

# Nutfield News

February 16, 2017 • Volume 13 - Issue 7

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## Town Challenging ZBA's Decision To Grant Variance For Storage Facility

HUNTER MCGEE  
NUTFIELD NEWS

Saying they oppose the move, councilors have voted to challenge a recent decision by the Zoning Board of Adjustment to grant a variance for a storage facility at 343 Island Pond Road.

Despite the opposition of abutters, the ZBA voted on Jan. 19 to grant a variance to the property at 343 Island Pond Road for a proposed 138-unit storage facility.

At the Feb. 7 council meeting, councilors voted unanimously to direct Town administrator David Caron to file a motion for a rehearing challenging the ZBA's decision to grant the variance.

"I'll be voting in favor of this because I also see the community very upset about this," Councilor Joshua Bourdon said before the

vote.

In the Jan. 19 meeting, ZBA members conditionally granted a variance to build a 138-unit self-storage facility at 343 Island Pond Road.

ZBA members voted 4-1 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 accumulated. An environmental clean-up 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

**continued on page 2**

## West Running Brook Middle School Chosen As New Polling Location

HUNTER MCGEE  
NUTFIELD NEWS

So that vote counting can be broadcast live on local cable TV, Councilors have designated West Running Brook Middle School as Derry's central polling location in elections.

Councilors voted unanimously at their Feb. 7 meeting to move the location from Calvary Baptist Church, which was used for last year's general election, to the middle school.

In the general election, the church lacked the equipment necessary to broadcast the counting, but West Running Brook is set up to handle the broadcasts, Town Clerk Daniel Healey said in

the meeting.

"So, I looked into it more and we are able to do that at West Running Brook," Healey said. "They already broadcast School Board meetings and other events from there. Sometimes they even broadcast in the gym."

Healey said he recently talked to Christ Martin, systems coordinator for Derry Community Television, and confirmed the upcoming election can be broadcast live from West Running Brook.

"So if you want to view the counting on Derry TV, this would be the best location to do it," Healey said.

The election is scheduled to be held on Tuesday,

March 14, with polls open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. Voting for Districts 1 and 4 will be at Gilbert H. Hood Middle School; District 2, at Calvary Bible Church; and District 3 at West Running Brook Middle School.

After receiving a letter from Secretary of State William Gardner, councilors agreed last year to no longer using the Municipal Center as Derry's central polling location in elections.

Instead, councilors voted to change the location to Calvary Bible Church.

Gardner sent the letter to the town after finding Derry Town Moderator Mary Till allegedly violated several

**continued on page 6**



**GIVING IT A WHIRL** Derry sisters Patricia and Elizabeth Purcell lace up their skates on the snowy shores of Beaver Lake on Sunday afternoon during the annual Frost Festival taking place in a number of areas in town. The two were eager to get out on the ice, which they hadn't done in some time. See more Frost Festival photos throughout this week's paper.

*Photo by Chris Paul*

## Town Council Votes To Increase Water User Rates

HUNTER MCGEE  
NUTFIELD NEWS

Local customers will begin seeing higher water bills later this year following a decision by the Town Council to raise rates to offset price increases from supplier Manchester Water

Works.

Councilors voted 6-1 at their Feb. 7 meeting to raise rates across all customer classes by about 4.5 percent. A public hearing was held prior to the vote.

Councilor Joshua Bourdon cast the lone vote against increasing the rates.

In explaining why he opposed the increase, Bourdon said, "I just think a little bit here and there, it adds up. I would have liked to have seen more options and just some different scenarios to choose from."

Derry water users will

**continued on page 7**



# Derry Receives High Bond Rating in Recent Reanalysis

HUNTER MCGEE  
NUTFIELD NEWS

A recent reanalysis completed by the two major bond rating agencies working with municipalities gave Derry a rating just below AAA, according to officials.

The rating was completed by Standard & Poor's and Moody's, Town Administrator David Caron said in the council's Feb. 7 meeting.

"I believe the Moody's rating was one point below AAA, which is held by very few communities in the state of New Hampshire," Caron said.

The high bond rating means it will be easier to borrow money in the future.

In giving the rating, Caron said the bond rating agencies pointed to Derry's "preferable tax base per capita; our medium family

income our fund balance and cash balance as a percentage of our revenues, the town's strong legal ability to match resources with spending and the lower amount of debt owed by the town."

The agencies also mentioned that to improve upon the rating and achieve a AAA rating, Derry should continue to grow its tax base, Caron said, adding, "which obviously is one of

the major focuses of the Economic Development Advisory Committee and this council. It's really good news."

In the meeting, Councilor Joshua Bourdon asked Caron what Derry how much the town needs to grow the tax base as a number to try to reach.

"Because that would be a great number to shoot for and then that would help the

Economic Committee focus to get to the number as efficiently and quickly as possible," Bourdon said.

Caron said he didn't know but would find out and have the information available for the Feb. 21 meeting, when Chief Financial Officer Susan Hickey is scheduled to present information on the Fiscal Year 2017 second quarter.

In addition, Bourdon

also asked for the difference in interest rates for a AAA bond rating versus a AA rating in terms of lower interest rates.

"Do we know how much we are losing per year by not having AAA?" Bourdon asked.

Caron said, "We are definitely trending up and I'll get last year's score as well."

## ZBA

continued from page 1  
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.

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.

If the variance was granted and the business approved, Gail Hitter said the 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 visible 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.

## OBITUARY

### Rev. Samuel Benjamin Hamblett, III



The Rev. Samuel Benjamin Hamblett, III of Derry, passed away on February 11, 2017 at the age of 81. He was born on July 4, 1935 in Derry to S. Benjamin, Jr. and Marie Hamblett. He was a graduate of Pinkerton Academy, the University of New Hampshire and Andover-Newton Theological School in Newton, Mass.

Rev. Hamblett is survived by his wife of 58 years, Mary (Polhemus) Hamblett; his 3 children and their spouses - Malcolm and Amy Hamblett of Weston, VT, Philip and Jill.

Hamblett of San Antonio, TX, and Helen and Myron Langford of Chase Mills, N.Y.; 7 grandchildren, Zeb Fortune, Hannah, Ben, Abigail, Rebekah and Samuel Hamblett, and Maria Langford; his sister-in-law Diann Hamblett and cousin Barbara Wilkinson and a number of nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by his brother Malcolm W. Hamblett.

