

# Nutfield News

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## School District's Deliberative Session Moved Budget to Ballot

HUNTER MCGEE  
NUTFIELD NEWS

Without proposing any amendments, voters at the Derry Cooperative School District deliberative session on Saturday moved forward the proposed 2017-18 budget of \$85,570,415.

The session was held in the gymnasium at West Running Brook Middle School with a few more than 150 voters in attendance.

The proposed budget includes \$83,070,415 for the general fund and \$2,500,000 for federal and food service costs.

Under the spending plan, the budget would increase by about \$3.3 million over last year's budget, according to officials.

In recent weeks, members of the School Board and the Fiscal Advisory Committee met in a series of meetings to craft the budget. During a presentation on the proposed budget, School Board Chairman Dan McKenna said some of the major cost factors in the budget include: salaries, about 31 percent; Pinkerton Academy tuition, also about 31 percent; benefits, 18 percent; and transportation, 4 percent. He presented figures that showed the school district's class size for elementary and middle school is slightly above the state average, with a total of 3,087 students.

McKenna also addressed the continuing trend of declining enrollment through-

out the school district in the last 10 years. During this period, the school district has also regularly reduced positions, he said.

Since 2006-7, there has been a decline of about 470 students and the school district has reduced more than 97 positions, he said.

"So as our enrollment has declined we've been working to reduce positions as well," McKenna said.

Because of declining enrollment, he said the school district is seeing a decrease of state aid for adequacy. The state reduction in adequacy is based on student enrollment, he said, adding that as enrollment decreases the school district receives less in adequacy.

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## Increase In Water User Rates Proposed by Town

HUNTER MCGEE  
NUTFIELD NEWS

To offset wholesale purchased water rate increases by Manchester Water Works, councilors are considering a proposed increase in the water user rates.

The proposed new water rate structure would increase the residential quarterly base minimum base charge of \$23.03 to \$23.28, according to officials.

A public hearing on the proposed increase was scheduled for the Tuesday, Feb. 7 Town Council meeting at press time.

Town Administrator David Caron is recommending that councilors adopt the water user rates as recom-

mended by staff. Caron said he made the recommendation to "ensure equitable distribution of rates among all customer classifications and to remain in compliance with the Town's wholesale supply contract with Manchester Water Works."

The town's water system has been supplied with its drinking water by Manchester Water Works since 1983, according to officials. A wholesale water supply contract governs the sale of water to Derry by Manchester Water Works. The contract was most recently renewed by the council in March 2013. Over the term of the contract Derry has purchased 2.9 million gal-

lons per day.

Manchester Water Works has made significant upgrades to its infrastructure, including its water treatment plant and storage reservoirs, over the last several years, Public Works Deputy Director Thomas Carrier said in a recent report. Carrier went on to write that Manchester Water Works has raised rates 10 percent from \$0.988 to 1.088 per 100 cubic feet to recover costs. In contrast, Derry has only raised its rates by 1 percent.

Carrier said it is becoming increasingly necessary to raise its retail rates commensurate with Manchester Water Works' increases.

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**Bowls of Plenty** Brian and Pam Axtell pick out a handmade bowl to dine with during the 12th annual Potter's Bowl event held at Pinkerton Academy's Asto Cafe on Saturday evening. There were hundreds of bowls to choose from and over a dozen soups to dine on. See more photo on page 8.

Photo by Chris Paul

## Pinkerton Teachers Dressing Down and Helping The Community

HUNTER MCGEE  
NUTFIELD NEWS

It began as a way to boost morale for Pinkerton Academy Faculty members.

Back in the mid-1990s, a group of teachers approached the administration about "dressing down" and

wearing jeans on Fridays.

"Years ago we had morale problems, so we thought a way to improve morale was to let people wear jeans, dress down, one day a week," said Rolf Voltaire, an architecture teacher at the high school. "And the administration

turned us down."

So, the teachers came back with an idea to include a fundraiser on the day, with the proceeds going to a local charitable organization, Voltaire said.

Bradford Ek, headmaster at the time, approved the

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# Frost Festival Set with Full Slate of Weekend Activities

HUNTER MCGEE  
NUTFIELD NEWS

With some snowfall in the forecast, organizers are hoping scheduled outdoor events will still be held at this weekend's Frost Festival.

The 19th annual event is set to begin on Friday, Feb. 10 and run through the weekend.

Last year, outdoor events had to be canceled on Beaver Lake because of thin ice conditions. And the year before a blizzard hit the area with record snowfall and frigid temperatures.

Because of the uncertainty surrounding the outdoor activities, indoor events will still be held on Saturday at the Derry Public Library and Orange Leaf in Hood Commons, according to officials. And on Sunday, indoor activities will be held at Alexander Carr Playground lodge, and Hoodcroft Country Club.

With two snow storms forecast this week, Melinda Mafera, recreation program assistant, said organizers are hoping that the snowpack will be adequate for holding the outdoor events as scheduled on Sunday.

"All of the events are scheduled to be held; nothing has been cancelled," Mafera said Monday.

Events begin on Friday at noon, with the Ice Breakers once again creating and carving ice sculptures at the Adams Memorial Opera House. This year's theme will tie-in with the movie *The Lion King*, according to organizers. The movie is scheduled to begin at 6:30 p.m. on Friday. Admission is free with a receipt from any sponsoring small business purchase from Jan. 27 to Feb. 10, according to organizers.

Hosted by the Derry Village Rotary Club, a spaghetti supper for the family is scheduled to begin at 5 p.m. on Friday, at the Pinkerton Academy Senior Cafeteria. The cost is \$1 per person or free with a donation of a canned good.

On Saturday, planned events include a puppet show that will run from noon to 2 p.m., Saturday, Feb. 11, at the Derry Public Library. Wildlife Encounters is also scheduled to appear that afternoon with a variety of unique animals. This show is free.

Also on Saturday from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m., a variety of free kids' games will be held

at Orange Leaf in Hood Commons.

And after a hiatus of a couple of years, the Frost Ball will be held on Saturday from 6:30 p.m. to 11 p.m. at Birchwood Vineyards.

Then on Sunday at Galien's Town Beach, the events will conclude with, weather conditions permitting, open hockey and skating with the Pinkerton Academy Hockey Team from 12 p.m. to 3 p.m.; an ice fishing demonstration at noon; and a Chili contest from noon to 3 p.m.

At Hoodcroft Golf Course on Sunday from 12 p.m. to 4 p.m., the events

will include, weather conditions permitting, snowmobile rides, along with skiing, snowshoeing and fat bikes. Cookie decorating will also be held at Hoodcroft Country Club from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.

And on Sunday at Alexander Carr Playground, with weather conditions permitting, sledding is scheduled to run from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. Special events in the lodge include children's activities and the King and Queen Contest, with registration from 2 p.m. to 3 p.m.

For updates, call the Parks and Recreation Department at 603-432-6136.

## School

continued from page 1

At the close of the presentation, he said, "It was a tough budget cycle this year, I think for everyone," McKenna said.

"We didn't want to see a \$3.3 million increase."

He added, "I think we have a responsible budget and hope you'll support it as it's what we need to continue to educate our students."

Some speakers who went to the microphone questioned the budget, while others credited School Board members with doing

the best they could with the spending plan.

First to speak, Derry resident Mary Eisner said she was "very disappointed in the lack of content in the budget."

Last August, Eisner said she suggested basic suggestions for clarity and specifics on budget line items to the school district but they weren't included in the budget.

