

Nutfield News

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Council Discusses Tax Rate Looks Into Becoming a City

ALEX GUITTARR
NUTFIELD NEWS

Derry's tax rate has seen a recent increase and with many residents voicing their displeasure to that fact, the Town Council has taken notice.

The New Hampshire Department of Revenue officially set Derry's tax rate at \$24.26, which was \$1.80 higher than the previous year, primarily due to a 9.1 increase to the combined local school rate.

Since the increase, Town Councilor Joshua Bourdon, amongst other councilors, has received numerous calls complaining about the strain that these increase place on them and their families. Because of this, Bourdon decided to address the situa-

tion during the council's most recent meeting on Nov. 21.

During Bourdon's address to those in attendance and watching via cable, he realized that many residents are already working with strained budgets and working two or even three jobs to make ends meet, as he could tell during the many calls he received.

"Some of these calls are from citizens expressing their outrage, but many of the calls...are expressing outright fear," Bourdon noted.

Although Bourdon has received these types in the past, the most recent messages appeared to be pleading with the chair to do something to alleviate their issue. However, his experi-

ence also reminded him that there may be a silent majority who do not mind the current tax rate.

Since Bourdon is obligated to work with all residents, he suggested to Town Administrator David Caron that he work with the town's legal team to create a non-binding question for the upcoming March ballot that could turn Derry into a city.

If the question were to be approved, it could give the town administration more control over fiscal matters, seemingly giving them the means to solve the tax issue.

Although some councilors were in agreement with the idea, others were also somewhat weary to turn Derry into a city. Councilor

continued on page 2

Preparations Start in Derry for Nutfield's 300th Anniversary

ALEX GUITTARR
NUTFIELD NEWS

The Nutfield region is inching closer and closer to its three hundredth birthday, taking place on April 12, 2019. And with towns like Londonderry and Windham already preparing their own celebrations for the event, members of the Derry Heritage Commission recently met with the Economic Development Advisory Committee (EDAC) to discuss the opening stages of getting Derry ready for this monumental event.

During the EDAC's November 20 meeting, commission members Paul Lindermann and Karen Anderson, the commission's chair, presented a slideshow for the EDAC in order to estab-

lish what they hope to accomplish for this event.

Lindermann started by giving the EDAC a quick refresher on the history of the region, as he noted that not many residents are aware of Nutfield's long history. Led by Reverend James MacGregor, around seventy to ninety Scottish/Irish Presbyterians immigrated to New York and eventually New Hampshire due to religious persecution from the mainly Catholic population. Eventually reaching an area rich with nut trees, the group settled in this region that they aptly named Nutfield, with April 12, 1719 being the founding date due to MacGregor giving his first sermon on that day.

From that point, the name was eventually

changed to Londonderry two years later. The region soon fractured after this, with Windham forming in 1742 and Derry forming much later in 1827.

But regardless of these separations, all three towns share the same heritage, which is why the celebration will be expanded across the entire summer between the three towns, kicking off with Derry, blending into Windham's July Strawberry Festival and capping off with Londonderry's August Old Home Day.

Derry's involvement will primarily revolve around Founder's Weekend. Taking place from April 12 until April 14, the three days will see relatives of the original founders visit from Scotland to give history talks and par-

continued on page 7



Zachariah Whitridge, one of the Preservation Timber Framing Inc. construction workers has a great view of East Derry while he prepares a beam on the First Parish Church Meetinghouse above the clock to receive the top plate on which the steeple will be placed in the future.

Photo by Chris Paul

Meetinghouse Gets Two New Main Support Beams

CHRIS PAUL
NUTFIELD NEWS

With the objective of completing work on the rehabilitation of the First Parish Church Meetinghouse in time to celebrate of the 300th Anniversary of Nutfield in the spring 2019, crews have been working to replace some of the main structure beams that had rotted over the years.

On Tuesday morning, Nov. 21 crews from the Preservation Timber Framing Inc. lowered two 60-foot long corner posts, weighing 2000 pounds each, by crane into the tower base of the historic Meetinghouse steeple.

The two massive 12"x12"x60' beams were planed down on-site and fitted into the area where the old rot-

continued on page 4

Town Council Moves Forward With Transfer Station Solar Energy System

ALEX GUITTARR
NUTFIELD NEWS

Due to the efforts of the Energy and Environment Advisory Committee (EEAC) and the Net Zero Task Force, attempts to slowly integrate solar energy systems into Derry have been working their way into realm of discussion with town officials, most recently during the Town Council's latest meeting on November 21.

Led by Mike Fowler, the Director of Public Works for Derry, a proposal was put before the council to begin introducing these systems

into major structures throughout the town. The two focal points of the project were the Marion Gerrish Community Center and the town's Transfer Station.

Marion Gerrish's initial proposal would involve installing one hundred and twelve panels on the property, leading to a payback, or essentially seeing free energy, within just under fourteen years. However, the EEAC and task force soon backed away from the idea, as a gross investment of ninety six thousand dollars, alongside structural and electrical analysis and the

need for a protective shelter for system's instruments, would raise the payback to sixteen years. Members of the committee's believe that they could revisit this proposal in the future, but not until the costs and logistical problems are ironed out.

Thus, Fowler and the committees focused instead on advertising the Transfer Station proposal, which would install two hundred and forty ground mounted solar panels that would create one hundred and fifty five thousand kilowatt hours annually. Requiring a gross investment of two hundred

and eighty two thousand dollars, the net payback would be close to eight years, also meaning that four percent of the town's energy would come from solar power. With an expected twenty five year life span, the project would mean around sixteen years of free energy for the station. Furthermore, a fifty eight thousand dollar rebate is also expected.

It should be noted that the station's current energy supply is a renewable mix with twenty percent wind power, except for winter, where one hundred percent

comes from a hydro-electric dam.

The council seemed mostly supportive of the venture, with many of their questions more concerned with the costs and efficiency of the project. Councilor Richard Tripp asked Fowler whether every kilowatt of the system would be used on site, which they would, and whether Derry would own the panels, which the town would.

Concerning finances, Council Chair Joshua Bourdon, who has been a major proponent of the project and is a member of the Net Zero

Task Force, questioned what kind of fiscal impact tax payers would see. Fowler noted that on top of subtracting utility costs by roughly twenty thousand dollars annually, but they would also be seeing annual renewable energy credits of thirty eight hundred dollars.

"Those two savings... would cover the cost of the capital upfront", Fowler noted.