Rev. Mr. Hamblett was ordained into the Christian ministry within the American Baptist Churches, USA on February 4, 1962. During his 35+ years of active ministry he pastored the Crown Point Baptist and Third Baptist Churches in Strafford, NH; First Baptist Church, Wolfeboro Falls and Water Village Community Church; First Baptist Church of Hanover (Etna) and Hanover Center Congregational Church; First Baptist Church, South New Berlin, NY and Gilbertsville (NY) Baptist Church; and First Baptist Church, Ogdensburg, NY. He was an active member of the Congregational-Baptist Church of Chester. During his ministry he was active in American Baptist life in both New Hampshire, where he and Mary were involved in the backpacking program at Camp Sentinel in Center Tuftonboro, and in New York. He continued to preach to the age of 80. He enjoyed history, biblical archeology, crosswords puzzles, puns, writing poetry and hymns, and spending time with his family. He was known as a gentle and kind man to all he met.

Calling hours for Rev. Mr. Hamblett will be on Monday Feb. 27, from 4 -7 p.m. at Peabody Funeral Homes and Crematorium, 15 Birch St., Derry. A memorial service in celebration of his life will be held on Tuesday Feb. 28 at 11 a.m. at the Congregational-Baptist Church in Chester. In lieu of flowers donations may be made to either Chester Congregational-Baptist Church, PO Box 306, Chester, NH 03036, or New England Donor Services, 60 First Avenue, Waltham, MA 02154. To send a condolence or for more information, please visit [www.peabodyfuneralhome.com](http://www.peabodyfuneralhome.com)

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# Snow Storm Adds to the Fun at Annual Frost Festival Event



Hoodcroft Golf Course had residents trying out Fat Tired Bikes in the snowy conditions as well as Cross Country Skiing and Snow Shoeing.

Marrissa and Christine Whittaker make their way down one of the snow covered hills at Alexander Carr Park.

*Photos by Chris Paul*

Above, a steady stream of attendees braved the snowy conditions at Hoodcroft to cross country ski and snow shoe. Below, Kaitlyn and Raelyn McCarthy enjoy the ride at Alexander Carr Park.

**HUNTER MCGEE**  
NUTFIELD NEWS

Despite an approaching snow storm, the 19th Annual Frost Festival still drew a large crowd and proved successful overall, organizers said.

With the powerful storm nearing the area, it snowed all day Sunday when outdoor events were held, according to officials.

But all of the events were still held as festival goers enjoyed fun activities like ice hockey and snowshoeing.

"It went well despite the weather," Parks and Recreation Director Eric Boden-

rader said Tuesday. "All in all we had a good crowd. It was surprising given the weather that people were still venturing out."

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.

In the days leading up to last weekend's event, officials were concerned that the snowpack wouldn't be sufficient to hold the outdoor events. But a series of recent storms allowed for adequate conditions.

Bodenrader praised the Parks Department for get-

ting the hockey ready to go in time for the festival.

"It went off without a hitch," Bodenrader said. "Kudos to the Parks Department for keeping that rink up."

Other events that were held Sunday at Gallien's Town Beach, included an ice fishing demonstration; and a Chili contest. Winners in the Chili Contest were: Ed Muller, first place; Rick Christian, Grover Christian, second place; and Kim Raines, third place, according to officials.

At Hoodcroft Golf Course on Sunday some of the activities included snowmobile rides, along with ski-

ing, snowshoeing and fat bikes.

And on Sunday at Alexander Carr Playground, sledding was held.

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



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## Editorial

### Meager Masses

High numbers and Deliberative Sessions typically do not go hand in hand, it seems, despite the argument for the official ballot style of voting that includes a Deliberative Session, where warrant articles can be explained and amended before going on the ballot.

The argument that a Deliberative Session will attract more voters is used to persuade residents to forgo the traditional New England Town Meeting. The argument is a bit questionable, as voter turnout remains low. But on the other hand, voters will get to vote on every article unlike the Town Meetings.

To provide just as a few examples, about 50 people turned out for Sandown's town Deliberative Session, with all of about six-dozen residents showing up for Hampstead's school district deliberative (to give that some context, Hampstead had about 6,500 registered voters for the November election).

In much larger Derry, which has about 22,000 registered voters, a grand total of around 150 residents attended Saturday's school Deliberative Session.

So do these figures mean that all of the absent town residents had already known of and agreed with all of the numerous articles on the town and school warrants and are ready for the voting booth March 14? It's highly unlikely, and it's even possible that a number of residents are unaware there is even an election taking place next month.

As the saying goes, "You can't fix what you do not know is broken." This is true for these articles and warrants that are brought

up in these deliberative sessions. They cannot be amended if you don't use your voice to amend them, and you can't use your voice to amend them if you are unaware of or choose to forgo the deliberative sessions offered to you.

The next chance to participate in democracy is the March 14th election. You've got some time to research the candidates for your town and boost your knowledge of the issues that will appear on the warrant. We encourage you to study the numbers, check out the proposed union contracts, attend or watch candidate forums, ask questions, and verify what proponents and opponents of a particular warrant article are telling you. This year's election has attracted, for the most part, a variety among the candidates, so do your due diligence and make your vote an informed one.

If our candidates have made the effort to offer their time for public service, we owe them at the very least enough interest to pay attention to what they have to offer. And if their words are platitudes and generalities, we have the right to demand answers to all of the tough questions.

Local politics matter the most because they have the greatest effect on you, the citizen. We the people have far more clout in town and school elections than in any other.

So maybe you've missed your chance to participate in your Deliberative Sessions, but for your own good and the good of the community, we ask you to mark your calendars for the next one, do your make-up homework, and get out and vote on March 14th.

## Letters

### Joshua Bourdon for Derry Town Council

To the Editor:

It is with pleasure and professional respect that I submit this letter of support for Joshua Bourdon for a second term as a Councilor at Large in the Town of Derry. I have known Joshua as a colleague while serving on the Derry Town Council for the past three years. In each of our contacts, Joshua has demonstrated a ready grasp and application of the fundamentals of town governance. He has earned an enviable reputation with the residents and taxpayers of Derry as a caring and committed town official who truly acts in the best interest of his constituents. Some of Joshua's strengths while serving as a Town Councilor for the past three years include:

- His fiscally responsible actions during the budget planning process to ensure that we retain essential services at an affordable cost to taxpayers;
- Becoming a driving force and advocate for economic development and energy conservation in our community;
- His active participation in the Derry community;
- His ability to work collaboratively with individuals and groups, including fellow councilors and town administrators, to achieve common goals;
- His ability to listen carefully to the needs of all residents;
- His ability to develop the trust and confidence of Derry residents through his actions and interactions.

Mr. Bourdon's background and experience in the field of human resource management has provided him with an outstanding repertoire of skills and tech-

niques that allows him to be a resourceful and responsive leader.