Some of the items Eisner said she asked for included: a breakdown of the cost of new educational programs; ongoing costs for existing programs cost of outstand-

ing bonds; a list of new positions, including benefits; and a breakdown of any line item over \$250,000.

"These suggestions are not out of the ordinary, they are included in other school district budgets," Eisner said.

Resident Stephen Barry went to the microphone to say he liked the way the budget was presented.

"I think the budget and the summary, which I really like, give a really good picture of how the Derry School District is expending funds on," Barry said.

The town election is scheduled for March 14.

## Four Candidates Vying For Two Open Council Seats

HUNTER MCGEE  
NUTFIELD NEWS

After the filing period closed on Friday, four candidates are running for two open town council seats.

Filing for this year's town races closed at 5 p.m. at the municipal center. The town election is scheduled for March 14.

Vying for the councilor at large seat are incumbent

Joshua Bourdon and Planning Board Chairman David Granese.

In District 3, former Councilor Neil Wethebee and Marc Flattes, Planning Board member, are running.

Both council seats carry three-year terms.

In other races, Joel Olbricht is running unopposed for Trustees of the Trust Funds. The seat carries a three-year term, according to officials.

In the Supervisor of the Checklist race, Dina Bourassa is facing Leslie Dombroski. The seat carries a three-year term.

Running for Taylor Lib-

rary trustee are: Edward Ciancio and Jillien Klok.

For Derry Public Library Trustees, three-year seat, the candidates are: Colin Buxton; Valerie Roche; Dorianne Haverty; James Diricio; Matt Leavitt; Deirdre Bridge; and James Thomas.

For the Derry Public Library Trustees, two-year seat, the candidate are: Erin Matlin; Kristen Mari; and Shannon McKenna.

And for Derry Public Library Trustees, one-year seat, the candidates are: Armand Marcotte and Walter Bingel Jr.

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# Commission Considering Policy For Future Weddings At Broadview Farm

HUNTER MCGEE  
NUTFIELD NEWS

Wanting to set guidelines for possibly holding future weddings at Broadview Farm Conservation Area, Conservation Commission members are considering setting a policy.

The move follows a decision at the Jan. 24 meeting to reject a request by an area couple to hold their wedding, for from 80 to 100 people, at the scenic conservation area in June. The couple, whose names weren't mentioned, wanted to hold the ceremony by an old oak

tree, in a hay meadow, said Conservation Commission member Margie Ives, who introduced the item.

Ives said she recently received a phone call from the bride to be asking if the wedding ceremony could be held by the oak tree. Ives said she told her the item would first have to be discussed at the Conservation Commission meeting.

During the discussion, Conservation Commission members said they were concerned about how many people would be attending the ceremony and the potential impact on wildlife.

"I think that because of the concern for wildlife that's probably overwhelming for Broadview," Ives said.

In June, when the couple wanted to hold the wedding, it would be the middle of nesting season for birds like the bobolink and meadow lark. In addition, spotted turtles and pickerel frogs are also active then. The primary purpose of maintaining the land as a hay meadow was for the benefit of wildlife, according to Conservation Commission members.

Conservation Chairman Neil Wetherbee said he was concerned that some of the

people would be coming from out of town for the wedding and may not have a lot of respect for the property as local residents would. There would also likely be traffic problems and the ground could be mucky at that time of year, he said.

"If somebody wants to go out there and have a fairly small impact ceremony, 15, 20 maybe 30 people, that's one thing; when you are getting into 80 to 100 people ..." Wetherbee said.

Another problem involved parking at the site, which is limited to only about six cars. Ives men-

tioned that events are sometimes held for local Scouts and parking is allowed on the street. And veterans are allowed to hold flag burning ceremonies in the fire pit at the front of the property.

The Scouts are respectful of the property and the veterans stay in the front of the property by the fire pit, Wetherbee said.

In contrast, a large crowd with people coming from out of town might have to be reminded not to throw trash on the ground or to not wander off of the trail, Wetherbee said.

The members agreed to

suggest to the couple that they try an alternate site, such as the Massabesic Audubon Center in Auburn, where weddings are sometimes held and there is ample parking.

The members then voted against a motion to hold the wedding with from 80 to 100 people at Broadview Farm.

To plan for possibly holding future weddings, Conservation Commission members agreed to begin establishing a policy.

"We ought to just have a policy that we can point to and say 'this is our policy, if you can conform to it, great,'" Wetherbee said.

# Hearing Scheduled On Storage Facility Propane Tanks, AC Units

HUNTER MCGEE  
NUTFIELD NEWS

Planning Board members have agreed to hold a public hearing next month on a Windham Road storage facility concerning propane tanks and air conditioning units on the property.

After lengthy discussion at the Feb. 1 meeting, the board members voted 8-0 to hold the hearing on March 15. Dating to the 1980s, the storage Facility, at 125 Windham Depot Road, is owned by Edward Smith, of CROM llc.

In 2014, Smith received site plan approval from the Planning Board to build an additional storage building in the industrial zoned area, according to officials. Construction started on the project last year.

In the meeting, Planning Board members questioned the position of two 1,000-gallon underground propane tanks at the site of where the building is being constructed. The tanks were moved to another site on the property from the original site near parking spaces because of code restrictions, according to officials. The new location for the tanks was approved by inspectors but was not listed on the original site plan, according to officials.

Planning Board members also questioned the position of air conditioning units that have been placed where the propane tanks were intended to be positioned and the potential for noise. In 2014 during a hearing before site plan approval, Smith originally

told the Planning Board that his building wouldn't have air conditioning units. Smith said he based this statement on other storage facilities he owned in the area, which also didn't have air conditioning units.

But after later changing to a new contractor it was determined that the building would have climate control and air conditioning units, Smith said.

In addition, Smith said he wanted to point out that he had also mentioned, which is shown in Planning Board minutes, that the building would be "climate controlled," which he said includes air conditioning. So, air conditioning, even though it was left off the original plans, had been mentioned repeatedly, Smith said.

In the meeting, longtime abutter Maureen Rose complained about the position of the propane tanks in relationship to her property line. Rose said she is concerned because the tanks are not that far from her property line and a residential street. There have been some crashes and a telephone pole on the street has been struck in the past. She said she is concerned that the tanks could possibly be affected in a crash.

"I don't want to go to bed some night and someone hits that pole and I have to evacuate my house or blow up," Rose said.

She said the solution would be to move the tanks to another site farther away

from her house.

Rose said she is also concerned about the potential for noise being generated by the air conditioning units.

In complaining, Rose said the project has caused her a great deal of stress since its inception.

"They had three acres of land to put this 44,000-acre storage area on," Rose said. "They should have thought it out better."

Smith, who also had a chance to speak at the meeting, said he has tried to do everything he can to work with not only Rose, but the town and officials. He said he stands behind the property, as he does with the other properties he owns.

"I've tried to do everything above board," said Smith, adding that the process for competing the project has become exhausting.

Even though it's becoming more difficult, Smith said he will continue to try and work with the abutter and officials. If asked by officials, he said he would make such additions as putting up sound deadening material around the air conditioning units if necessary.

"It's getting tougher and tougher to go forward with this project," Smith said. "I can promise you my mom taught me one thing: do the right thing, and don't quit. And that's what I'm going to do."

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Editorial

In Case You Missed It

Were you there for the big day? No, we're not talking about Super Bowl Sunday (although, if you were, we're jealous).

This past week (and this week for some) came the town and school deliberative sessions, and those should be circled dates on the calendar, just as much as the Super Bowl.