In the end, the council decided to move forward with allowing town staff to pursue methods by which Derry would be able to pay for the system.

\$1.6 Million Emergency Communications Project Awarded To Motorola

HUNTER MCGEE
NUTFIELD NEWS

After reviewing a number of proposals, officials have awarded a \$1.6 million emergency communications project to the Motorola Corporation.

Town Administrator David Caron mentioned the award during the Administrator's Report segment of the Nov. 21 Town Council meeting.

"Both police and fire leadership have invested a lot of time reviewing proposals and we have recently awarded the work to Motorola Corporation," Caron said, adding, "We anticipate the project will last about eight

months after we sign a contract and the contract is currently being reviewed by our legal counsel."

The project was one of the largest capital acquisitions in the Fiscal Year 2018 budget, according to officials.

The system for police and fire is designed to replace outdated transmission and radio equipment, Caron said during a meeting earlier this year at the Planning Board.

"The reason we are doing this now is we've got very old equipment with our police and fire dispatch and both facilities are reaching their end of life," Caron said. "We've been told by the

manufacturer that it's difficult to get parts and it appears that in another year or, so the vendor will no longer support those two facilities."

The communications system will replace all the transmitter and receiver sites in town, Caron said.

"It will deal with all of the equipment on both head ends," Caron said. "It will continue interoperability with respect to communications between police and fire."

Antiquated equipment with a limited reach can sometimes make it difficult for fire crews to communicate, Derry Assistant Fire Chief Scott Jackson said

during a meeting in April.

The department uses 100-watt mobile radios that have to reach back to the main transmit and receive site, Jackson said during the meeting. But the system is limited in reach and doesn't

always function properly, he said.

To be able to communicate, firefighters have to use devices called repeaters through the vehicle or they have to return to the vehicle, he said

"That becomes very problematic when you have a fire in the Island Pond District at two in the morning and you are screaming for help and no one is hearing you; I've been there," Jackson said.

Tax Rate

continued from page 1

Neil Weatherbee felt that more information needs to be gathered on the matter before they create a ballot question, feeling that more options need to be seen first and that Derry may be able to find a solution without becoming a city.

Councilor Charles Foote

was of a similar mindset, wanting the public to be realistic about their expectations for such a move.

"I don't think it's advisable that people assume that becoming a city is gonna change all of Derry's problems", Foote noted.

Councilor James Morgan seemed the most vocal against the possibility, also noting that turning Derry into a city will not solve all the

problems on the table. Focusing more so on the town's school district, he believes that fixed increases to their budget, along with cuts and better communication with Pinkerton Academy, should be their primary concern.

"The school district has to cut. They have to. They're no choices anymore", Morgan noted.

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Façade Program Being Prepped to Fix Up Downtown Streetscape

ALEX GUITTARR
NUTFIELD NEWS

As Derry continues its attempts to strengthen its economy and its businesses, one of the major factors that are impeding that progress lies within the downtown streetscape. Although East and West Broadway are host plenty of beautiful structures, some have seen better days and could use a bit of

face lift.

This is why groups like the Economic Development Advisory Committee (EDAC) have been working with the town's Façade Improvement Program. Serving to revitalize neglected commercial districts or residential neighborhoods, these types of programs help to breathe life back into certain run down areas in towns, but they are not free.

Thus, in order to help aid in the efforts to fund these repairs, the EDAC recently discussed such a proposal by Anne Struthers, the town's Economic Development Coordinator, at their November 20 meeting.

Expanded upon by Town Administrator David Caron, the plan originally hoped to appropriate money from the town's Revolving Loan Fund, but instead decided to

present a number of options, including a matching, 50/50 grant program that would give each applied property five thousand dollars and the possibility for forgiving interest on the town's portion of a property loan if the repairs come out to more than five thousand dollars. This would all extend to no more than twenty grants, totaling a maximum of one hundred thousand dollars.

Committee support varied on the matter. Members Christina Gossel and Terri Pastor both supported the idea, with Pastor noting that that this would be a great way to put a limited, but

meaningful amount of funds back into the community, although she was curious about whether or not they should focus on the frontage of properties, as opposed to the entirety of the properties.

However, member John Potucek was concerned over the exclusion of the like of Birch Street and Crystal Avenue from the plan, as there have been a variety of businesses popping up on those streets that also deserve attention. However, Caron explained that the focus established by the EDAC and the members of the Town Council was to be on the downtown area and

that they simply were trying not to spread themselves and their proposed budget too thin, with there always being room for expansion in the future.

Town Council Member James Morgan was also present during the meeting to defend the focus on downtown, as they simply see it as the major money maker for Derry.

"The reality is that the downtown is where we wanna draw people to", Morgan noted.

The EDAC are hoping to have the proposal ready to bring before the Town Council by December 5.

State Recognizes Three Hundred Year Old Tree in Big Tree Program

ALEX GUITTARR
NUTFIELD NEWS

New Hampshire, like many states throughout the region, is known throughout the country for its large forests, filling the land with a natural beauty that few areas can match. But with the sheer amount of trees before the residents of the state, it can sometimes be relatively difficult to remember that some of these giants stand leaps and bounds ahead of their brothers in both size and age.

This is where the New Hampshire Big Tree Program (NHBTP) comes in. Started back in 1950, the NHBTP has worked with the likes of the University of New Hampshire Coopera-

tive Extension, the Society for the Protection of New Hampshire Forests and the Natural Resources Seward Program to find, record and recognize the largest and most significant trees in the state.

Members of the NHBTP have already recorded more than nine hundred trees across New Hampshire and have recently found a new contender right here in Derry.

According to a letter recently sent to the Town Council, the NHBTP has confirmed that a tree located at the Don Ball Park at Humphrey Road fits the criteria to be considered for recognition by the program.

The tree in question was analyzed by members of the

NHBTP on Oct. 20, where it was established to have a height of seventy feet, a circumference of two hundred and forty two inches and a crown spread of sixty eight inches. On top of this, it was determined that the tree is three hundred and twelve years old.

All of these factors came together to allow Derry to be labeled as co-champions to the tree for its significance.

As the tree now holds a major recognition in the state, residents are encouraged to contact the town's Department of Public Works if they see something out of the ordinary happening to it, whether it be vandalism or simply wear and tear due to the elements.

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Editorial

Remembering a Day That Brought Us Together

Before Dec. 7, 1941, Pearl Harbor was just an American Naval Base on a Hawaiian territory. But that fateful morning, it would be forever etched into the minds of citizens all over the country. Dec. 7, 1941 was a day that brought Americans together.