He clearly possesses the ability to articulate personal mission, values and beliefs and at the same time, build a strong concept of teamwork within the community. His focus remains on continuous community improvement, and he has repeatedly demonstrated that he will extend himself to assist community residents in their efforts to accept and embrace change.

On a more personal basis, Joshua exhibits well-developed problem-solving and human relations skills. He is a bright, mature and enthusiastic community leader. Joshua knows how to involve people in the decision-making process. He is committed to making sure that the voice of the voters is heard when he is making decisions on behalf of the community.

It has been a pleasure to work with Joshua, and I personally respect his expertise, judgment, and advice. I urge you to keep Derry moving forward by re-electing Joshua Bourdon to a second term on the Derry Town Council.

David N. Fischer  
Derry Town Councilor-District #3

### Elect Josh Bourdon

To the editor:

With the upcoming election for Derry's town council I would like to talk about a young man, Josh Bourdon, whom I have known for several years now.

He is one of the most giving and selfless people I know. Not only has he been involved with raising money for the Sonshine Soup Kitchen by holding a spin-a-thon at Zoo health club, he

has also been instrumental in raising money for the Derry Friendship Center for the past two years with the Race for Recovery. Both of these endeavors have raised well over \$40,000. Every winter he collects coats for the homeless veterans as well. I would imagine a cause close to his heart.

With all of this said it isn't all about raising money with Josh, it's about helping in a way that only his time and effort would accomplish. He is very passionate about his community and the good work that can be accomplished.

He is a great dad, husband and friend, and anyone who knows him would agree. His record on the town council speaks for itself and so if all that I have said doesn't convince you, find out for yourself by getting to know him. I know he has my vote this year and I would hope that he could count on the reader to have theirs as well

Carol Bowden  
Chainman of the Board  
Derry Friendship Center

### We Need Bourdon

To the Editor:

Why We Need Joshua Bourdon First I must share that as a man myself in long term recover from addiction, that the current drug crisis we are facing in Derry and America is always on my mind and that battle is dear to my heart. With the coming election for the position of "Town Councilor-at-Large" I have seen first hand the work of one man to help fight this battle. One man who helps raise money for this cause, and a man who sits in meetings with myself and others to do all we can to change lives, rescue those

**continued on page 5**

## Nutfield News

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**tel: 603-537-2760 • fax: 603-537-2765**  
**send e-mails to: nutfieldnews@nutpub.net**  
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**Owner/Publisher – Debra Paul      Art Director – Chris Paul**

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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. 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.



# Ice Sculptures, Spaghetti Supper Kick Off Frost Festival

HUNTER MCGEE  
NUTFIELD NEWS

Carving intricate shapes into blocks of ice, Dennis Hickey and David Soha created figures from "The Lion King" Friday in front of the Adams Memorial Opera House.

Dubbed the Ice Breakers, their ice sculptures were part of the activities to help kick off the Frost Festival. The festival began on Friday afternoon and ran through the weekend.

Based in Manchester, Hickey and Soha have been carving ice sculptures in the area for twenty years.

"He's getting there," Hickey said as he worked on the ears of the warhog Pumbaa, one of the characters from the animated Disney

movie. The popular film was held later that day inside the Opera House.

For a moment, Hickey paused to go over and carve out a square section from a block of ice. As he used the carving tool, a spray of ice chips flew back in the cold breeze. He continued working to perfect the sculpture as spectators stopped by to watch and ask questions.

Later in the day, more than 110 people turned out for the annual Spaghetti Supper in the Pinkerton Academy Senior Cafeteria, said Charlie Crompton, of the Derry Village Rotary Club.

Hosted by the Derry Village Rotary Club, the supper was held at the Pinkerton Academy Senior Cafeteria. The cost was \$1 per person

or free with a donation of a canned good.

Crompton said the Rotary Club adopted the Class of 2020 to help out at the supper. The last class to assist at the supper graduated last year, he said.

The students joined in the fun by helping as bingo was played before the supper started. They assisted by helping call out the numbers, Crompton said.

During the supper, the freshmen helped throughout the evening by going through the line for any seniors who couldn't hold their trays, he said.

"The students would go through the line and it was nice and these kids are freshmen," Crompton said. "It was a good night."



Ice Breaker, David Soha, measures a block of ice Friday in front of the Adams Memorial Opera House. Carving intricate shapes into blocks of ice, Soha and Dennis Hickey created figures from "The Lion King" Friday. Their ice sculptures were part of the activities to help kick off the Frost Festival. The festival began on Friday afternoon and ran through the weekend.  
*Photo by Hunter McGee*



More than 110 people attended the Annual Spaghetti Supper that was held Friday night in the Pinkerton Academy Senior Cafeteria, according to organizers. Before the supper, those attending played Bingo. The supper helped kick off the Frost Festival that was held over the weekend.  
*Courtesy Photo*

## Letters

continued from page 4

in pain, and truly save many from death's door. Joshua Bourdon, our current Town Councilor at Large is a man of great passion for the service he is called to in our town of Derry. There are many issues and causes to

which he has fought hard for, and for this, I am thankful. Yet as a recovered addict myself, one who once lost everything and nearly died many times, I am so grateful for living nearly 10 years now happy, joyous and free from addiction here in Derry and that was only made possible by men and

women such as Joshua! This is my very first letter to the Editor "ever", as I ask you all to please vote for those still struggling. Vote Joshua Bourdon for Town Councilor at Large. Keep Looking Up,

Minister  
Craig Barnaby  
Derry

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# Attorney General Brings Enforcement Action Against Used Car Dealer

HUNTER MCGEE  
NUTFIELD NEWS

Following multiple complaints, the New Hampshire Attorney General's Office has brought enforcement action against a used car dealer for allegedly selling unsafe and uninspected vehicles.

Attorney General Joseph A. Foster announced on Feb. 7 that his office brought a consumer protection enforcement action against Platinum Auto Brokers, formerly located in Nashua at 535 Amherst St. and now

doing business as Derry Auto Brokers, located at 4 Peabody Road Annex in Derry, according to a news release.

The attorney general's office alleges that the business sold unsafe and uninspected without providing buyers with a Notice of Sale of Unsafe Motor Vehicle. The auto dealer also allegedly failed to advise buyers of their right to have the car inspected with the defects noted on a form as required by state statute, the release said.

In addition, the company allegedly failed to remove old inspection stickers prior to the sale and failed to inform their customers their car was unsafe for operation on the roads of New Hampshire, the release said. The company also allegedly failed to provide buyers with a federally mandated Buyer's Guide, according to the release.