We have the unusual opportunity as New Hampshire residents of being able to express our views in a forum specifically designed for that purpose, and to propose changes to the articles up for vote if we deem it necessary.

Remember, it's the articles that come out of these deliberative sessions that we will be voting on in March by secret ballot, and their wording, thanks to the action at the deliberative session, may not come out the same as what we had started with.

The deliberative session is a hybrid animal – no up or down voting on articles, as the case would be at the old-style Town Meeting, but voters (no majority required) can propose and vote on amendments to the article, thus altering what goes on the ballot in March. That's a powerful position for a voter to have.

Of course, it's only a position of power if we choose to exercise it. Staying at home conveys no power at all, and changes warrant a small collection of voters with a specific agenda often determine articles. That's why it's so important not only to attend the deliberative sessions, but also to stay for the duration of them. In some towns, this takes about an hour or so, but in some, sessions can last for up to four or five hours, and in others, it can mean 10 or 11 hours of your free time.

But think about it: one Saturday or one evening a year? It really isn't so much to sacrifice for the ability to change a town or school budget or to cut back or increase road spending. But it's only possible if you choose to attend.

If you missed it this year, don't worry! Your voice can still be heard. Get the information from your town hall, don't forget to vote in March, and put your town's deliberative session on the calendar for 2018. You won't regret going. But if you miss out, you might end up with a bit to regret later on.

You'll get used to the deliberative session, and in time it will become part of your winter routine. All you need to do is pay attention as the moderator explains the rules, and read the proposed warrant articles. It's just another step in becoming an informed citizen, and getting down to the business of participatory democracy.

Letters

Vote for Josh Bourdon

Dear Derry,

I am writing you on behalf of my husband, Joshua Bourdon, your current Town Councilor at large.

When Josh told me three years ago that he wanted to run for Town Council I have to admit I was a little hesitant. We just had our first baby, we were both busy at work, and we were trying to find our way through each day. What I knew then and what is still true is that whatever Josh puts his mind to he will follow through with 100 percent commitment. Although he ran unopposed in 2014, Josh was up at the traffic circle at 6 am on most days and on the weekends we stood with his signs at the four-way stop at Crystal Ave.

Over the past three years Josh has continued his commitment daily. He answers emails, meets with town and service employees, constituents, answers phone calls, and networks to provide solutions for any issue he is presented with. Trust me. I have seen him get these things done. All in addition to his attendance of meetings and committees.

Josh cares about lowering taxes. He also cares about maintaining the high level of services Derry has to offer. That is why Josh is committed to finding creative ways to lower taxes while maintaining those services that are so important to us. Josh fought to sustain the emergency services in Derry so we are provided with the same level of safety no matter what area of Derry we live in. Josh is committed to the idea of making Derry a net zero (producing as much energy as we consume) community by the year 2025. This has involved the creation and participation in a task force as well as meeting with businesses to enroll them in the idea. Once this goal is achieved, Derry will be a leader in New England.

I am so proud of what he has done. He's raised over \$60,000 and awareness for Veterans, Substance misuse, families in need and cancer research. Josh's dedication to service truly comes from his love for our family and the community and his pledge that the future will be brighter for all of us. I hope he is able to continue his work through another term.

Taking this path to serve others is not always an easy but Sasha, Miles and I support Josh every step of the way. We hope you will too. Please vote for Josh on March 14th.

Thank you,  
Leah Bourdon

Nutfield News welcomes letters of up to 500 words on topics of local interest, written by local residents, and prints as many letters as possible. Please e-mail your letters to the Nutfield News at [nutfield-news@nutpub.net](mailto:nutfield-news@nutpub.net). All letters must include the writer's name, address and phone number for verification if needed; name and town of residence will be printed. Nutfield News reserves the right to reject or edit letters for content and length, and anonymous letters will not be printed. Deadline for letters is 5 p.m. Monday.

Nutfield News

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**Wind Swept Fun** Commonly seen on ice covered Beaver Lake in Derry are ice fishermen with their bob houses or lawn chairs, cross country skiers, kids playing hockey on snow cleared spaces, and a variety of snow vehicles but rarely if ever seen before was a man flying a special kite with his youngster watching. It worked pretty well and while the kite appeared big enough to sweep the man off his feet he managed to control it and enjoy the activity recently.

*Photo by Penny Williams*

# Derry Schools Name Their Top Spellers at Annual Bees

HUNTER MCGEE  
NUTFIELD NEWS

It was a busy January for spelling and geography bees throughout the Derry Cooperative School District.

Gilbert H. Hood Middle School students participated in the local beginnings of two national competitions – the Geography Bee and the Spelling Bee. Competitions produced competitors for the school-wide contests..

Students from all three grades were in the top three for the bees, but it was two seventh graders who were crowned champions. Abbey Rowe, from Team 7-2, won the Geography Bee, while fellow seventh-grader, Ma'-Khai Bowen (7-1) was the top speller, school officials said.

Second and third place in the Geography Bee went to Owen Capistran (6-2) and Ethan Barr (7-2). Showing well in the Spelling Bee were 8-2's Ben Fleming (second) and 7-2's Sophia Lonnroth (third).

Winners will now move on to qualifying rounds for each state Bees.

Over at West Running Brook Middle School eighth-grader Terry Twyman won the geography bee on Thursday Jan. 12. And the w Sofia Convey won Spelling Bee on Thursday Jan. 26. Convey will not be able to attend the state competition so student Hedaya Badr will be going in her place, according to school officials.

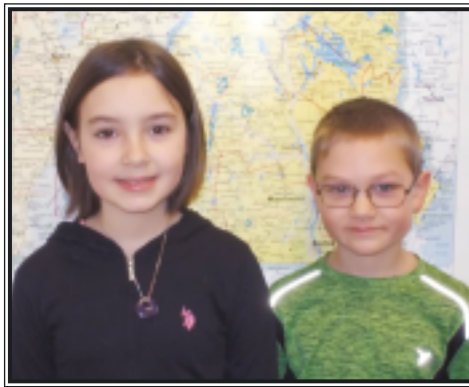
At Earnest P. Barka Elementary School, the winner for the Spelling Bee, held last month was James MacDonald, fourth-grade. With fellow fourth-grader Derric Palmer winning the Geography Bee.

The winners of the Derry Village School Spelling Bee were: first place, Marcos Centeno (grade 5); 2nd Place Ethan Fonseca (grade 4); 3rd place Ava Mohammed (grade 4), according to school officials.

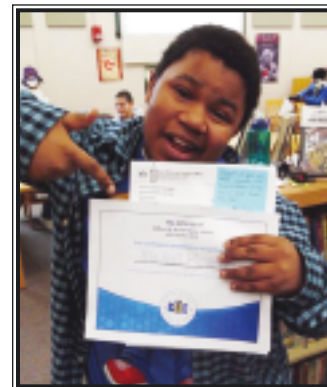
At East Derry Memorial Elementary School, the Spelling Bee occurred on



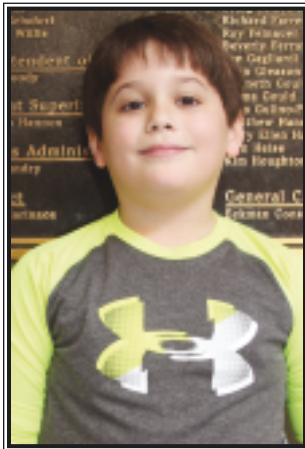
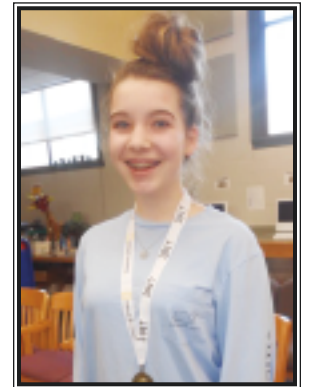
East Derry Spelling Bee winner was Ryan Boulanger, and the runner-up was Kailee Karlberg



East Derry Geo Bee winner was Noah Boyington, and the runner-up was Maura Covino, both fourth graders.