Only a few hours after the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, Japan formally declared war against the United States.

The sentiment Americans felt after the news of the attack spread is best summarized by the words of fleet Chaplain William A. Macguire: "Don't say we buried our dead with sorrow. They died manfully. They were buried manfully. And we will avenge their deaths, come what may."

Pearl Harbor infuriated Americans and motivated an undivided decision to enter into World War II. On Dec. 8, 1941, the United States joined the Allied Powers.

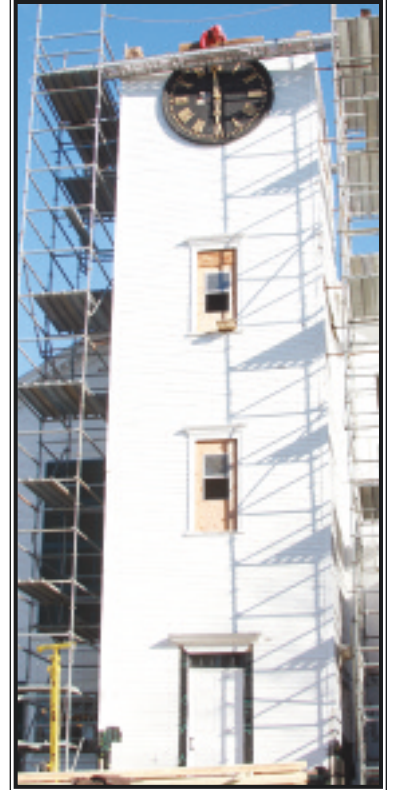
Before the events that took place at Pearl Harbor over 75 years ago, the country was divided, and not all Americans were supportive of the efforts of World War II. But after the attack, those who were skeptical began singing a different tune, and the support for the war became unanimous. The attack ensured America's entrance into the war, provoking a joint effort by all, at home and overseas.

The States truly became United that morning over three-quarters of a century ago, and everyone had a part to play in the war efforts. Civilian employees helped to load and clean weapons, wounded men

fought on, doctors from miles away rushed to tend to the wounded and when blood donations were needed, donors stood in line for almost seven hours to do their part.

The outcome of World War II may have been entirely different, had the United States not joined the Allied Powers. The United States implemented the draft and all men from age 18 to 45 were included, providing over 16 million troops to the front lines. All automobile factories in the United States stopped production of cars and began manufacturing only vehicles and planes for the war. Women went to work in factories to make war supplies, and some even joined the armed forces. Without the United States providing so many troops and supplies, the Allied Powers may not have won.

Although the attack on Dec. 7, 1941, may not be our proudest day, there are many resulting positive outcomes and effects that are too often overlooked. We can look back on this day and be proud that we live in a country where people are able to forget themselves and do whatever it takes to help each other in a time of need, and are able to unite toward a common goal. Without our combined efforts all of those years ago, we could be living in a different world today. Pearl Harbor changed the course of history, and it is on each and every 7th day of December that we reflect and say a prayer for those lost, and those who continue to defend our country to this day.



Some of the First Parish Church Meetinghouse main structural problems got one step closer to being remedied last week with the help of an enormous crane two massive support beams and the skilled work of the people from Preservation Timber Framing Inc. The two beams and a top plate, at left, were put in position last week and work has begun to reconstruct the support needed in the Meetinghouse.

Photos by Chris Paul

Nutfield News

Nutfield News is a weekly publication. Mailed by request to Derry residents and is available at a number of drop-off locations throughout Derry.

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Meetinghouse

continued from page 1

ted beams once helped hold the steeple in place.

Also placed that day was a square "top plate" above the clock which the steeple will sit on once work has been finished restoring it.

The two beams, which are the main vertical sup-

ports, were harvested from white pine trees out of Danville, Vermont where they were cut and milled and brought to East Derry for the project.

When work started on this project, over two years ago, the price tag was about \$2 million, and another \$500,000 has been added since.

Fund raising, donations and LCHIP grants have made up for most of the costs for this huge preservation project.

It is the hope of those associated with the project that work on the structural rehabilitation will be completed over the winter. Then work will begin on the Meetinghouse interior.

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 nutfieldnews@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.

Holiday Parade Enjoys Warm Temperatures and Big Crowds



The Greater Derry Chamber of Commerce and Derry Parks and Recreation Department hosted their annual Holiday Parade on Saturday afternoon, Nov. 25. The warm temperatures brought thousands to line the streets on Broadway and Crystal Avenue to enjoy marching bands, floats, dancers, baton twirlers, clowns, Derry's Citizen of the Year, Art McLean along with business of the Year, Sonshine Soup Kitchen and Santa and Mrs. Claus riding atop of a fire engine.

Photos by Chris Paul

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Budget Cuts Already Being Announced For 2018-2019 School Year

ALEX GUITTARR
NUTFIELD NEWS

Reviews and revisions of the 2018-2019 School Year Budget in the Derry School District are already underway, as was the discussion during the Fiscal Advisory Committee's latest meeting on November 20 at Derry Village School.

Several major cut backs to the budget were already announced during the meeting by Jane Simard, the district's Business Administra-

tor. First off, the Next Charter School saw a drop in enrollment by fourteen students, primarily due to many students graduating from the school. These students leaving the school caused a one hundred and twenty two thousand dollar savings for the budget.

The charter school will also be seeing a major cost reduction to the district, as funding to the school will be reduced from two hundred and forty three thousand dollars to only twenty seven

thousand dollars. This is because staff in the school are no longer recognized as employees of the school district.

Adequate education revenue, which goes towards programs that ensure that students are receiving sufficient tutelage and not simply being taught the bare minimum, saw a reduction of roughly six hundred and forty thousand dollars for next year's budget.

Moving on to the district's unreserved fund bal-

ance, the committee has currently proposed that two million dollars be placed within the fund, although this is not guaranteed to be permanent. Simard admitted that establishing an amount for the fund simply comes down to adding on increments of five hundred thousand dollars as they put together the details of the budget. Thus, as alterations continue, the fund may either rise or drop as well.

Special education aid has dropped down to six

hundred and fifty thousand dollars, with the committee aiming for optimal state tax entitlement funding, as much as sixty eight percent, to help cover these costs. Special education costs have been a major topic of discussion in previous meetings when it comes to the amount of staff needed for each school's special education program and the strain that would put on the budget.

Kindergarten tuition can expect a drop from thirty six hundred dollars to just twen-

ty five hundred dollars due to new revenue that these schools can expect for the next school year.

