around (35.7) and tie teammate Ashlee Loeffler for second on vault (both at 9.05). Loeffler also

notched a second place on the balance beam with a 9.2.

The academy crew also had Michelle George collect a win on vault (9.15), with Chloe Abreu snagging a second in the floor exercise (9.25) and Sophia Viger notching third place in the

all-around (33.9).

The Lady Astros will be back in action this Saturday, Jan. 28 in Amherst at The Gymnastics Village in a meet hosted by the Hollis/Brookline Lady Cavaliers and featuring multiple other squads.

Astro Grapplers Finish 2-2 at Duals Event in Western Mass

CHRIS PANTAZIS
NUTFIELD NEWS

The Pinkerton Academy wrestling squad had a reasonably successful day after making the long bus ride out

to Western Massachusetts for the Springfield Duals Wrestling Tournament on Saturday, Jan. 21.

The Astro grapplers defeated Windham by a 42-30 tally and Keene by a 50-

27 score but lost its matchups with the teams from West Springfield (39-33) and St. John's Prep of Danvers, Mass. (45-27).

Top performers for the academy squad were Tyler MacKiernan in the 145-pound weight class (4-0), Kyle Setzer at 170 pounds (4-0), Deene Hill at 285 (3-0), Kris DiNitto in 106-

pound competition (3-1), Cam Macro at 195 pounds (3-1), and Robbie Fahey at the 220-pound level (3-1).

The locals also received multiple victories from Derek Wilson at 138 pounds (2-1), Cam Sola at 152 (2-2), and Joe Levesque at the 160-pound level (2-2).

Single victories were claimed by 113-pounder

Walker Stinson, Jon Simonelli at 120, and Zach Vigroux in the 132-pound class.

This week, the team looked at a pretty busy slate which had it playing host to the rival Londonderry High

Lancer contingent in Ball Family Trophy Games competition this Wednesday the 25th, after Nutfield News press time, before making a trip to Concord for the Capital City Classic on Saturday Jan. 28.

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Ball Family Trophy Contests Announced by Rival Schools

CHRIS PANTAZIS
NUTFIELD NEWS

With a bunch of contests having been played between the Londonderry High School and Pinkerton Academy winter varsity sports contingents during the week of Jan. 9, it was only logical that fans from both sides would be asking - while watching those exciting events - "Do these games count toward the Ball Trophy?"

The winter Ball Family Trophy Games were added

by the two local rival schools during the early 1990's as an extension of the Mack Plaque Games which began during the Fall of 1983 as a way for the schools' communities and programs to celebrate and savor their athletic rivalry. The spring Beeman Trophy Games were also begun at the same time as the Ball games to give the spring squads from LHS and PA the chance to compete in a series themselves.

Last week, LHS athletic director Howard Sobolov

and Pinkerton's first-year AD Brian O'Reilly connected and established the dates of the winter varsity contests which will count toward the Ball Family Trophy competition for the 2016-17 winter season.

The LHS/PA swim meets that took place in Londonderry on Friday, Jan. 13 began the tallying of Ball Family points for the schools, with Pinkerton snaring the victory in boys' swimming and Londonderry taking the point in girls' swimming.

The following Monday,

Jan. 16, the Pinkerton girl gymnasts defeated the defending state champion Londonderry Lady Lancers in Manchester to bump the Astros' Ball Trophy count up to 2-1.

Ball Family battles then continue this week with the wrestling teams meeting up at Pinkerton this Wednesday the 25th at PA, after Nutfield Publishing press times. The unified basketball teams play this Friday afternoon the 27th at LHS, and the varsity girls' and boys' basketball teams will play that

evening at the academy.

The ice hockey squads will face off the next night at 8 on Pinkerton home ice at The Ice Den in Hooksett, and the track and field contingents will battle at The University of Southern Maine on Sunday the 29th.

The ski teams will compete at Mount Sunapee on Feb. 2, and if necessary the Ball Family competition could come down to the state winter spirit championships at Pinkerton on March 12 for tie-breaking purposes.

The spirit championships have served as the Ball Trophy tie-breaker each of the last two years, with Pinkerton winning both times to stretch its school's Ball Family Trophy winning streak up to five consecutive years.

Last winter Pinkerton won wrestling, gymnastics, boys' swimming, boys' track, boys' basketball, girls' track, and spirit. Londonderry took hockey, girls' swimming, girls' track, unified basketball, girls' basketball, and boys' skiing.

Pinkerton Icemen Get Bashed by the Bedford High Bulldogs

CHRIS PANTAZIS
NUTFIELD NEWS

The Bedford High School Bulldogs' ice hockey squad has consistently proven itself to be a powerhouse in Division I this winter, putting together a truly glittering 8-0-1 record in its first nine contests in remaining the only undefeated team in that tough class.