Gilbert H. Hood Spelling Bee winner was Ma'Khai Bowen, left, seventh grade, and Abbey Rowe, right, seventh grade, won the Geography Bee.



Barka Elementary Geography Bee winner was fourth-grader Derric Palmer.



At left, all the student who competed in the Barka Elementary School Spelling Bee pose for a photo. The winner was James MacDonald with the runner up being Abigail Lyons, both in the front row.

Photo by Chris Paul

Wednesday Jan. 25, and was for fifth graders only. The winner was Ryan Boulanger, and the runner-up was Kailee Karlberg.

The National Geographic Geography Bee occurred earlier that same night and was for fourth and fifth graders. The winner was Noah Boyington, and the runner-up was Maura Covino, both fourth graders.

At South Range Elementary school, the Spelling Bee was held on Jan 20. The winner was Ariana Berry and the runner-up was Matthew Niemaszyk. The Geography Bee followed on Jan. 27. The winner was Abiageal Beattie and the runner up was Myles Melim.

At Grinnell Elementary School, the Geography Bee was cancelled in late January due to a storm and rescheduled to Feb. 8, according to school officials.

Winners will now move on to qualifying rounds for each state Bees.

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# March Murder Mystery Dinner Will Honor Kayla Bertolami



KATHLEEN D. BAILEY  
NUTFIELD NEWS

A Pinkerton graduate who died too soon will be memorialized in an event raising funds for other young people to succeed.

Kayla Bertolami of Chester died from a pulmonary embolism in July of 2014, the summer before her senior year of college. Her family, at first "devastated," turned the tragedy into triumph through a scholarship fund. The latest fund-raiser will be a murder mystery dinner March 18 at The Castleton in Windham.

Bertolami's father Dave said the family currently resides in Chester, but were formerly residents of Derry.

Dave Bertolami said for

the first three years after Kayla's death, they held a banquet. This year they decided to change it up with the mystery dinner. "We hired a company out of Boston and they'll run the show," he said. "They'll pick somebody from each table to be a suspect. It's total improv." The event is a dinner theater with a full-course meal, cash bar and the show, and guests are welcome to dress in 1920s garb to fit the time period of the story.

"It is a tribute to our daughter and a way to help other people," he said.

The scholarship fund, which was established on Kayla's birthday in 2015, is managed through the New Hampshire Charitable Foundation and has raised more

than \$60,000 so far.

Kayla, Bertolami said, was a remarkable person and accomplished much in her short life. He recalled a time when he and his wife were called into to meet with her teacher, in second or third grade. "They lectured us," he said, "that we were driving her too hard because she broke down and cried because she got a B." But that was all Kayla, he said. She was driven to do her best.

Kayla finished at Pinkerton with a 4.1 GPA and went to St. Anselm college. She also worked as an intern at Fidelity, where she had a job lined up for after graduation. She was on schedule to graduate a semester early, he said, but she died too soon

and her fiancé walked with her class to accept her diploma.

She was always ready to help people, her father recalled. "At some point she stopped being the student and became the teacher. She gave us many reasons to be proud of her." She at one point held three jobs and volunteered with a local Venture Crew group, he said.

"Our lifelong goal," he said, "is to raise \$1 million for scholarships. The more we do, the better we feel. It helps us heal."

The event is Saturday, March 18, from 7 to 11:30 p.m. at The Castleton in Windham. For more information visit [kaylamurdermystery.eventbrite.com](http://kaylamurdermystery.eventbrite.com)

Scholarships in memory of Kayla Bertolami, a Pinkerton grad and Chester resident, will be the focus of a murder mystery fund-raiser to be held March 18 at The Castleton in Windham. *Courtesy photo*

## Water

continued from page 1

Raising rates would allow Derry to maintain its water system at a level that will

keep up with its depreciation.

In Fiscal Year 2017, the cumulative impact of the Manchester Water Works increases on the water division budget is projected to

be approximately \$77,000 in Fiscal Year 2017.

Staff is recommending an adjustment in water rates to recover the \$77,000 shortfall.

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## Pinkerton Student Charged With Allegedly Causing Threat at School

HUNTER MCGEE  
NUTFIELD NEWS

A Pinkerton Academy student was arrested Friday and charged with allegedly causing a threat at the high school that prompted a lockdown.

At 11:50 a.m. police investigated a report from Pinkerton Academy of a possible threat on the school's campus, Derry Police Chief Edward Garone and Pinkerton Headmaster Griffin Morse said in press release.

The student had allegedly stated that he had a

firearm and planned to shoot someone, the release said. Pinkerton Academy administration immediately placed the school into a campus-wide lockdown while Derry Police responded.

After arriving, officers were able to locate the suspect who is a student at the school, according to the press release.

Following an investigation, police later determined that there was no firearm and no legitimate threat to the safety on the campus, the release said.

Derry police arrested a

male juvenile for causing the threat and he was taken to the Derry Police Department.

As soon as it was determined that the campus was safe to resume the school day, Pinkerton administration lifted the lockdown.

Parents were alerted to the incident by an automatic message that was sent to them during the incident. A second message was sent announcing the end of the lockdown and that there was no legitimate threat to students or staff, the release said.

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## Dressing Down

continued from page 1

plan and allowed faculty members to donate \$1 once a month on the day they were allowed to wear jeans, Voltaire said. Eventually, the dress down days were scheduled for every other Friday on paydays.

Voltaire, along with English teacher Tim Cain and Spanish teacher Carole Padian, recently took time to discuss the dress down days and fundraising drive. The community outreach program has carried on through the years and resulted in thousands of dollars being donated to local charitable organizations over the years, according to school officials.

The program continues today as employees have the

option to contribute a dollar donation to different buckets located across campus. The Faculty Advisory Committee collects the money and distributes it to a different community organization each pay day.

"It's just nice to know that you're giving donations that are worthwhile and benefiting the kids," Padian said of the dress down days. "Plus it's nice to be able to wear jeans here."

Because there was a problem originally with some faculty members remembering to donate \$1, an arrangement was made to allow employees to write a \$25 check to cover the entire year, Voltaire said. A \$1 discount is given to faculty

members writing a check, he said.

Prior to each dress-down day, Cain sends out an email as a reminder.

Between teachers and paraprofessionals, there are about 400 people that regularly dress down, Voltaire said.

The program benefits 12 area organizations, including the Sonshine Soup Kitchen, Upper Room, Derry Boys & Girls Club and Chester Food Pantry.

Only local, and not national, charitable organizations are considered, Cain said.

"We are trying to serve the students that come from surrounding towns, that come to Pinkerton," Cain said.

Marilyn Olbricht, development director at Sonshine



A collection container that Pinkerton Academy faculty members donate money in during "dress-down days" every other Friday on campus. The Faculty Advisory Committee collects the money and distributes it to a different community organization each pay day.

*Courtesy photo*

Soup Kitchen, said the

organization is grateful for the faculty members' donations. She said Pinkerton has a large staff that regularly

donates.