Finally, several members of the School Board were curious about whether or not Ernest P. Barka Elementary School was in any shape to be refinanced. Unfortunately, Simard noted that the school's 2003 bonds from Citizens Bank, set at a 3.97 interest rate, have no provisions that allow for refinancing.

Paralyzed Resident Set To Compete in 2022 Paralympic Games

ALEX GUITTARR
NUTFIELD NEWS

A Forty-seven-year-old Derry resident, Dawn Macomber has had quite an eventful life, but far from what many would consider an easy one.

Losing feeling in her

legs due to ongoing spinal complications at the age of thirty nine, the athlete and Army veteran has had to do a lot of adjusting and has overcome a lot of physical and mental trauma since then, but the point that she has reached today is nothing short of stunning.

Formally known as Dawn Hatchette, before Marrying her husband Dave, Macomber joined the Army at age nineteen after one year at UMass Dartmouth, eventually taking part in Operation Desert Storm and working on missile systems. But a series of unfortunate events left her

with two herniated discs, along with needing shoulder and abdominal surgery. But the worst was yet to come.

Two decades later, her spinal issues finally took their toll when she stepped into her bathroom and one of the discs imploded in her spinal cord, causing her to be paralyzed from the waist down.

"The pain was something I'd never felt before," Macomber said. "I had a long road of recovery."

The suffering she had to undertake managed to drive her to ask her husband to perform euthanasia at one point. But through steady rehabilitation and a tiny miracle, Macomber managed to regain some feeling in her legs and hips. Encouraged by this progress, she gradually began to learn how to move and walk again, albeit with the help of braces.

Soon after, she joined Breathe Crossfit here in Derry, where she has lived for the past thirteen years. Wanting to continue her pursuit of staying active, Macomber began entering



Local resident Dawn Macomber is preparing for another run of bobsledding in the Paralympics games.

powerlifting competitions and managed to improve her dead-lift from fifteen pounds to three hundred pounds in the span of two years.

She eventually wished to pursue competing in the activity at the Paralympics games one day, but she simply was not able-bodied enough to perform. However, one of her friend's suggested that she try para-bobsledding in November 2016 and Macomber almost immediately fell in love with it.

"I loved it so much," Macomber noted. "It's crazy, but yet I loved it. It was amazing."

This newfound passion led her to train in Latvia and qualify for a World Cup race in Park City, Utah before racing in Switzerland, Germany and Norway on the World Cup Circuit, finishing between fourteenth and seventeenth in each competition.

She now hopes to compete in the 2022 Beijing Paralympic games. Although her sport is not officially a part of the games for that year, Macomber is clearly done sitting around and letting her condition get the best of her, now preferring to take life by the horns.

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Council Honors Pinkerton Senior For Raising Suicide Awareness

ALEX GUITTARR
NUTFIELD NEWS

Andy Mino, like so many people across the globe, unfortunately lost someone close to him due to suicide. Seeing a close friend of his recently choosing to end his own life dragged Mino down into a very dark time, but after knowing just what kind of impact suicide can have on both the victim and those close to them, Mino decided to take action.

Throughout November, Mino put together a project

within Pinkerton's Distributive Education Clubs of America (DECA) chapter to promote suicide awareness and prevention in order to help other families and individuals who face the same struggles that Mino's friend did.

DECA, or Distributive Education Clubs of America, is Pinkerton's marketing group that regularly works on projects and special activities that are often taken to state and national competition.

During the project, particularly over the course of

Pinkerton's Suicide Prevention Week from November 13 to November 17, Mino proceeded to highlight suicide statistics and groups that those suffering from suicidal thoughts can receive help from over the morning announcements and sold little hearts during lunch that students could write anonymous messages on, raising over four hundred dollars in the process. Furthermore, Mino also had Pinkerton's chapel tower covered in blue and purple lights, the colors that represent suicide prevention.

So impressive were his efforts that Town Councilor James Morgan, upon hearing of Mino's efforts from a story in the Derry News, decided to not only invite Mino to the Council's most recent meeting on November 21, but also issue a proclamation in his honor, highlighting the impact that suicide can have and praising Mino for his efforts to improve his community.

Morgan, who also took part in DECA during his high school years, was incredibly inspired by Mino, not only for his efforts, but for how he applied his marketing skills to push the project forward.

"I thought that the town should recognize that effort", Morgan noted.

With friends and family in attendance, as well as Pinkerton Headmaster Griffin Morse, Mino addressed the Council, noting that he was spurred on not only by the death of his friend, but also by the startling number of people who are impacted



Andy Mino was presented with a proclamation by Town Councilor James Morgan for his efforts in suicide prevention and awareness. *Photo by Alex Guittarr*

300th

continued from page 1

participate in a special church service, on top of a major musical performance. The commission is also hoping to use the Fourth of July and Derryfest for some of these festivities as well, including the opening of and creation of a new time capsule.

Amongst the other activities scattered throughout the summer will be use of the town's living treasure program, which helps to recognize Derry's most valuable senior citizens, a civil war

encampment and reenactment and the Derry Public Library will be working to put together booklets and a smart phone app that give site tours throughout the various historical landmarks in town.

Naturally, this is all going to take a lot of work and funding in order to be a success, and while the commission wants to keep relatively loose control over the event in order to allow for some creative freedom, they firmly believe Derry needs to put together a committee to focus on preparing for the birthday as soon as possible.

EDAC member James Morgan was quick to point out that they should be speaking with the Town Council over how much everything is going to cost, as funding will ultimately make or break the event.

"Everything that is successful about this is gonna be driven by money and investment", Morgan noted.

Although a committee has not yet been formed to get the ball rolling, the town will be holding an opening meeting on January 22 to start recruiting members and begin some of the long-term projects.

by suicide every day.

"The fact is that if you don't address something like that, it's not going to stop", Mino stated.

Mino feels that he has made an impact in Derry, but his work is far from over. Upon finding out that

Pinkerton does not really have a suicide prevention program, he hopes to use the money he raised to eventually fund such a program, allowing him to raise awareness about this issue even after he graduates from Pinkerton next year.

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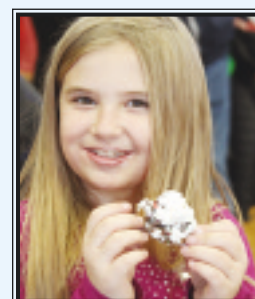
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A young child with light hair, wearing a red Santa hat with a white trim and a white long-sleeved shirt, is seated at a table covered with a light blue cloth. The child is intently focused on decorating a gingerbread house. They are using a small brush or stick to apply white icing to the structure. On the table, there is a white plate with various colorful icing decorations (red, yellow, green, blue) and a small blue bowl containing blue icing. In the background, a decorated Christmas tree is visible, adding to the festive atmosphere.