And the Pinkerton Academy icemen got a close look at why the Bulldogs have been such a successful bunch at The Ice Den in Hooksett Saturday, Jan. 21. The Astros became the Bedford crew's eighth victim in losing by a 9-1 count.

The score was knotted up at 1-1 after one period, with the Astros' goal having been scored by Nick Trask with assists from Eddie Welch and Patrick Hare. But the undefeated Bulldogs

went on to pot three unanswered goals in the second period and five more in the third to win handily.

PA goalie Dakota Robinson made 30 saves between the Pinkerton pipes, but his teammates only man-

aged to put nine shots on the Bedford keeper.

The Astros will play host to the rival Londonderry High Lancers in Ball Family Trophy play on Saturday, Jan. 28. PA and LHS played an incredibly exciting game,

reminiscent of a tournament contest, at the Tri-Town Arena last week, with Pinkerton squeaking out an overtime success. The rematch should be every bit as good with plenty on the line for the two local crews.



Pinkerton standout forward Eddie Welch tallied an assist during his team's lopsided loss to the Bedford High Bulldogs recently. He and his Astros face off against Londonderry in Ball Family play this Saturday.



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Lady Astro Skiers Keep Piling Up Wins, Boys Excel as Well

CHRIS PANTAZIS
NUTFIELD NEWS

The defending state champion Pinkerton Academy girls' ski team made short work of six more opponents during a seven-team meet at the Crotched Mountain Resort in Franconia on Friday, Jan. 20, and the Astro males finished a more than respectable third out of seven squads at that venue the same day.

For the skilled and highly-determined girls, return-

ing varsity team members Emma Bennett, Nicole Gonya, Danielle Martineau, Hannah Peterson, Kathryn Leighton, Caroline Mills, Elizabeth Veal, and Meghan Lahey, and newcomers Emily Gardner and Katelyn Bennett proved unbeatable as a crew yet again.

Gonya placed first for the team and first overall out of a sizable field of 53 skiers this time around.

Martineau snagged second both for the team and overall, Gardner notched third for the team and fourth

overall, and Katelyn Bennett tallied fourth for her crew and seventh place overall.

"The girls kept the pressure on with team captain Emma Bennett placing eighth overall," said PA coach Paul D'Antonio. "Hannah had a bit of a mishap during her second run, but she climbed back up to make the gate and finish her run. She demonstrated the determination that makes this team true champions. And even with that, she still placed 11th overall."

The defending state champs also had Mills finish 19th overall, Leighton snare 21st, Veal finish 35th, and Lahey wind up 39th overall.

"It was another great showing for the girls," said their coach.

On the boys' side of things, returning varsity members Mikka Hyvonen, Eric Ihloff, Dylan Durazzano, Kenny McCarthy, Brandon Simpson, Billy Gonya, Camden Caswell, captain Alex Mielens, and Peter Tinker, and newcomer Owen Sezgin put together a

strong performance in snagging third as a group.

Leading the pack again was Hyvonen, who placed first for the team and first overall out of a big field of some 58 athletes.

Sezgin placed second for his team and seventh overall, McCarthy wound up third for the team and 18th overall, and captain Mielens ended up fourth for PA and 19th all-around.

"The boys kept coming on strong with Eric placing 26th overall, Camden getting 27th overall, Brandon

placing 29th overall, Billy placing 31st, and Dylan taking 37th overall. Peter had a good first run but did not finish on the second," said coach D'Antonio.

Both Pinkerton teams will be all kinds of busy this week, with a meet at Pat's Peak in Henniker on Wednesday the 25th, after Nutfield News press time, and then two days later back on Crotched Mountain against a number of opponents with the state championships nearing.

Reynolds Paces PA Boy Cagers in Pleasing Win at Central

CHRIS PANTAZIS
NUTFIELD NEWS

Sophomore guard Jay Reynolds netted a huge 34 points in helping to lead his stumbling Pinkerton Academy boys' basketball squad to a 63-53 defeat of the host Manchester Central Little Green in the Queen City Friday night, Jan. 20.

The Astros, who stepped into the contest with a 1-5 record in tough Division I, won every quarter but the

fourth one in building up a large lead which struggling Central attempted to whittle away at in vain in the last period.

Veteran coach Peter Rosinski's Astros led by four points at 20-16 after one period, and by double digits at 35-24 rolling into half-time.

The academy side then outscored its opponent by an 18-11 margin during quarter three to carry a 53-35 advantage into the last stanza.

Central - which dropped its fourth straight divisional decision that evening - exhibited some intestinal fortitude by outscoring PA by an 18-10 tally in the fourth quarter, but a full comeback was not to be as the Astros still strode away with a double-digit success.