"Everything we get is a blessing, and we really appreciate it," Olbricht said, adding, "If it brings in \$100

or \$50 or \$25, we really appreciate it; it's amazing how far we can stretch a dollar here."

## State Mulls Tax Break for Antique Homes Again

KATHLEEN D. BAILEY  
NUTFIELD NEWS

Londonderry's State Senator and several representatives are sponsoring a bill that would enable towns to give tax breaks to certain historic homes, but only after the homes are strictly vetted.

Sharon Carson, Dist. 14 Senator, is sponsoring SB 79 along with cosponsors Sherman Packard, David Lundgren, Betsy McKinney and Martin Bove, all Republican representatives from Londonderry. The idea has Londonderry roots, coming from Heritage Commission member David Colglazier, but would allow towns and cities from Colebrook to Nashua to enact the tax break on these treasures structures.

But they're not there yet.

In a phone interview last week Carson said the impetus for the bill came from Colglazier, who did most of the writing. "It was a collaborative effort," Carson said. The bill had a public hearing with the Ways and Means Committee Jan. 25, in which Colglazier provided testimony.

"It is an attempt to give people who own historic properties, and maintain them, a tax break," Carson said.

Carson sketched some of the requirements. To be considered, a house must be at least 100 years old, eligible for either the state or national Historic Register, and used for residential purposes. Once that's established, Carson said, the owner is required to engage an architectural historian, who will

go through a checklist of requirements. If the house passes that stage, the owner can apply to the town, and if accepted, they will receive a certain percentage off the assessed value of the home, which will be applied to their tax rate.

The bill was submitted for the first time last legislative session, and removed after critics listed several concerns. Colglazier "listened carefully" and rewrote the bill, Carson said, and she resubmitted it this year.

In a phone interview Thursday, Colglazier said he got the idea for the tax break six or seven years ago. A subgroup of the Heritage Commission wanted to catalogue the town's historic houses, he said. "We created a directory and came up with 141 structures," he

said. Some of the houses were remodeled so much they no longer qualified for the list, and the group's final number was 138.

The committee had several meetings with the homeowners, asking what they would like the town to do to help them keep their homes as close to the original condition as possible. "They said they wouldn't mind a little bit of a tax break," Colglazier said.

Former Town Planner Tim Thompson created the original legislation and it was sponsored by Representatives Al Baldasaro and Betsy McKinney. It didn't go anywhere, Colglazier said, and was deemed "Inexpedient to Legislate." That was in 2008 or 2009, he said.

Colglazier decided to rewrite the bill and it was put before the Legislature last year. There were several issues, he said, and he rewrote it again for this year.

The Department of Historic Resources likes the concept but wanted to see better definitions and more control, Colglazier said.

One of the Senators hearing the bill wanted to know why there wasn't more local control, Colglazier said. The amounts of the reduction would be on the state level and would be 5, 10 or 15 percent of the assessed value, and there's a reason for that, he said. "If the numbers were decided on the local level, they could be as low as 1, 2 or 3 percent of the assessed value," Colglazier said, and that would

discourage some homeowners. He explained that the homeowner is responsible for the cost of the architectural historian, who would be chosen from a list drawn up by Historic Resources and the NH Preservation Alliance. He isn't sure what an "architectural historian" charges, he said, but is concerned that "what if the percentage they save is less than what they put into getting approved?"

Colglazier has an appointment booked with Elizabeth Muzzey at Historic Resources, and is also planning to talk with Jennifer Goodman at the Preservation Alliance.

He and Carson believe that historic homes are an important part of Londonderry's ambience.

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# Potter's Bowl Helps Bring Funds to Local Caregivers



The 12th annual Potter's Bowl was held at the Pinkerton Academy, Astro Cafe on Saturday, Feb. 4. There were over a dozen soups for attendees to fill up on and hundreds of handmade bowls to choose and dine from. The event, which is the Community Caregivers of Greater Derry's major fund raising event, has expanded throughout the years, outgrowing many of its previous venues. This year over 200 community members took part in the event. Admission to the Potter's Bowl included: endless soup, a handmade ceramic bowl made by local potters, countless desserts, over 70 silent auction items, a 50-50 raffle, music and a photo booth, complete with costumes. Pinkerton Academy artist Michael Gooden was on hand again this year demonstrating his bowl making skills. The Red Star Twirlers were present again this year to lend a helping hand with serving.

Photos by Chris Paul



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# DERRY SPORTS

## Pinkerton Icemen Collect a Win and a Tie in a Pair of Battles

CHRIS PANTAZIS  
NUTFIELD NEWS

A pleasing shutout victory against Hanover followed by a frustrating tie with the weaker Trinity High Pioneers last week left the Pinkerton Academy ice hockey squad with some mixed feelings heading into this week's contests.

The Astros played a significant game at home against the aggressive Hanover High Marauders at The Ice Den in Hooksett Wednesday, Feb. 1, with those two teams sitting neck and neck in Division I standings.

Pinkerton entered the game with three straight wins and an 8-2 record. Hanover stepped onto the

ice with a five-game winning skein rolling and a 7-3 record in that class. So the outcome of this game was significant for both sides.

The two biggest performers in the contest - won by Pinkerton by a 2-0 count - ended up being the goalies, PA sophomore Dakota Robinson and Hanover senior Luke Ratliff. Both played extremely well, with Robinson finishing with 33 stops and Ratliff making 29.

The Astros netted the first goal and the only one they'd need to bag their third shutout of the season 1:08 into the game when Chris Gile rammed home a rebound as he stood at the right post of the Hanover net. Lucas Masciarelli earned the lone assist.

ed the lone assist.

The Astros finished that period with an 11-7 advantage in shots on net, with both keepers having made important stops.

There were another 25 shots put on the two goalies during the second stanza, with Robinson facing 14 and Ratliff seeing 11. And not one of the shots found its way through the keepers to change the 1-0 score.

The Astros had two power-plays - one partial and one full - during the first five minutes of the third period but couldn't nab the insurance goal they sought.

Their keeper Robinson came up huge by stopping a Marauder skater on a breakaway with 9:17 left to play,

and Astro Patrick Hare hit a post on the Hanover cage just 17 seconds later.

The visitors came close to netting the tying goal on a power-play with about five minutes left when Robinson came up huge on two shots, with the third try being shot through the crease and wide of the goal.

Pinkerton finally bagged its insurance marker with 1:36 left on the clock when Cody Sullivan skated in on Hanover keeper Ratliff and tucked a shot home.

"We knew coming in that Hanover was physical and big, but we didn't let them use that against us. We didn't back down," said PA coach Sam Littlefield.

And regarding the superb performance of his keeper Robinson, the coach said, "This was definitely one of the better games I've seen him play. But any time he plays he seems to get better."

Now having won four consecutive contests, the academy icemen found themselves back on their home ice on Saturday the 4th against the struggling Trinity High Pioneers of Manchester (1-8-3).

The Astros peppered the Trinity goal and its goalie



PA skater Cam Appleyard attempts to lead teammate Brendan Banks with a pass during the locals' recent win over Hanover.  
Photo by Chris Pantazis

## Gymnasts End Season With Victory

CHRIS PANTAZIS  
NUTFIELD NEWS

Even with several of its standouts either resting on the sidelines or being limited to less action than usual, the Pinkerton Academy girls' gymnastics squad managed to power its way to another lopsided victory in a six-team meet at the Goffstown YMCA this past Sunday, Feb. 5.