Derry Parks and Recreation hosted its annual Santa's Workshop in Veterans Hall shortly after the Holiday Parade on Saturday afternoon, Nov. 25. Families lined the streets outside the hall on Broadway eagerly awaiting the doors to open. Inside, the room was decorated in holiday cheer with tables set up for decorating cookies, painting holiday decorations, face painting and balloon creations. Santa was available for photos next door at the Derry Opera House later in the day. *Photos by Chris Paul*



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DERRY SPORTS

Annual Turkey Trot Draws Crowd of More Than 1,400 Runners



Race winner Joe Gagnon is a Pinkerton Academy cross-country star.



Derry residents, from left, Kathy and Bob Shea and Brett and Karen Collinsworth got all dressed up for the 2017 Turkey Trot on Thanksgiving Day. Photos by Chris Paul



Julia Huffman from Manchester was the female winner of the GDTC Turkey Trot.

CHRIS PANTAZIS
NUTFIELD NEWS

The 44th annual Greater Derry Track Club Turkey Trot was, once again, a huge success for the local group, with 1,442 registered runners taking on the 5k Derry course before tackling their holiday dinners.

A total of 1,315 of those determined folks crossed the finish line after heading around Beaver Lake and taking in a number of scenic vistas on the United States of America Track and Field (USATF)-certified 3.1-mile course.

Runners from a pretty stunning 23 different states and the District of Columbia participated, but a great many of them were from the

local area including many of the top finishers.

Pinkerton Academy cross-country and track and field star Joe Gagnon, a 17-year-old from Hooksett, paced the entire huge crowd by finishing first overall in 16 minutes and 22 seconds. Former Pinkerton and Keene State College running standout Peter Najem, who now resides in Chicago, was just six seconds behind the winner in second in 16:28. The top five was rounded out by Craig McMahon of Manchester in third (17:13), Josh Wasserman of Londonderry in fourth (18:19), and Michael Fraysse of Epsom in the fifth spot (18:27). The first female across the line was Julia Huffman of Manchester,

who tallied a time of 18:33 and was an excellent eighth overall.

In maintaining its seemingly ever-present attention to giving back to the community, the GDTC asked that all race entrants donate a non-perishable canned good or dry food item, with those contributions then forwarded to food pantries in the Greater Derry area to help the needy.

With Derry-area folks home for Thanksgiving, the much-loved local holiday race had entrants from every one of the New England states as well as New York, Louisiana, Tennessee, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, Minnesota, Maryland, Virginia, New Jersey, Florida, Washington State, DC,

Georgia, Wisconsin, Arizona, California, Texas, and Colorado.

Prizes were given out to the top finishers in a slew of different age categories, with locals bagging a great many of those honors. Among that talented crew were Derry residents Cayla Pellegrini (winner of the women's 40-49 division), Lori McGrath (tops in the

women's 50-59 class), Melissa Leavitt (first in the women's 70-99 division), and former longtime and Pinkerton Academy athletic director Bob Royce, who resides in Chester and Florida and won his men's 70-99 division with a finishing time of 29 minutes and 10 seconds.

Other Derry residents who finished among the top

three line-crossers in their respective age divisions were Cade Reimer in the boys' 1-14 class, Alicia Pollock and Christine Tardiff in the women's 40-49 division, Pat Crothers in the ladies' 50-59 division, and Paula Peterson in the women's 70-99 class.

Once again, the GDTC has a special holiday race to celebrate.

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Pinkerton Takes Time to Savor a Superb Fall Sports Season

CHRIS PANTAZIS
NUTFIELD NEWS

Pinkerton Academy has gotten into the practice over the last dozen years or so of having the opening segment of its seasonal sports awards nights - prior to having all of the teams break up into individual sessions - be brief so those evenings don't last quite literally all night long.

But then, when your teams and individual athletes have the kinds of exceptional campaigns which the academy's fall sports squads enjoyed it's pretty hard not to spend time basking in the successes of everybody for at least a little while.

That was the dilemma faced by Pinkerton athletic director Brian O'Reilly and the Astro teams and their supporters in the school's Hackler Gymnasium on the late afternoon of Monday, Nov. 20, with Thanksgiving and its vacation looming but a great fall campaign still there to celebrate.

Looking at the late summer/autumn campaign just from the win/loss angle, things were pretty darn exceptional at the Derry school. Pinkerton's varsity teams amassed a jaw-dropping record of 91 victories

and just 18 losses, while the Astros' sub-varsity contingents went an excellent 90-40. And having sports squads at one school go an overall 181-58 is nothing short of tremendous.

Then were the title-winning teams, which were led by the now three-time defending Division I champion girls' cross-country crew of Amy Bernard, who capped off a great season by seeing her Pinkerton Trailblazers win their first New England title since 1979.

The academy also had its boys' junior varsity cross-country team and its JV spirit and JV golf contingents bag state crowns, and its varsity football, varsity spirit, varsity golf, and boys' varsity cross-country crews hoist runner-up trophies.

Pinkerton dean of students and former AD Dr. Tim Powers was called upon to receive all of the hardware from the successful teams, and he had every reason to feel out of breath by the end of the opening ceremonies.

On the individual front, the academy community also had a great many reasons to clap and cheer. And the accomplishments of senior golf star Lauren Thibodeau was chief among



Pinkerton Academy golf star Lauren Thibodeau and her coach Jeff Sojka exhibit one of the many awards Thibodeau handed over to her school during the academy's fall sports awards night on Monday, Nov. 20.

them.

The University of Louisville-bound standout added to her golf hardware by becoming the only New Hampshire high school girls' four-time state champion and also by setting a new record for the low score in the girls' state tourney and also the best score over nine holes.

The school then took a few moments to applaud the accomplishments of the fall athletes of the week from throughout the 2017 campaign.

Of course, every school takes great pride in bringing forth their Scholar/Athlete Award winners each season, but Pinkerton simply had

too many to name everybody that evening. In fact, 211 of the 654 young folks who played sports at the academy during the fall claimed Student/Athlete Awards by getting a B or better in every class, prompting dean of students Powers to state, "This is what matters most."