Along with Reynolds' huge performance - which included three of Pinkerton's five, three-point baskets - the victorious locals received nine points from Colin Petrie, six points, six steals, and four assists from Matt Anzivino, and five

points from Nick Bortone. All in all, eight Astros tallied points on a successful night.

Intent upon continuing that sort of competitive success, the Astros bounded into this week facing home games against the 2-6 Dover High Green Wave on the night of Tuesday the 24th - after Nutfield News press time - and then this Friday Jan 27 in a Ball Family Trophy game against their storied rivals from Londonderry High School. The Lancers stride into that match with a solid, 3-3 Division I mark.



Pinkerton sophomore hoop standout Jay Reynolds made his presence well known in his squad's recent defeat of Manchester Central. Photo by Chris Paul

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This section is meant to be used to announce free events to the communities. If your group or non-profit is receiving money for what they are publicizing, there will be a charge of \$40.00/week per paper. All Around Town/Calendar Items will be held to 100 words maximum; anything over will incur a charge of \$40.00/week for up to another 50 words. All free announcements in the Around Town/Calendar section can run a maximum of 3 weeks. **Additionally:** We will run the full versions of any calendar items online free of charge at www.nutpub.net. Please send submissions to calendar@nutpub.net.

Buy a Bowl, help The Community

The Potter's Bowl to benefit Community Caregivers will be held Saturday, Feb. 4, from 5 to 8 p.m. in the Pinkerton Academy Freshman Cafeteria. For \$40, patrons will be able to pick a handcrafted pottery bowl donated by local New Hampshire artists, and enjoy more than a dozen different soups donated from local restaurants in the Derry area as well as breads and desserts. Other handcrafted items will be offered in an auction including paintings, matted photography, wooden crafts, clothing and handcrafted jewelry. In an effort to encourage more families with children, the Caregivers will offer a "Kids Under 12" ticket for \$10. Tickets are currently on sale. To purchase a ticket call Caregivers at 432-0877 or drop by 1 B Commons Drive, Unit 10, Londonderry, during the business day. For a soup menu, directions, and a list of auction items visit www.comcaregivers.org or the agency's Facebook page.

Trustees Sought for Public Libraries

The two public libraries serving Derry have a combined number of seven positions open for election in March. Derry Public Library has three three-year positions, one two-year position and one one-year position. Taylor Library has two three-year positions. The filing period is Jan. 26 through Feb. 3, and those interested may file at the Town Clerk's office during normal business hours.

Healthy Aging Lecture

Derry Parks and Recreation Department will host its monthly Healthy Aging Lecture on Wednesday, Feb. 15, at 12:30 p.m. at the Marion Gerrish Community Center at 39 West Broadway. Harri Sterling, Traffic Safety Specialist from AAA of Northern New England will present a program titled "Keeping the Keys; Help Extend Your Safe Driving Career". Sterling will provide

guests with information that will help older drivers, younger ones too, be proactive in managing their driving careers, recognizing changes in driving that come with age, and planning ahead for continued mobility. He will also offer resources to can help accomplish this. Advanced reservation is required. Please call (603) 432-6136 by noon on Friday, Feb. 10, or email derrecreation@derrynh.org.

Learn to Spot Fake News

"Fake News" will be the topic of a program to be held Wednesday, Feb. 1, at 6:30 p.m. in the Derry Public Library. Attendees will learn how to spot misinformation and how to stay informed when everything, real or false, is on the internet. For more information or to register, call 432-6140.

Color Your Stress Away

Adult coloring will be offered Mondays, Feb. 13 and 27, from 6:30 to 8 p.m. in the Derry Public Library. For information or to register, call 432-6140.

How small can you go?

"Tiny Houses" will be the topic of a program to be held Wednesday, Feb. 15, at 6:30 p.m. in the Derry Public Library. The program will discuss planning and owning tiny houses, including "how much," "where to live," heating, and electricity. Those interested may register online at derrypl.org or call 432-6140.

Catholic School Offers Alternative

Registration is open for St. Thomas Aquinas School in Derry. Programs are Nursery (3-year-old), Pre K (4-year-old), and K through Grade 8. Registration will be held during January and February. School tours are available by arrangement. An Open House will be held Tuesday, Jan. 31, from 6 to 7 p.m. Registration fee for all grades is \$50 per child and is non-refundable. For further information, call

the school office at 432-2712 or visit the Web site at www.staderry.com.

Derry Democrats

The Derry Democratic Committee will meet Thursday, Jan. 26, at 7 p.m. in the Marion Gerrish Community Center. For more information, contact the committee at derrydems@gmail.com.