The Lady Astros tallied a team score of 137.75 to easily outdistance the runner-up Bedford bunch and its score

of 123.05. Squads from Manchester Central, Goffstown, Exeter, and Dover also competed.

That success ended the Lady Astros' wildly-successful 2016-17 regular season on a superb note, and they'll host the D-I championship meet in their school's Hackler Gymnasium this Saturday afternoon.

In the Goffstown meet, coach Chelsie Burland's PA stalwarts swept the top three spots on vault and the top three on floor as well.

On vault, Michelle

George took first (score of 9.2) with teammates Ashley Loeffler and Chloe Abreu in the second and third slots.

In the floor exercise, Audrey Hill finished first (9.2) with Abreu and Emily Connors taking the two places behind her.

Julianna Corsetto (8.95) and Liz Bilodeau took first and second respectively on the uneven bars, Loeffler (8.65) and Julianna Iaburrino were first and second on the balance beam, and Abreu won the all-around with a 33.9.

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# Lady Astro Cagers Trounce Two Opponents, Move Mark Up To 11-1



Young PA hoop standout Brooke Kane eyes a free throw chance during a recent contest.

CHRIS PANTAZIS  
NUTFIELD NEWS

Neither Keene nor Manchester Memorial provided much of a challenge to the talented Pinkerton Academy girls' basketball squad on that skilled crew's home court last week.

The academy hoopsters bested both visiting contingents by more than 20 points in upping their 2016-17 record to a truly stellar 11-1. Bedford was the only crew ahead of Pinkerton in the congested Division I standings stepping into this week

at a pretty amazing 13-1. Bishop Guertin of Nashua shared the Pinkerton side's impressive divisional mark of 11-1.

The Lady Astros had no trouble at all with the visiting Keene High Lady Blackbirds in Derry on the night of Tuesday, Jan. 31, walloping that now 4-8 opponent by a 63-30 count.

The hosts were up by eight points at 16-8 after one period and by a full 25 points at 38-13 at halftime.

The Lady Astros then went on to outscore their guests by a 25-17 tally in the

second half.

The victorious locals had 11 players score points, with Tori Overko and Amanda Lemire each netting 10 to pace the charge. Madison Lolicata contributed nine points.

In the home match against now 5-7 Manchester Memorial on the night of Friday, Feb. 3, coach Lani Buskey's Pinkerton powerhouse collected a 69-47 victory with no less than 10 players potting points led by Lemire and her 19. Brooke Kane was good for a Baker's Dozen of 13, and Cydney

Lessard contributed eight.

The hosts won the first three quarters handily, leading 25-11 after one, 42-22 after two, and 58-30 as the game moved into its final stanza.

Buskey's bunch bounded back into competitive action this week with scheduled road games against Nashua North on Tuesday the 7th, after Nutfield News press time, followed by a short run to Londonderry High on Thursday Feb. 9 to battle the Lady Lancers which it bested comfortably recently in Ball Family Trophy play.

## Astro Boy Cagers Edge Back Toward .500 With a Pair of Victories

CHRIS PANTAZIS  
NUTFIELD NEWS

A pair of slim victories last week helped the scuffling Pinkerton Academy boys' basketball squad climb back toward the .500 mark from 2-6 to 4-6.

Wins over Keene and a streaking Manchester Memorial contingent last week enabled veteran coach Peter Rosinski's PA squad to begin to see daylight toward maintaining a shot at a tournament berth in extremely

competitive Division I.

The Astros squeaked out a 58-56 win over the Keene High Blackbirds in the western part of the state on the evening of Tuesday, Jan. 31 to move to 3-6 in the division.

Keene - which is now just 2-7 in D-I - led 15-12 after one quarter, and by a single point at 31-30 when it came time to adjourn for halftime.

Pinkerton outscored its host by four points (12-8) in the third period to grasp an

advantage of 42-39 going into the last stanza, and the locals wound up winning by a single bucket.

The victorious Astros had eight players net points, with Joey Merrill leading the charge with 21. Jay Reynolds contributed 12, and Matt Anzivino and Colin Petrie each collected six.

When the Astros made a far shorter bus trip over to Weston Road in Manchester to take on the Memorial Crusaders on the night of Feb. 3, the locals suited up against an opponent which had won three consecutive games and sported a solid 5-3 record to go along with the confidence it had built up. But the Astros played well enough to stop that opponent's winning run with a

78-74 defeat.

The academy side trailed 27-18 after one quarter, but Rosinski's roster outscored its host by a margin of two to one at 26-13 in the second period as the visitors rolled into halftime grasping a modestly pleasing 44-40 advantage.

The Pinkerton lead sat at just a single point (61-60) sliding into the fourth quarter, but the local cagers outscored their host by a 17-14 margin in that stanza to step away with the success.

The victorious locals finished with no less than four players in double figures in points, led by Reynolds with 21. Anzivino collected 18, Nick Bortone was good for 17, and Andrew Lufkin contributed 10. All in all, eight Astros contributed points to

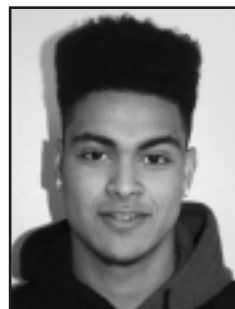
the PA success.

Pinkerton can conceivably get back to the .500 mark soon, and it rolled into

this week looking at a home game against Nashua North this Tuesday the 7th, after Nutfield News press time.

## Athletes of the Week

Week of Jan. 30



**Jadyn Ruimwijk, Junior,  
Boys' Indoor Track**

This talented 11th grader ran well at the D-I championship meet, snaring a first place in the 300 and a sixth in the 55 as an individual. He was also a part of the 4x200 relay team which took third.



**Maria Virga, Sophomore,  
Girls' Indoor Track**

This highly-skilled athlete competed in four events at the D-I title meet and placed in all of them. She was second in both the 300 and the hurdles, and she helped the 4x400 relay team to a first and the 4x200 quartet to a third.

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# Astro Skiers Continue to Excel at Meet Six on Mount Sunapee

CHRIS PANTAZIS  
NUTFIELD NEWS

In their sixth meet of the 2016-17 campaign on Mount Sunapee in Newbury Thursday, Feb. 2, Pinkerton Academy's boys' and girls' ski teams continued to put forth the strong performances which head coach Paul D'Antonio and his assistant Nicole Cuerdon have come to expect.

The defending state champion girls claimed first place as a group again, while the boys wound up a more than respectable second at the full-day competition.

"The sixth race of the season was an all-day giant slalom (GS) and slalom event," said D'Antonio. "On a fairly decent GS course and the worst slalom course I have ever seen, our Astros gave a fantastic performance. And when the snow had settled and the last gate pulled, the girls had taken first in both the GS and slalom and the boys took second in both GS and slalom out of eight Division

I teams."

## GIRLS

The Lady Astros received strong work from returning varsity 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 in the team win.

In the GS, Gonya notched first for the team as well as first overall out of a field of 54 competitors. Not to be outdone, Martineau took second for the team and second overall, Peterson placed third for the team and third overall, and Gardner claimed fourth for the team and 11th overall.

Additionally, Leighton notched 15th overall, Mills was 17th, and captain Emma Bennett missed a gate and hiked up to finish the first run but her second run was simply blazing, leaving her second overall for that second run. She ended up placing 24th overall.

Veal wound up tallying

35th place overall, and Lahey notched 41st place. Katelyn Bennet didn't finish the first run but was a very strong sixth overall for the second run.