After receiving the many championship and runner-up trophies in his administrative role, Powers stated the philosophy that most if not all good schools espouse regarding sports.

"State championships are great, they're what we strive for. But it's how we get there that really matters,"



Members of the Pinkerton varsity girls' cross-country team gently handle the Division I and New England championship plaques their crew won this fall before presenting them.

Photos by Chris Pantazis

he said.

The school's varsity and sub-varsity teams then broke up into individual sessions across the Pinkerton campus, with the title-winning squads holding off on that until the days of their championship banquets at which coaches award winners will be announced. But the following are the listings of award winners for all of the other contingents as well as a few special seasonal award recipients.

Varsity coaches award winners included Emma Davis (field hockey), Joe Palmer (boys' soccer), Jordan Nacos (spirit), Nicole Alves (girls' soccer), Sara Metzger (girls' volleyball), Antonio Lacasse (boys' cross-country), Brandon Watts (football), Matt Miloro (golf), and Asher Wood (bass fishing).

Sub-varsity coaches

awards went to Madison Curley (JV field hockey), Isabella Dineen (freshman field hockey), Nathan Polyukhovich (JV boys' soccer), Gavin Hout (boys' frosh soccer), Bronwyn Reed (girls' JV soccer), Irelynn Mullen (girls' frosh soccer), Danielle St. Peter (JV girls' voly), Alyssa Beaulieu (frosh girls' voly), Olivia Neville (JV girls' cross-country), Jason Barton (JV football), and Andrew Guilmette (frosh football).

Winners of special fall awards included boys' varsity soccer players Stryker Coyle (The Leland "Lee" Boles Character Award), Cole Perry (12th Player Award), Jon Tremblay (Unsung Hero Award), and Brian Castle (Most Improved Player), and varsity football player Kayden Baillargeon (The Mortensen Award).

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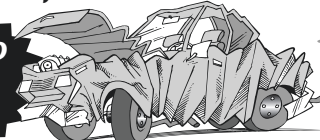
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Despite Ups and Downs, PA Junior Varsity Voly Crew Flourished

CHRIS PANTAZIS
NUTFIELD NEWS

The key tasks for a high school junior varsity or freshman sports team to accomplish during its season are the continued development of players' talents, a greater understanding of the sport and its fundamentals, continuing to learn to be a team player and work within a system, a deeper enjoyment of the sport, and having fun. Wins are less important but, of course, are always pleasing and provide positive reinforcement.

So even though the Pinkerton Academy junior varsity girls' volleyball squad only tallied a modest 6-12 record in its 18 matches, coach Kelly Worsman and her Lady Astros wound up with plenty of reasons to feel as though they'd accomplished plenty and enjoyed a strong campaign when all was said and done.

"This has been one of my favorite teams to coach," said Worsman. "This team has such a great bond and love for each other and the sport. They always came to practice and our matches ready to play and learn. I could always rely on them to put a smile on my face and each other's faces. It was truly a pleasure to be a part of this group."

The sophomore-heavy contingent included 10th graders Amaya Behsman (a right-side hitter), Emma

Bernard (outside-hitter), Amilia Johnston (defensive specialist), Emmie Lesburt (RSH), Jessie Mitchell (setter), Katie Mitchell (middle-hitter), Vanessa Montgomery (OH), Amelia Smalley (DS), Danielle St. Peter (setter), and Nicole Valcourt (MH) along with freshmen Ellie Cashman (DS) and Aubrie Sansing (RSH).

Worsman's assistant coach was former Londonderry High School record-setting volleyball player Megan Hersey, and it just so happens that the Astros' top match performance of the 2017 campaign came against Hersey's alma mater.

"The most important match of the season was the fourth match of the season during Mack Plaque against the Londonderry Lancers. And we came from behind to win," said Worsman.

After dropping a 25-20 decision in game one, Pinkerton came flying back for victories of 25-22 and 15-10 in games two and three to take the match.

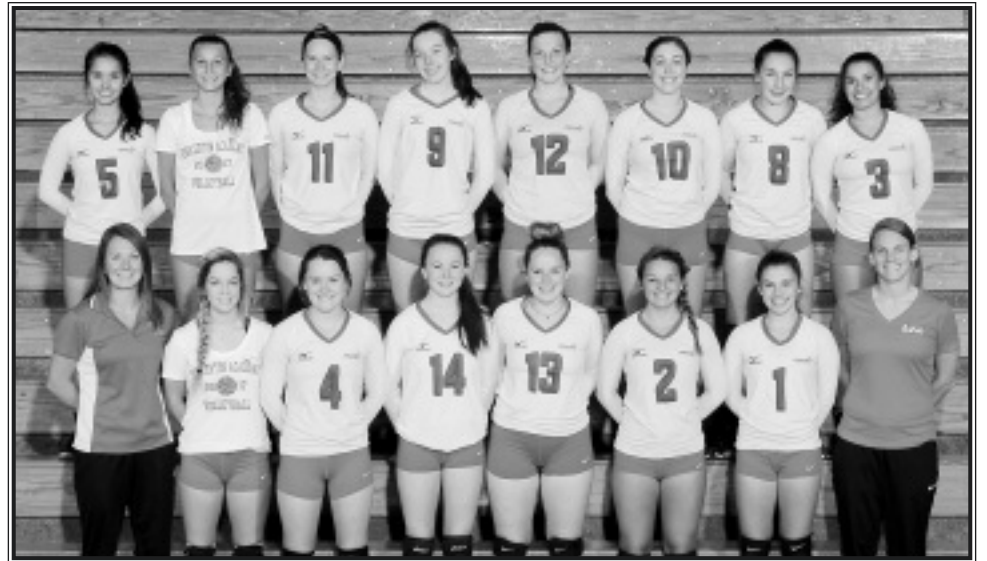
"It was a close match all the way through, and the Astros battled against some adversity," stated the coach. "Amilia Johnston came up big in the third set to bring the Astros, who were down 10-6, the lead and the match. She served nine straight service points. She also had two aces through the match. Jessie Mitchell had eight assists, which led to big kills for the offense. Danielle St.

Peter also contributed five more assists. Mitchell also had an ace, and St. Peter had two aces. Emma Bernard and Katie Mitchell led the offense with five kills apiece. Bernard also had three aces while Katie Mitchell also had a big block. Vanessa Montgomery also had four kills. Ellie Cashman, Emmie Lesburt, and Amaya Behsman each had a kill as well. Lesburt also put up a big block. It was the team's best match of the season and a thriller too. They worked very hard and communicated well to make the win happen."