Spot Fake News

"How to Spot Fake News" will be the topic of a program to be held Wednesday, Feb. 1, at 6:30 p.m. in the Derry Public Library. Teen Librarian Erin Robinson and Reference Librarian Liz Ryan will co-host the program. Ryan explained that "information literacy" is a passion with both staff members. The program is free and open to the public. For more information, call Ryan or Robinson at 432-6140.

Frost Festival

The Frost Festival will be held Feb. 10 through 12 in Derry. The weekend kicks off with a free spaghetti supper at the Hood Middle School hosted by the Derry Village Rotary Club. The Frost Ball is back by popular demand. Other events include Wildlife Encounters, a Snowshoe/Running Race, Movie Night sponsored by This Is My Derry, cross-country skiing, snowshoeing and snowmobile rides (Hoodcroft Golf Course); ice sculptures, sledding and bonfire (Alexander Carr Park); and ice fishing and chili contest (Gallien's Beach). For information call the Rec Department at 432-6136.

Business Workshop Planned in Derry

"Derry Is Open For Business," an all-day workshop, will be held Saturday, Jan. 28, from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. in the Derry Public Library. Three agencies will team up to offer advice and guidance to potential entrepreneurs. Merrimack Valley SCORE, Derry Public Library, and the Town of Derry

Planning Department Breakfast, lunch and snacks are included in the cost of \$35. Registration is required by Jan. 26 and those interested may visit www.merrimackvalley.score.org/localworkshops. Seating is limited and early registration advised. Derry Public Library is located at 64 E Broadway.

Free Movie

A free movie, "Mary Poppins," will be offered Friday, Jan. 27, at noon in the Marion Gerrish Community Center. Meals on Wheels and the MGCC are the sponsors. For information, call 434-8866.

Free Meals

The following free meals are offered in January: Jan. 29, Breakfast at Church of the Transfiguration, 9 to 10 a.m., 1 Hood Road, Derry, 432-2130; Jan. 27, Spaghetti Supper at First Parish Congregational Church, 5 to 6:30 p.m., 47 East Derry Road, Derry, 434-0628; and Jan. 29, Lunch at St. Jude Parish Community, 1:30 to 2:30 p.m., 435 Mammoth Road, Londonderry, 432-3333. In addition, the Sonshine Soup Kitchen serves a free meal every weeknight from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m.

Brighten A Life With Hospice

Volunteers are sought for Amedisys Hospice in Londonderry. Volunteers can make the life of a patient a little brighter by reading together, playing a board game or doing a puzzle or by simply visiting and sharing valuable time. Amedisys Hospice has an immediate need for volunteers in Rockingham County, Manchester and Concord. For more information contact Patty Cooper at patty.cooper@amedisys.com or 421-0414.

Taylor Library

Taylor Library Story Hour registration is open. Story hours are offered for ages 2 to 5 on Wednesdays and Sundays at 1 p.m. Tiny Tot Story Hours for ages 6 months to 2 years are Mondays or Fridays at 10 a.m. LEGO Club for ages 4 and up takes place Tuesdays from 3:15 to 4:15 p.m. Call the library to register at 432-7186.

The Upper Room, a Family Resource Center

Positive Solutions for families, 6 week workshop for: Parents, Grandparents and Caregivers of Infants, Toddlers and Preschoolers Jan. 30, Feb. 6, 13 from 6 to 8 p.m. Cost: \$20 per family for all six sessions, light refreshments provided; Monday nights learn how to promote social and emotional competence in your young children, understand your child's challenging behavior, learn strategies to help your child learn appropriate behavior? Support their development of emotional skills. Call to register: 437-8477 ext. 27.

Winter Coats Available

The Renew Clothing Ministry will be open Saturday, Feb. 4, from 8 to 10:30 a.m. in Calvary Bible Church, Hampstead Road, Derry. Those interested in clothing are asked to arrive by 10 a.m. Winter coats are in stock, with a limited number per household. To make sure the newer clothing is available for everyone, each family is limited to 20 of the newer items, plus a "reasonable

amount" of the older ones. The service is free and confidential and gives gently-used apparel to families and individuals on a budget. Donations of modern clothing in good condition may be placed in the donation bin at any time. The shop does not accept housewares, books, toys or bedding. The ministry is unable to provide tax receipts for donations. No money is asked for or accepted for the clothing. or more information find "Renew Derry" on Facebook, e-mail renewclothing@myfairpoint.net or renewclothing@yahoo.com, or call the church secretary at 434-1516.

Eat Healthy in New year

"Healthy Living for Brain and Body" will be the topic of a program to be held Wednesday, Feb. 22, at 6:30 p.m. in the Derry Public Library. Charles Zoeller will speak on lifestyle choices to keep brain and body healthy. He is a representative of the New Hampshire/Massachusetts Chapter of the Alzheimer's Association. Those interested may register online at derrypl.org or call 432-6140.

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