After bringing a complaint for unfair or deceptive trade practices, Platinum Auto Brokers agreed to resolve the complaint with a settlement document refer-

red to as a consent judgment, the release said. The settlement was approved by the Hillsborough County Superior Court on Feb. 3. According to the terms of the consent judgment, Platinum Auto Brokers must provide any buyer of an uninspected motor vehicle with a copy of a Notice of Sale and Unsafe Vehicle Form, which is to be signed by both the buyer and salesperson., and the Buyer's Guide containing any warranty terms of the sale., the release said. In addition, old inspection stickers must be

removed.

As part of the settlement, Platinum Auto Brokers has refunded approximately \$12,000 to consumers who bought used vehicles from them that were allegedly sold in violation of the Consumer Protection Act, the release said.

In addition, Platinum Auto Brokers was ordered to pay a fine of \$5,000, with all but \$1,000 suspended for five years conditioned on the company complying with the terms of the settlement agreement, the release said.

According to federal law, dealers must display a Buyer's Guide on all used cars that list whether the vehicle is sold "As Is" that is without a warranty or a specified warranty. And the buyer must receive a copy of the Buyer's Guide at the time of sale, the release said.

Consumers can call the the Attorney General's Consumer Information Line at 1-888-468-4454 or file a complaint online at <http://doj.nh.gov/consumer/complaints/index.ht>, according to the release.

## Town Receives 32 Resumes For Economic Development Coordinator Post

KATHLEEN D. BAILEY  
NUTFIELD NEWS

Hoping to hire an economic development coordinator soon, Town Administrator David Caron said his office has received 32 resumes for the position.

"We are very pleased

with the breadth and quality of the candidates," Caron said at the Town Council's Feb. 7 meeting.

Caron said he has assembled a team of local officials to interview five candidates on Feb. 16.

Although they didn't take a vote, councilors last

month supported a plan proposed by Caron to hire an in-house full-time economic development coordinator.

Caron said the move is vitally important for economic development in town.

"Since before I became associated with the town, it was made very clear to me

that one of the town's primary goals was to stimulate economic development. Part of that strategy is to identify, and secure the necessary resources to help us achieve that goal."

To help offset Derry's tax rate, which is one of the highest in the state, councilors have been exploring ways to generate tax revenue and help develop the local economy.

Councilors voted unanimously at their Dec. 20 meeting to hire Buxton Marketing for retail development services. The agreement calls for the town to pay \$50,000 for the first year, with the option to hire

Buxton for the remaining two-years of the contract. The agreement also offers the possibility of engaging Buxton to develop a hotel feasibility study at a one-time cost of \$10,000. All 2017 costs will be funded by from the FY 2017 economic development budget, according to officials.

The next step in the plan is to hire an economic development director, Caron said.

Caron said the town could choose to hire an in-house employee or a contracted entity, which could be either full-service firm or an individual.

In exploring options,

Caron said he looked at all of the models and conferred with a number of economic development practitioners, with experience in New Hampshire and throughout the country. He said the feedback he received is clear.

Based upon his research and after reviewing the proposal from the Economic Development Advisory Committee for securing outside services, Caron said he recommended hiring "an in-house full-time economic development coordinator from our existing resources."

Caron said plans call for having someone in place in the position in March.

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## Polling

continued from page 1

state election laws, including using the Municipal Center

as a central polling place.

Derry had been using the Municipal Center for years as the central polling place, where the final results are tabulated at the close of each

election, according to officials.

Former Acting Administrator Stephen Daly had recommended that Calvary should be designated as the new central polling site.

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# Powerful Snow Storm Causes Few Incidents in Town

KATHLEEN D. BAILEY  
NUTFIELD NEWS

Because many drivers stayed off of the roads, a powerful nor'easter that hit the area Monday caused few incidents in town, according to officials.

Following a string of several recent storms, the nor'easter dumped about 10 inches on Derry but caused few delays.

Derry police Capt. Vern

Thomas said a few cars slid off the road but there were no real crashes.

In advance of the storm, school was canceled throughout the district and many other places and businesses appeared to have delayed opening, Thomas said, adding that the Derry Municipal Center opened at noon.

"The morning traffic was light, allowing road crews more time to push

back snowbanks and clear sidewalks in preparation for tomorrow," Thomas said as another storm was forecast for Wednesday.

Because not as many drivers were on the road, the job of clearing snow from the roads was much easier, Public Works Director Michael Fowler said Tuesday.

"We had a lot of things actually working in our favor," Fowler said. "For

one vehicles were actually off the road and everybody pretty much hunkered down."

Fowler added, "It makes our life that much easier when school cancelled on Monday morning and everybody knew that well in advance."

With not as many cars on the road, crews didn't have to deal with vehicles parked on the side of the road, he said.

As a result, from 10 a.m. on, the roads were cleared to black pavement, Fowler said.

"The crews I thought did a tremendous job and stayed on top of it," Fowler said.

Combined with a series of recent storms, the nor'easter added to the cost of cleanup and affected the town's approximately \$650,000 snow removal budget. Fowler said estimates show the town can

handle a few more storms before the budget would be depleted.

But helping with cleanup, Fowler said that the sun is stronger in February, compared to January, and officials are seeing a warming trend beginning after the storm that is forecast for Wednesday.

"It looks good after Wednesday," Fowler said.

## Water

continued from page 1

begin seeing the increase on or after Sept. 1, according to officials

The increase was

approved to offset "the cost of the series of increases we've incurred from our wholesale water supplier since 2013," said Deputy Public Works Director Thomas Carrier, adding that 2013 is the year Derry's

water user rates were last reviewed and had an increase.

The approved new water rate structure increases the residential quarterly minimum base charge of \$23.03 to \$23.28, said Carrier, who appeared at the meeting with Public Works Director Michael Fowler.

Before the meeting, Town Administrator David Caron had recommended that councilors adopt the water user rates as recommended 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, Carrier said.

The increases have resulted in about \$71,000 increase to the purchase water budget in the last 10 years. To help offset cost, fewer water main replacements and fewer hydrant replacements have been completed, Carrier said. To reinstate funds back in the budget, the rate hike was

proposed, he said.

Before the rate increase was approved, he explained that the cost to bring water to the curb of customers each quarter to meet demand costs \$23.03 per living unit, per residential customer. Under that rate structure, a 24-unit apartment building would pay 24 times that \$23.03 charge. The rate was increased to \$23.28 following the vote.

As an example of how the rate increase will affect some of the various customer classes, a single family residential unit's rate will

go up by \$1.50 per quarter; a residential duplex will increase by \$1.75; a typical restaurant in Derry would see a quarterly increase of \$57.42; and a large water user would see a quarterly increase of \$123.62, Carrier said.