In the slalom competition, Gonya again placed first for the team as well as first overall out of a big field of 54.

Martineau placed second for her team and third overall, Peterson claimed third for the team and seventh overall, and Leighton finished fourth for the squad and 13th overall.

Veal finished 21st overall, Mills placed 27th, and Lahey was 37th. Emma Bennett missed a gate and could not recover on the second run, and Katelyn Bennett suffered the same fate.

## BOYS

The PA males received strong efforts from returning varsity team members Mikka Hyvonen, Eric Ihloff, Dylan Durazzano, Kenny McCarthy, Brandon Simpson, Billy Gonya, Camden Caswell, Alex Mielens, and

Peter Tinker, and newcomer Owen Sezgin.

In the GS, leading the pack again for the Astros was Hyvonen, who placed first for the team and third overall out of a field of 63 skiers.

Sezgin placed second for the squad and fifth overall, Ihloff snared third for PA and 15th overall, and team captain Caswell was right behind him coming in fourth for the team and 16th over-

all.

The boys then kept coming on strong with McCarthy bagging 19th, Mielens grabbing 21st overall, Durazzano claiming 25th overall, Gonya notching 35th place, Simpson placing 37th, and Tinker taking 42nd overall.

In slalom competition, which by this point had been moved to a somewhat better course, Hyvonen took first both for his team and over-

all.

Sezgin tallied second for the squad and fifth overall, McCarthy blazed into third for the team and took 10th overall, and Caswell claimed placed fourth for the side and 21st overall.

The PA males then kept coming with Mielens getting 26th overall, Ihloff notching 30th, Durazzano getting 33rd, Tinker taking 37th overall, and Simpson tallying the 42nd spot.



## Soccer Signees

Pinkerton Academy soccer stars Melanie Roberge (left) and Reanna Romano signed their letters of intent to play that sport in college last Thursday, Feb. 2, at Pinkerton. Roberge will attend Saint Michael's College in Vermont, Romano will go to SNHU.

*Courtesy photo*

# Bowlers Bag Three Points

CHRIS PANTAZIS  
NUTFIELD NEWS

The Pinkerton Academy varsity bowling squad rolled into its Saturday, Feb. 4 match at Merrimack Ten Pin knowing that there was a logjam at the top of the state bowling standings. And in order to bust that jam or at least stay within it, the locals would have to perform well.

That day began with Pinkerton, Goffstown, and Stevens all knotted up in a three-way tie for first place.

And the Astro varsity bunch could have done better than it did overall despite finishing the day with three more points.

Pinkerton fell to Keene

in Baker Round play, starting that round with a 180-148 win in game one before falling in game two (171-141) and game three (155-134). Keene had defeated Souhegan of Amherst in the opening round of Baker competition.

Coach Boyden's bunch had bagged the top seed in standard level play by tallying a team score of 1,793. Keene came in second (1,653) and Souhegan got third (1,530).

The PA varsity side rolled impressive first and second game standard scores of 935 and 858, with captain David Pierson finishing his first game with seven strikes in a row for a

fantastic 244 followed by a 149.

His fellow captain Austin Caux scored a 203 and a 159, while Keenan Nash rolled a 171 and then came back with a great 235.

Ben Tripodi contributed a 157 and a 156, and Brian Wilkinson was good for a 160 and a 159. Kyle Vachon notched a first game tally of 135 followed by a superb 194 in the second game with only one open frame.

The PA junior varsity crew also had a productive day, taking first place overall thanks to the strong work of Lauren Sylvain, Nathan Stallings, Liam Padian, Matt Morrison, and Connor Delea.

## HAVE AN ANNOUNCEMENT?

This service is provided free of charge to Derry residents who wish to announce the birth of their child or grandchild, engagement, wedding or milestone event such as a Silver Wedding Anniversary. This is a great way to share your news with your local community. Please contact us at 537-2760 or e-mail to nutfield-news@nutpub.net.

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# Wrestlers Routed by Timberlane But Rebound Well



Battle-tested Pinkerton wrestler Derek Wilson posted a perfect 3-0 record in a multi-team home meet last weekend.  
Photo by Chris Paul

CHRIS PANTAZIS  
NUTFIELD NEWS

After experiencing a pretty humbling outcome of 72-3 in its road match in Plaistow against the Timberlane Regional juggernaut on Wednesday, Feb. 1, the Pinkerton Academy wrestling squad hosted a four-team "Super Quad" match on Saturday Jan. 4 and strode away from its school's Hackler Gymnasium far happier.

Pinkerton had claimed its three points in the

Timberlane blowout when freshman Sterlin McLaughlin managed a 9-5 decision in his 182-pound bout.

And McLaughlin was one of the reasons for the Astros' success on their home mats three days later. He tallied a personal record of 3-1 on the day with three pins, and the academy side went 3-1 as a group.

Pinkerton defeated Bishop Guertin of Nashua by a 48-33 count, Manchester Central by a big 57-15 tally, and Manchester Memorial by a 54-24 mar-

gin. The only visiting squad to best the academy crew was Milford, which claimed a slim 37-34 success. Pinkerton's dual meet record advanced to 10-7 as a result of its successful day at home.

Along with McLaughlin's fine efforts, Pinkerton received perfect 4-0 performances from Derek Wilson at 138 pounds (with three pins) and Walker Stinson at 113 (one pin).

Other PA grapplers who notched 3-1 records for the day included Mike Savvas at

132 pounds, Jon Simonelli at 120 (with two pins), Cam Macro in 195-pound competition, and Kris Dinitto at 106 pounds.

Pinkerton also had 220-pound stalwart Robby Fahey enjoy a perfect day like his teammates Wilson and Stinson. Fahey went 3-0 with a pair of pins.

The academy team then rolled into preparation mode for the upcoming Division I Championships, which will be hosted by rival Londonderry High School on Saturday, Feb. 18.

## PA Indoor Track Crews Both Take Seconds at D-I State Meet

CHRIS PANTAZIS  
NUTFIELD NEWS

The Pinkerton Academy boys' and girls indoor track and field squads both had raging hopes of coming home from this past Sunday's Division I championships at Dartmouth College with state title plaques in their grasps. Both teams did in fact come home with trophies, but they were of the runner-up variety.

Coach Ian French's Astro boys had their streak

of five consecutive D-I titles busted by the talented and determined Nashua North Titans, and first-year leader Mike Karthas had his Lady Astros finish just three slim points behind the now three-time defending Bedford Lady Bulldogs.

### BOYS

The PA males knew full well that North was intent on stealing the crown from the Astros' brow, and they managed to do so this time

around by tallying a team score of 95 to Pinkerton's 88. Third place Winnacunnet was a distant third with a 45. All in all, 16 boys' teams competed.

North claimed first places in the 1,500-meter run, the 3,000-meter run, and the 4x200 and 4x800 relays. The Nashuans actually finished ahead of Pinkerton in all three relays.

The academy crew received wins from Jady

Ruimwijk in the 300-meter dash (36.38 seconds) and Noah Woodman in the 600-meter run (1 minute, 24.73 seconds).

A second place was delivered by Calvin Graves in the 3,000, and thirds were notched by Graves in 1,500, Colin Bigelow in the shot put, and the 4x200 and 4x400 relay quartets.

### GIRLS

The Lady Astros fell just a few points short of their

first state title since 1981, tallying a team score of 80 to end up behind the defending champs from Bedford and their 83. The runner-up finish was the PA girls' first since 2007.