However, the Pinkerton crew also showed its growth and great intensity during the post-season tournament.

"We went 4-2 in pool play during the tournament at Hollis-Brookline," said coach Worsman. "We beat Londonderry 25-18 and 25-23, and (Manchester) Central 25-16 in both sets. We lost to Exeter 23-25, 23-25 in two sets, but played two very hard-fought games. They were the best two sets the team played all season. In the first playoff round, we lost to Bishop Guertin 25-9."

Statistically speaking, the academy crew had Ellie Cashman lead the way with 15 aces and five kills on the day. Nicole Valcourt had 10 kills and a block, Emmie Lesburt and Vanessa Montgomery each had five aces, while Lesburt had five



The Pinkerton Academy girls' junior varsity volleyball squad accomplished a whole lot while enjoying a fine 2017 campaign this fall. Coach Kelly Worsman, bottom right, enjoyed working with the crew as well. *Courtesy photo*

kills and Montgomery Behsman and Aubrie Amelia Smalley, Amilia Johnston, Cashman, and Behsman were pivotal in the back row for the Lady Astros, and the defense was extremely strong.



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Pinkerton Graduate Fiore Collects MMA Featherweight Title

CHRIS PANTAZIS
NUTFIELD NEWS

Nick Fiore knew that there was a lot riding on his performance at the Combat Zone 64 Mixed Martial Arts event on Saturday evening, Nov. 18 at the Radisson Hotel in Manchester. And the 2016 Pinkerton Academy graduate was very prepared.

And that preparation paid off handsomely for the former PA Astro as he claimed the amateur featherweight title by vanquishing Ali Zebian, who stepped into that bout with a solid 6-3 record and knockouts or technical knockouts in every one of his victories.

Fiore earned his championship belt and improved to 4-1 as an MMA competitor by employing superior take-

down tactics over Zebian. The second round of their battle was decisive for the PA grad, who got Zebian on the ground and then pounded him with strikes from his left and right hands before executing the submission via a rear naked choke-hold.

"I worked very hard for this fight and I felt more confident in my striking than I ever had before," said the 19-year-old Fiore. "I felt really good about my control before the submission. It feels phenomenal to be a champion, but this is just another step in my career. I'm really happy with the outcome because he's a really tough guy and I have the utmost respect for him. It was a good night."

The local man, who carries the banner of the Renzo

Gracie New Hampshire Brazilian Jiu Jitsu School in Windham where he serves as an instructor, wasn't in quite the same kind of mental space following his lone MMA loss at Combat Zone 60 a year earlier.

He was the victim of a knockout by rival Taylor Costantino during that event, and he prepared for and then stepped into this year's battle with Zebian looking for a far better outcome.

"I had a lot of stuff going on outside the cage when I was in that (2016) fight. I had just gotten evicted from my house, there were things going on with my girlfriend, and there was a lot of other stuff pulling me away," he said.

The Pinkerton grad was

supported by a big crowd of family and friends during the recent bout, and he didn't disappoint.

Fiore, who teaches self-defense to women and standing up to bullies to children among his Jiu Jitsu course offerings at Renzo Gracie NH, intends to climb the ladder in the sport of MMA.

"Why do I want to do this? I ask myself that all the time," said the Pinkerton graduate. "I've always been drawn to the martial arts, and MMA is the epitome of where you can put it all together. I really like the challenge of it, both mentally and physically. All of the training is really hard and it requires real dedication, but I enjoy challenges. They define how you better yourself."



Pinkerton 2016 grad Nick Fiore won an MMA trophy bigger than himself recently. Courtesy photo

PA Grad Soraghan is Starring in the Pool for Simmons

LoCHRIS PANTAZIS
NUTFIELD NEWS

Pinkerton Academy graduate Maria Soraghan is having herself some kind of freshman swimming season for the women's team at Simmons College in Boston.

The East Hampstead resident has been named the Great Northeast Athletic Conference Women's Swimming and Diving Rookie of the Week several times this fall, including during the middle of November.

An international relations major, the PA grad was

so honored by the GNAC for the span covering Oct. 23-29 as well before garnering the honors once again for the period spanning Nov. 6-12.

During that latter span, the college rookie scored 22 points with a pair of first-place finishes and a second-place effort while also helping her Lady Sharks to a win in the 400-yard freestyle relay in the team's 167-132 victory over Wellesley College on Nov. 11.

The local woman finished first in the 200-yard freestyle with a time of 1 minute and 59.75 seconds for Simmons



Local woman Maria Soraghan is excelling for the Simmons College swim team. Photo by Mike Broglio

before winning the 50-yard freestyle by one tenth of a second in a time of 25.96 in her first 50-freestyle race of the season.

The rookie then followed up that superb showing with another event debut, placing second in her first 200-yard backstroke race at the collegiate level with a time of 2:15.13 to finish less than three-tenths of a second behind the winner.

She capped off her productive day by swimming the lead leg of the team's

winning 400-yard freestyle relay, helping the Sharks post a top time of 3:44.91.

To that juncture of the season, the local woman had finished either first or second in seven of nine races, including four winning efforts. She has shown great versatility, winning at distances of 50, 200, and 1,000 yards in the freestyle events and has been a mainstay in the team's relays as part of the 200-yard medley, 200-yard freestyle, 400-yard medley, and 400-yard freestyle units, helping Simmons win four out of six relays.

The Simmons squad was 4-2 on the season when it returned to action on Saturday, Nov. 18 by hosting the University of New England swimmers from Biddeford, Me.

And Soraghan again played a significant role in helping the Sharks to more success that afternoon, finishing ahead of the whole field in the 50-yard freestyle to lead a 1-2-3 Simmons sweep with a time of 25.73.

Simmons won 15 of the 16 events that day and turned in 1-2-3 finishes in two events, ultimately winning the team event by a very lopsided score of 216-72.

During her four years at Pinkerton, Soraghan was a member of the National Honor Society and the Foreign Language Honor Society. She was named a New Hampshire Scholar, and was also a member of the Mock Trial, Destination Imagination, and the Pinkerton and Little Students Academy Mentor Program.



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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. Please send submissions to nutfieldnews@nutpub.net.

Polar Express

Polar Express story hour registration Taking names for Dec. 5, 6, or 7. Story hour starts at 6:30 p.m. (children should arrive sometime between 6:15-6:30 p.m. in jammies). Call the library to register for one of the three nights as space is limited. Children should be at least 3 years old to register. Call 432-7186.