Following the presentation, Carrier was asked by Councilor Richard Tripp how much revenue would increase in a year with the new rates. Carrier answered by saying that the projected revenue would increase by about \$79,000 based on the Fiscal Year 2018 budget.

## OBITUARY

### A. Mildred Gumper

A. Mildred (Devlin) Gumper, 91, of Derry, NH, died Thursday February 9, 2017, in Warde Health Center, Windham, NH. Born in Phoenixville, PA on January 19, 1926, to the late John and Ann (Koerner) Devlin. Raised in Phoenixville, Mildred graduated from Phoenixville High School in 1943 before attending Temple University Nursing School earning her RN degree during World War II. Longtime resident of Reading, PA, she was active at St. Ignatius Parish in Whitfield, PA. She and her husband enjoyed extensive traveling including trips to Europe, Ireland, and the Caribbean Islands.

She is survived by her beloved husband of 65 years, Walter Gumper, three children, Ann Louise Jones and her husband Ken, Robert Gumper and his wife Diane, and Jean Sullivan and her husband Michael, as well as ten grandchildren and five great grandchildren.

There are no calling hours. A Liturgy of Christian Burial was celebrated privately at the Warde Health Center. A graveside service will be held in the spring in Phoenixville, PA. The Peabody Funeral Homes and Crematorium, 15 Birch St., Derry is assisting the family with arrangements. Memorial contributions may be made to Alzheimer Disease Research ([www.brightfocus.com/ADR](http://www.brightfocus.com/ADR)). To send a condolence or for more information, please visit, [www.peabodyfuneralhome.com](http://www.peabodyfuneralhome.com)

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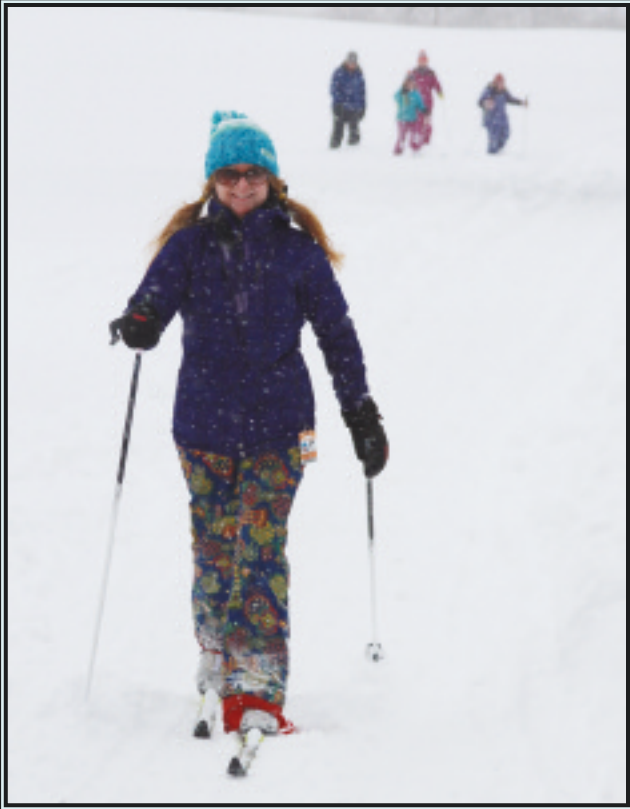
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# Snow Arrives Just in Time for Annual Frost Festival Fun



There was certainly a great number of winter activities to take part in during this year's Frost Festival. Clockwise from above, Pinkerton hockey player, Cody Sullivan takes on Lucian Detris on Beaver Lake Sunday afternoon, Katherine Holt leads the way at Hoodcroft Country Club, Derry Firefighters warm things up at Alexander Carr Park, Hoodcroft Country Club had snow mobiles to try out, Teagan Varney has a blast on her tube at Alexander Carr Park.

Photos by Chris Paul

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# DERRY SPORTS

## After Slim 2016 Loss, Lady Astro Gymnasts Return to the Top



PA's Michelle George won the individual state title on vault on Saturday the 11th.



Audrey Hill bagged an important third place in the floor exercise for her team.



The Pinkerton Academy girls' gymnastics squad collected its sixth state championship since 2010 on its own equipment in their school's Hackler Gymnasium last Saturday, Feb. 11.

Photos by Chris Paul

CHRIS PANTAZIS  
NUTFIELD NEWS

Since disappointingly losing the 2016 state title to the rival Lady

Lancers of Londonderry High School by mere percentage points last February, the Pinkerton Academy girls' gymnastics squad has been laser-focused on returning to the top of the state gymnastics heap this year.

And last Saturday, Feb. 11 in their own Hackler Gymnasium, veteran coach Chelsie Burland's Lady Astros managed that major feat - this time defeating the

LHS Lady Lancers by just percentage points - in claiming their sixth state championship since 2010 and the 14th in PA girls' gymnastics history.

Burland's bunch was able to overcome sub-par performances on both the uneven bars and the balance beam with some stellar work in the floor exercise to tally a team score of 138.65, less than a point higher than the Londonderry High score of 137.925. The Pelham High Lady Pythons finished a distant third with an overall score of 127.425. All in all, 17 teams and 16 individual gymnasts competed in two

different sessions at the Derry school.

The floor exercise was the final event for the academy squad, which competed along with Londonderry in the afternoon session. And the Astros were totally aware of what they were up against - sitting behind Londonderry by half a tenth of a point - as they began to compete in that event.

"We knew how close it was going into floor, and we knew we had to have our best performances there," said Burland. "And when (senior star) Julianna Corsetto finished I felt a huge sense of relief. Our

girls did great in floor."

But the academy squad still wasn't sure until the team scores were announced that it had in fact managed to squeak past the defending state champs from Londonderry by less than a point.

"We were not perfect today," said coach Burland. "We had weaker beam and bar performances, but we were able to make up for it on floor. It came down to having the girls perform the way they were capable of on

floor with it on the line."

Pinkerton's lone event win - and individual state title - was delivered by Michelle George on vault (9.350), with Corsetto finishing right behind her in second place (9.175). Sophia Viger also snagged a sixth place in that event.

Corsetto also claimed a fourth place on floor (9.1) and took third in the all-around with a 35.350.

Audrey Hill snared an important third place on

floor (9.175), and freshman Viger bagged sixth places on beam and in the all-around.

Bishop Guertin standout Camryn Nichols, competing as an individual, claimed state championships on floor, beam, and in the all-around.