The locals had Amelia Graves win the 300-meter dash (41.73) with teammate Maria Virga right behind her in second. And Graves and Virga teamed up with Nicole Alves and Britney Johnson

for a relay victory in the 4x400 (4:07.77).

Virga also snared a second in the 55-meter hurdles, while other seconds were delivered by Johnson in the 1,000-meter run and the PA 4x800 relay quartet. Third places were delivered by Graves in the 55-meter dash, Johnson in the 1,500 run, Meghan Cross in the 3,000, and the Lady Astros' 4x200 quartet.

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# COMMUNITY EVENTS

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](http://www.nutpub.net). Please send submissions to [calendar@nutpub.net](mailto:calendar@nutpub.net).

## Frost Fest

The 19th annual Frost Festival will be held in Derry Feb. 10 through 12. Events begin with a spaghetti supper Friday at 5 p.m. in the Pinkerton Academy Senior Cafeteria, cost \$1 or a donation of a canned good. Indoor events are scheduled for Saturday at the Derry Public Library and Orange Leaf in Hood Commons and on Sunday at Alexander Carr Playground Lodge and Hoodcroft Country Club. Outdoor events, weather conditions permitting, are scheduled for Sunday at Gallien's Town Beach, Hoodcroft Country Club and Alexander Carr Playground. The Frost Ball will be held on Saturday from 6:30 p.m. to 11 p.m. at Birchwood Vineyards. For updates, call the Parks and Recreation Department at 432-6136.

## Library Offers Fun for Kids

The Derry Public Library offers regular programs for children including: Tuesdays, 4 to 5 p.m., drop-in stories and crafts, ages 5 to 7, no registration; Thursdays, March 9, 16 and 23, 4 to 5 p.m., Spring Into Art Club, registration required beginning Feb. 15; and Thursdays, March 6, 13 and 20, Minecraft Club, registration required beginning Feb. 15. For more information, call the library at 432-6140.

## Guitar Workshop

A free guitar workshop will be held Saturday, Feb. 18, from 2 to 3 p.m. in the Derry Public Library. Daniel Sanders from Let's Play Music will be the instructor. Some guitars are provided, or participants can bring their own. For more information, call the library at 432-6140.

## Sensory Play

An interactive sensory playtime for toddlers will be held Friday, Feb. 17, at 10 a.m. in the Derry Public Library. Attendance is restricted to toddlers ages 1, 2 and 3 and their caregivers. Registration is not required. For more information, call the library at 432-6140.

## A Soldier's Mother

Amoskeag Questers hosts NH Humanities program, "A Soldier's Mother Tells Her Story". Living history presenter Sharon Wood portrays Betsey Phelps, Amherst, NH mother of a Civil War soldier. The program, is free and open to the public, is 10:00 a.m. Wednesday March 1, at Marion Gerrish Community Center, 39 West Broadway, Derry, NH 03038. For more information, contact Meredith Hatch 434-8673.

## Elijah's Table

Elijah's Table, a joint project of Etz Hayim Synagogue ("EHS"), 1-1/2 Hood Road, Derry, and the Derry Episcopal Church of the Transfiguration ("DCOFT"), 1 Hood Road, Derry, will be hosting two free meals in February. DCOFT's dinner will be held on February 12 at 5:00-6:30 and EHS's dinner is on February 19 at 5-6:15 p.m. The dinners are healthy and delicious, and the atmosphere is warm and friendly. Please join us.

## Meet Derry's Poet Laureate

Robert Crawford of Chester is the first Poet Laureate of Derry. A reception to welcome him will be held Thursday, Feb. 23, at 6:30 p.m. in the Derry Public Library. Crawford was nominated by the Derry Public Library and endorsed by the Town Council on its Jan. 24 meeting. He will serve a term of two years.

## Adult Coloring

Adult coloring nights will be held Mondays, Feb. 13 and 27, from 6:30 to 8 p.m. in the Derry Public Library. Materials are provided or participants can bring their own. For more information, call 432-6140.

## Derry Garden Club

The Derry Garden Club will be holding its March meeting on Friday, Mar. 3, at the Derry Boys and Girls Club, 40 Hampstead Rd., Derry, at 10 a.m.. The meeting will be "Beautiful Habitat Gardens and their Fascinating Inhabitants" featuring speaker, Thomas

Berger. He is a naturalist that has traveled the world observing, photographing and painting nature. There will be a slide show and recommendations for plants and typical garden insects. Appetizers and beverages will be provided.

## Rotary Club

The Derry Rotary Club meets every Thursday at 12:15 p.m. at the Marion Gerrish Community Center. Interested in joining please call Nick Norman at 432-5549 for more information.

## Free Meals

The following free meals are offered in February: Feb. 12, Dinner at Church of the Transfiguration, 5 to 6:30 p.m., 1 Hood Road, Derry, 432-2130; Feb. 13, Dinner at West Running Brook Middle School, 5 to 6:30 p.m., 1 West Running Brook Lane, Derry, 432-1350; Feb. 18, Dinner at St. Luke's United Methodist Church, 5 to 6:30 p.m., 63 East Broadway, Derry, 434-4767; Feb. 19, Dinner at Etz Hayim Synagogue, 5 to 6:15 p.m., 1 Hood Road, Derry, 432-0004; Feb. 24, Spaghetti Supper at First Parish Congregational Church, 5 to 6:30 p.m., 47 East Derry Road, Derry, 434-0628; Feb. 26, Breakfast at Church of the Transfiguration, 9 to 10 a.m., 1 Hood Road, Derry, 432-2130; Feb. 26, Lunch hosted by St. Jude Parish Community, 1:30 to 2:30 p.m., at the Londonderry Lions Hall, 432-3333. In addition, the Sonshine Soup Kitchen serves a free meal every weeknight from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m.

## Learn about Model Railroads

The Seacoast Division of the National Model Railroad Association will hold Derry Fun Nights the second Friday of each month, from 7 to 9 p.m., in the Marion Gerrish Community Center, 39 West Broadway, Derry. Topic in the Feb. 10 meeting will be soldering. Those wanting further information may go to the Division's website at [www.seacoastnmra.org/calendar](http://www.seacoastnmra.org/calendar).

## Super Parent Saturday

The Upper Room, a family resource agency, will offer a Super Parent Saturday Feb. 11, from 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m., at its facility at 36 Tsienneto Road. Snow date is Feb. 18. The day of workshops offers two tracks, one for parents of teens, with teens also welcome, and one for parents of young-to-middle-school children. Cost is \$40 per person. For more information, call 437-8477 or visit [www.urteachers.org](http://www.urteachers.org)

## Teen & Parent Workshops

The Upper Room, 36 Tsienneto Road, holds the following free weekly support groups and workshops: Hour Power Lunch Time Workshops, Wednesdays, 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Topics available on Web site. Parents of Teens, Thursdays, 6 to 7:30 p.m. Parents of children 0-6, includes playgroup and/or childcare, Wednesdays, 9:15 to 10:45 a.m. Light refreshments and coffee. Teen and Young Parents (up to age 23), Wednesdays, 5 to 7 p.m., includes light dinner and child care. For more information, call 437-8477 or visit [www.urteachers.org](http://www.urteachers.org).

## 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 [derryrecreation@derryrh.org](mailto:derryrecreation@derryrh.org).

## 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](http://derrypl.org) or call 432-6140.

## 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 [patricia.cooper@amedisys.com](mailto:patricia.cooper@amedisys.com) or 421-0414.

## 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 4321-6140.

## 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 Feb. 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.

## 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](http://derrypl.org) or call 432-6140.

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