The Pinkerton contingent now prepares for the prestigious New England Championships, which will be held at Woodstock Academy in Woodstock, Ct., on Saturday, March 11.

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# Fourth Quarter Effort Gets PA Girls' Hoop Win in Londonderry

CHRIS PANTAZIS  
NUTFIELD NEWS

A superb fourth quarter performance pushed the Pinkerton Academy girls' basketball squad from a three-point lead after three quarters to a double-digit win over the rival Londonderry High Lady Lancers at LHS this past Sunday afternoon, Feb. 12.

The Astros bounced their 2016-17 record up to 13-1 with their sixth consecutive victory - a 63-49 success - over a Lancers' crew which slipped to 7-6 with its third loss in its last four battles.

Both local contingents survived a previous week which was littered with cancellations, and the Pinkerton side managed to maintain its winning ways with that fourth quarter effort during which it outscored its scuffling host by a 20-9 tally.

The Pinkerton bunch led through most of the game, but its advantage was at a modest three points (43-40) as the fourth period began.

However, the Lady Lancers - playing without senior star Kelsey Coffey until late this week - then ran out of gas while the Pinkerton crew put the proverbial pedal to the metal in tallying the 14-point win.

"I wasn't happy with our

rebounding until the fourth quarter," said coach Lani Buskey. "Londonderry is a really scrappy team, and they got lots of second (scoring) chances in the first three quarters. But we stepped it up in the fourth."

The absence of Coffey - a key LHS player since her freshman year - was felt by the hosts keenly during the contest, and especially during that decisive fourth stanza.

"The kids were gassed," lamented LHS coach Nick Theos. "There are lots of minutes being played by young kids, so our bench is shorter than usual, and that showed in the fourth quarter."

Pinkerton received a great performance from senior captain and guard Tori Overko, who netted a game-high 22 points including several big three-pointers. Amanda Lemire contributed 13 points, and Brooke Kane was good for 10.

LHS coach Theos ended up with numerous individual performances with which to be pleased, with freshman Courtney Shay notching a Baker's Dozen of 13 points, senior stalwart Amanda DeAngelis tallying 12, and Michaela Downing adding eight.

Pinkerton began the con-



PA's Tori Overko netted 22 points in her team's game against LHS on Sunday.

test by sprinting out to a sizable lead, netting 10 of the first 11 points and forcing LHS coach Theos to call a time out to rally his girls.

And seconds after Theos challenged his girls to defend their home court much better than they were, the Lady Lancers rose to that challenge and climbed back into the fray.

Despite the fact that PA hit eight of the 14 shots it attempted from the floor in the first quarter, the visitors' lead sat a fairly modest seven points at 22-15 rolling into the second quarter.

And Pinkerton wouldn't hit even a single shot from the field in the second quarter, going 0-for-10, while Londonderry outscored it by a 12-8 tally in that stanza as the PA lead sat at just three points at 30-27 at the half-time break. Overko had 13 of the Pinkerton points, and Shay had 11 of the hosts' points.

Continuing to battle intensely, the youthful LHS crew claimed its first lead of

the day at 37-35 on an Emmy Dumaresq bucket with exactly four minutes left in the third stanza. But the Londonderry lead would never get bigger than two points, and the Lady Astros regained the upper hand as the third quarter closed. They rolled into the final period with a slim, 43-40 advantage.

However, the Lady Astros basically put the game away by scoring the first 10 points of the fourth, with Londonderry not managing even a single point until 3:48 remained on the game clock.

Rebounds became easier to snag for the Pinkerton crew as the Lady Lancers began to drag, and before the teams knew it the final buzzer was blaring.

The Lady Astros had tallied their fifth consecutive win the previous Wednesday, Feb. 8, with a 39-32 success over Nashua North in the Gate City.

The Pinkerton squad started extremely slowly, trailing 6-2 at the completion of one quarter. And they trailed 16-11 at the halftime break.

But the Astros outscored its host by a 28-16 margin during the second half en route to the solid victory.

Kane paced the victors with 12 points, Lemire was good for 10, and Overko notched seven.

Snow notwithstanding, the Lady Astros moved into this week facing games at Spaulding High in Rochester on Tuesday the 14th,



Lady Astro Courtney Velho goes up for a shot against a Lady Lancer during the Pinkerton win this past Sunday afternoon.

Photos by Chris Paul

after Nutfield News press against the talented and time, followed by a Friday highly-successful Bedford night contest at home High contingent.

## Athletes of the Week

Week of Feb. 6



Julianna Corsetto,  
Senior, Girls'  
Gymnastics

This talented and point-producing veteran helped nail down a state title for her squad with a stellar effort in the floor exercise. She was a top finisher in the all-around as well.



David Pierson, Senior,  
Bowling

The Pinkerton co-captain helped lead his Astros to an important victory, bowling a 205 game and a 198 to help the locals achieve an important success.

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# Pinkerton Skaters Win 2-1 Then Fall 2-1, Move to 10-3-1

CHRIS PANTAZIS  
NUTFIELD NEWS

Sometimes you get the 2-1 decision, and sometimes the 2-1 decision gets you.

That was the story of the Pinkerton Academy ice hockey squad's two contests played during the week of Feb. 6, with first-year coach Sam Littlefield and his charges moving into this week contemplating their still very solid 10-3-1 Division I record.

The Astros defeated the

visiting Bishop Brady Green Giants of Concord by a 2-1 tally in overtime at The Ice Den in Hooksett on the evening of Wednesday, Feb. 8.

Chris Gile netted both of the local team's tallies, with the winning one sending his teammates and their fans into celebration mode in the extra stanza.

Gile had been set up by virtual point-producing machine Lucas Masciarelli in the second period to bust

bagged the equalizer on a power-play in period three, and overtime was required.

Brady goalie Matt Strickland had a superb game for his losing crew, turning aside some 37 shots in suffering the hard luck defeat. PA goalie Dakota Robinson helped his team snare the victory - upping its undefeated streak to six games (5-0-1) - by turning aside 16 Green Giants' shots.

But that undefeated skein came to an end on

Saturday the 11th when the Pinkerton crew absorbed a 2-1 loss delivered by the home-standing Salem High Blue Devils at the Salem Icenter.

After another scoreless first period, the Astros saw their hosts pot two unanswered goals in the middle stanza in bagging a 2-0 lead.

Pinkerton brought all kinds of pressure on the

Blue Devils in their defensive zone during the third period, but the only shot which managed to tickle the twine of the Salem net came off of the stick of Brendan Banks (assist to Mason Drouin) with just 4:08 left to go.

The academy icemen continued to put pressure on the Devils for the next moment or so before they

were assessed a costly and ill-timed penalty which forced them to play short-handed for two minutes. And they weren't able to get the equalizing goal during the remaining time after killing off that penalty.

"We had great pressure in the third," said coach Littlefield. "We kept the puck in their end through much of the period."

## Lady Astro Swimmers Fourth, Boys Fifth at State Championships

CHRIS PANTAZIS  
NUTFIELD NEWS

The Pinkerton Academy girls' and boys' swim teams both managed very solid top-five overall finishes against some of the top high school competition in New Hampshire at the Division I championships at the University of New Hampshire in Durham last Saturday, Feb. 11.

Longtime PA head coach Ed Faszewski saw his Lady Astros snare fourth place and his Astro males finish fifth at that major event.

### GIRLS

The Bedford High Lady Bulldogs bagged the team championship by tallying a team score of 238. Dover was a distant second (191), Exeter took third (181), and the Lady Astros collected fourth (134). All in all, 17 girls' teams competed in that meet.

Olivia Neville, Hannah Terry, and Zoe Freedman were stalwarts for the academy crew, with Freedman finishing second in the 100-yard breaststroke (time of 1

minute, 10.73 seconds) and third in the one-meter dive (score of 247.15).

Terry notched third places in the 50-yard freestyle (25.50 seconds) and the 100-yard freestyle (56.48), and Neville was good for a fourth in the 200 free and a fifth in the 500 free.

Chloe Freedman contributed a fifth place in the one-meter dive, and Neville, Terry, Zoe Freedman, and Maya Hedstrom worked together to notch a second place finish for the Lady Astros in the 400 free relay (3 minutes, 47.47 seconds).

### BOYS

The Astro males' team score of 108 placed them fifth - out of some 14 squads - behind the champions from Exeter (250), Bishop Guertin of Nashua (246), Bedford (242), and Dover (158).

Zach Denbow was the strongest individual finisher for the academy side, finishing third in both the 200-yard individual medley (1:58.83) and the 100-yard breaststroke (1:00.91).

Pinkerton had its 200 free relay and 400 free relay quartets collect fifth places.



**The Icemen Swimmeth** Cheered on by their coach Sam Littlefield (second from left), Pinkerton ice hockey players Matt Gilliland, Chris Gile, and Eddie Welch (from left) plunged into the icy waters at Hampton Beach on Saturday, Feb. 4 in helping to raise funds for their school's athletic leadership council's Penguin Plunge crew. That effort tallied some \$2,600 for New Hampshire Special Olympics. Folks interested in contributing can still do so by visiting [www.firstgiving.com](http://www.firstgiving.com) and searching Pinkerton Academy. Look for plungers Eddie Welch, Chris Gile and Matt Gilliland under the PA Athletic Leadership Team page.

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# Astro Bowlers End Regular Season With a Strong Performance

CHRIS PANTAZIS  
NUTFIELD NEWS

The Pinkerton Academy varsity bowlers closed out their 2016-17 regular season with an excellent performance at Striker's East in Raymond Saturday, Feb. 11.

Heading into the day down by just a single point in the hunt for the top spot in New Hampshire high school bowling, the Astros bagged all four available points by

besting Hillsboro-Deering and Hollis-Brookline in pretty impressive fashion.

After claiming the top seed in Standard Round competition, the academy bunch went on to defeat Hillsboro-Deering in just two games in round one of Baker Round play.

The locals tallied individual game victories of 222-146 and 141-135 in knocking off that opponent.

Pinkerton then got down

to work against the Hollis-Brookline Cavaliers and bagged victories of 183-149 and 163-128, with a slim 167-164 loss sandwiched between those successes.

In Standard action, the Astros tallied a team score of 1,627 to outdistance Hollis-Brookline (1,550), Spaulding of Rochester (1,546), and Hillsboro-Deering (1,193).

Senior captains David Pierson and Austin Caux

excelled in their final regular season match, with Pierson bowling games of 205 and 198 and Caux notching a 132 and a 129. Keenan Nash had a first game of 162 and came back with a 192, Eric Reardon rolled a 150 followed by a fine 172, Ben Tripodi bagged a 155 and a 132, and Kyle Vachon was good for a 119 and a 105.

"We are looking good for the state team championships and are well repre-

sented for the individual and medal flights with six Astros in the top 64," said coach Janet Boyden.

Along with seniors Pierson, Caux, and Vachon, it was the final regular season match for Astro 12th graders Matt Clark, Connor Delea, Matt Morrison, Liam Padian, Eric Reardon, Nathan Stallings, Ben Tripodi, and Brian Wilkinson.

In junior varsity play, Pinkerton had still more suc-

cess in claiming a first place. That performance was made possible by the fine efforts of Lauren Sylvain, Stallings, Padian, Wilkinson, Clark, Morrison, Bryant Nourse, and Delea.

The state team championship match will take place at Striker's East this Saturday the 18th, and the individual championships will take place next Saturday at Spare Time in Manchester.

## Academy Boy Cagers Fall to North Crew by Double Digits

CHRIS PANTAZIS  
NUTFIELD NEWS

The Pinkerton Academy boys' basketball squad faced off against an improving Nashua North contingent in

Derry Wednesday night, Feb. 8, and found out why that opponent has gone 6-1 since a weak 1-5 start.

The North crew snagged an 82-66 victory in that contest, dropping the host

Astros' Division I record to 4-7.

Pinkerton grasped a one-point lead after one quarter (15-14) but trailed by three (35-32) at halftime. But the Nashuans managed to

outscore their hosts by a 47-34 tally in the second half in snaring the win.

The PA crew had three players score in double figures led by Joey Merrill and his 20 points. Jay Reynolds

knocked down 17, and Nick Bortone was good for 12 on a night when the hosts had seven players make the score sheet.

This week's schedule had the Astros looking at a

slate which had them at home against Spaulding of Rochester on Tuesday the 14th, after Nutfield News press time, before a short trip to Bedford this Friday night the 17th.

## Astro Wrestlers Claim Slim Win in Regular-Season Closer

CHRIS PANTAZIS  
NUTFIELD NEWS

Despite the fact that there were a slew of forfeits, the Pinkerton Academy wrestling squad managed to collect the satisfaction of finishing its 2016-17 regular

season with a 21-18 edging of the visiting Nashua North Titans in Derry last Friday, Feb. 10.

There were some nine forfeits in that match, with no less than six of them being double-forfeits from which neither team garnered

points.

Pinkerton 170-pound wrestling standout Kyle Setzer received a forfeit victory, and competitive wins were claimed by Walker

Stinson at 120 pounds in an 11-9 decision, Derek Wilson at 138 pounds in a fast pin a mere 1:04 after his bout started, and 145-pounder Tyler Mackiernan with an

even faster pin just 39 ticks of the clock after his bout began.

Coach Dave Rhoads' Pinkerton grapplers have spent the intervening time

between that Friday match and this Saturday's Division I championship event at Londonderry High preparing for that big event on the 18th.

## PA Seniors Receive State Scholar/Athlete Awards

CHRIS PANTAZIS  
NUTFIELD NEWS

The Pinkerton Academy community was made proud on Monday, Feb. 6, when 29 Astro student/athletes received New Hampshire Interscholastic Athletic Association (NHIAA) and New

Hampshire Athletic Director's Association (NHADA) Scholar/Athlete Awards for the 2016-17 school year at The Capitol Center for the Arts in Concord.

Division I high school student/athletes were recognized for achieving both academic and athletic excel-

lence at the event.

Award recipients are nominated each year by their school principals based on criteria which requires the high school seniors to have a B+ grade point average, letter and be currently active in at least two varsity sports, participate in community service activities, and serve as role models to their peers.

This year's Pinkerton recipients of the major award included Abby Amato, Julia Bousquet, Al-

yssa Daigle, Avery Drouin, Michaela Forand, Nicole Gonya, Aurora Goujon, Cameron LaRoche, Hannah Leonard, Madison Lolicata, Melanie Roberge, Hannah Rogers, Gemma Schena, Madison Smith, Courtney Velho, Ryan Albrecht, Matt Anzivino, Pat Bastek, Niko Cardini, Dylan Fischer, Kyle Fortier, Caleb Gibbons, Derek Goulet, Calvin Graves, Trevor Hajj, Mark Iannazzi, Evan Rodgers, Derek Wilson, and Emma Bennett.



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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).

## Fight addiction

Narcanon provides screenings and interventions for those struggling with addiction and their families. For more information go to [narcanon-suncoast.org/blog/the-power-of-an-intervention.html](http://narcanon-suncoast.org/blog/the-power-of-an-intervention.html) or call 877-841-5509.

## Derry Democrats

The Derry Democratic Committee will hold its monthly meeting Thursday, Feb. 23, at 7 p.m. in the Marion Gerrish Community Center. Committee officers and delegates to the state convention will be elected. For more information, visit [derrydems@gmail.com](mailto:derrydems@gmail.com)

## Economic Development

The Derry Economic Development Advisory Committee will hold an open forum for business owners Wednesday, Feb. 22, at 7 p.m. in the Cable Studio, Municipal Center, Derry. Program will include a legislative update and the launch of the Derry Homegrown Farm and Artisan Market this summer, as well as the revolving loan fund and other initiatives. For more information contact Chairman Terri Pastori at [terripastori@comcast.net](mailto:terripastori@comcast.net).

## Parents of Young Children Support Group

The Upper Room offers FROG, Families Reaching Our Goals, a support group for parents and caregivers of toddlers, Wednesdays from 9:15 to 10:45 a.m. in its facility at 36 Tsienneto Road in Derry. For more information or to register, call 437-8477.

## Gospel Music

Thomas A. Dorsey, the father of black Gospel Music, will be the topic of a program by local singer Deanna Butler to be held Wednesday, March 8, at 6:30 p.m. in the Derry Public Library. The program is free and open to the public. Registration is requested by calling 432-6140.

## Sarah Josepha Hale

In honor of Women's

History Month, the Londonderry Women's Club will host a New Hampshire Humanities program on Sarah Josepha Hale Wednesday, March 15, from 7 to 9 p.m. in the Marion Gerrish Community Center, 39 West Broadway, Derry. Sharon Wood will portray Ann Wyman Blake speaking of her admiration for Hale. Hale was a New Hampshire native, first female magazine editor, and instrumental in establishing Thanksgiving as a national holiday. The program is free and open to the public. For more information, visit the club's Web site at [www.londonderrywomensclub.com](http://www.londonderrywomensclub.com)

## Holocaust denial

Etz Hayim Synagogue, 1-1/2 Hood Road, Derry, will be showing the movie, Denial, on Saturday, Feb. 18 at 7 p.m. The showing will be preceded by a short Havdalah service, and cake will be served during the movie, according to a press release. The event is free and open to the public. The film, starring Rachel Weisz, portrays Deborah E. Lipstadt's legal battle for historical truth against David Irving, who accused her of libel when she declared him a Holocaust denier, the release said. For more information about the showing, see [www.etzhayim.org](http://www.etzhayim.org) or contact [socialaction@etzhayim.org](mailto:socialaction@etzhayim.org).

## Dragon's Tale comes to area

The New Hampshire Theatre Factory will present "A Dragon's Tail" Friday, March 3 at 7:30 p.m. and Saturday, March 4 at 2 p.m., & 7:30 p.m. in the Derry Opera House, 29 West Broadway, Derry. Tickets can be purchased at the door or online by visiting [www.nhtheatrefactory.com](http://www.nhtheatrefactory.com)

## Renew Clothing

Renew Clothing Ministry will be open Saturday, March 4, from 8 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. in Calvary Bible Church, Hampstead Road, Derry. Those interested in clothing are asked to arrive by 10 a.m. 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 gives free gently-used apparel to families and individuals on a budget. The service is free and confidential, to residence. 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. For more information find "Renew Derry" on Facebook, e-mail [renewclothing@myfairpoint.net](mailto:renewclothing@myfairpoint.net) or [renewclothing@yahoo.com](mailto:renewclothing@yahoo.com), or call the church secretary at 434-1516.

## 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. 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. 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. IMarch. 12, St. Patrick's Day Dinner at Church of the Transfiguration, 5 to 6:30 p.m., 1 Hood Road, Derry, 432-2130; March 16, Dinner at West Running Brook Middle School, 5 to 6:30 p.m., 1 West Running Brook Lane, Derry, 432-1350; March 18, Dinner at St. Luke's United Methodist Church, 5 to 6:30 p.m., 63 East Broadway, Derry, 434-4767; March 19, Dinner at Etz Hayim Synagogue, 5 to 6:15 p.m., 1 Hood Road, Derry, 432-0004; March 26, Breakfast at Church of the Transfiguration, 9 to 10 a.m., 1 Hood Road, Derry, 432-2130; March 31, Spaghetti Supper at First Parish Congregational Church, 5 to 6:30 p.m., 47 East Derry Road, Derry, 434-0628. Sonshine Soup Kitchen serves a free meal every weeknight from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m.

## 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).

## 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. 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.

## 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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