Movie Night & College Scholarship Grant

LifeWay Church is hosting a Movie Night for High School students in Derry and having a prize drawing for a \$500 college scholarship grant. Enjoy great friends, a great movie, free food, music, campfire, and marshmallow roast. Fri. Dec. 1 starting at 6:30 p.m. at 14 Crescent St. Derry (white church building).

Toddler Tunes & Tales,

On Fri. Dec. 8, and Dec. 15 from 10 - 10:35 a.m. the Derry Library will hold a Toddler story time with Mr. Ray for children 12 to 36 months and their caregivers. Engages children in early literacy by using music, finger plays, props, & movement. No registration required. Contact Ray Fontaine at rayf@derrypl.org for more information.

Derry Reader's Group

On Fri. Dec. 8, from 1:30 - 2:30 p.m. Gather at the Derry Library and discuss books as a group in Meeting Room A.

Book Sale

On Sat. Dec. 9, from 9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. The Friends of the Derry Public Libraries hold their monthly book sale. Find all kinds of great books at bargain prices!

Preschool Story time

On Mon. Dec. 11, from 10 - 10:45 a.m. at the Derry Public Library will hold a story program with Ms. Alexis for children ages 3-5 years old and their caregiver. Lively time of

sharing books, songs, puppets, nursery rhymes, early literacy, and pre-school activities. For more information contact Alexis MacDonald-Britton at alexismb@derrypl.org.

Step Into Music

On Tue. Dec. 12, from 10 - 10:45 a.m. Join Ms. Eileen at the Derry Public Library for this lively music and dance program for young children (ages 3-5 years old) and their caregiver. Celebrate early childhood with songs, stories, games, and movement. For more information contact Ray Fontaine at rayf@derrypl.org.

Cooking Club

On Tue. Dec. 12, from 3:30 - 4:30 p.m. the Delicious and Nutritious Cooking Club will meet at the Derry Public Library. Join us to test out some yummy and healthful recipes. We'll whip up chickpea "cookie dough," homemade granola bars, yummy yogurt dip with fresh fruit skewers, smoothie bowls, and coconut almond butter truffles. For more information contact Erin Robinson at 603-432-6140 or erinr@derrypl.org.

Bedtime Stories

On Tues. Dec. 12, from 6:30 - 7 p.m. at the Derry Public Library for an evening story time with Ms. Alexis. This story time puts the emphasis on fun! Stories, flannel boards, games, and crafts are included in this bedtime activity. PJs and blankies welcome. Ages 2-7. No registration required. For more information contact Alexis MacDonald-Britton at alexismb@derrypl.org.

Infant Story time

On Wed. Dec. 13, from 10 - 10:30 a.m., at the Derry Public Library all infants and their caregivers are welcome at this lap sit story time for babies (birth - walking). Learn finger play, songs, and nursery rhymes to share with your baby as she/he sits in your lap. Connect with other parents and caregivers. No registration required. For more information

contact Ray Fontaine at rayf@derrypl.org.

Film Discussion Group

On Wed. Dec. 13, from 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. Do you enjoy watching Independent, Foreign, and Classic films? What about discussing them? Join our IFC film group at the Derry Public Library and make it happen! We will provide the film for you to watch at home, and the discussion will be here on the 2nd Wed. of the month from 6:30-7:30 p.m. No registration is required. Films will be available to pick up at our front desk and are loanable for one week. For more information contact Jessica Drouin at 603-432-6140 or jessicad@derrypl.org.

A Tudor Christmas

On Wed. Dec. 13, from 6:30 - 8 p.m. Christmas and New Year's was a time of both fasting and celebration at the English Tudor court. Elaborate masques and revelries coincided with feasts and gift-giving. While modern Christmas draws many of its traditions from the late 19th/ early 20th century, we can find some parallels in Henry VIII's world. Christmas, and the twelve days associated with it, had their own distinct style - this talk will explore the sights, sounds, and smells of a Tudor Christmas in Meeting Room A & B of the Derry Public Library. For more information contact Liz Ryan, Adult Services Librarian at 432-6140 or lizr@derrypl.org.

Teen Writer's Group

On Wed. Dec. 13, from 6:30 - 8 p.m. Gather around the teen table this winter to get creative, share stories and use your imaginations at the Derry Public Library. For more information contact Erin Robinson at 603-432-6140 or erinr@derrypl.org.

1-2-3 Explore

On Thur. Dec. 14, from 10 - 10:45 a.m. We have so much to explore! Join us for interactive sensory play activities designed to stimulate toddlers' growing minds at the Derry

Public Library. Due to the nature of the program, attendance is limited to toddlers ages 1, 2, and 3 only with their caregivers (no older siblings). No registration required. For more information contact Ray Fontaine at rayf@derrypl.org.

Escape Room

On Thur. Dec. 14, from 3:30 - 4:30 p.m. Are you great at logic puzzles, clues, codes, ciphers and mysteries? Join us for our monthly escape room as we try to unlock mystery upon mystery before it's too late. In Meeting Room B at the Derry Public Library. For more information contact Erin Robinson at 603-432-6140 or erinr@derrypl.org.

Vendor/Craft Fair

The Marion Gerrish Community Center is hosting it's first Vendor/Craft Fair Sunday, Dec. 10, from 1 - 5 p.m., located at 39 W. Broadway, Derry.

Christmas Across America

Londonderry Christian Church is hosting CEF's Christmas Across America on Sat., Dec. 9 from 3 - 6 p.m. at 372 Mammoth Road in Londonderry. Come celebrate the true meaning of Christmas as we play games, sing songs, and hear about one of the most amazing events in all of history! Recommended ages are 5-12, but all families and children are welcome. This is a free event. To register call 432-4630. Visit www.londonderrychristianchurch.com/events for more details.

The Church/State Challenge

Free Lecture on Dec. 14, 7 p.m. at Etz Hayim Synagogue in Derry. Supreme Court Justice Robert J. Lynn will speak on "The Church/State Challenge." the relationship between the government and religion/religious institutions in the United States. The lecture is part of Etz Hayim Synagogue's Continuing Education Program, "Hot Topics, Cool Contemporary Stuff," and is open to the public at no charge. Donations to the synagogue to allow us to continue with similar programs are welcomed, of course. We hope you will join us.

Renew

Renew clothing opening Dec. 9 Saturday, 8 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. (arrive by 10 a.m.) We are also open every Thur. 9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. (arrive by 11 a.m.)

winter clothing is now available. Families and individuals in need or on a budget are welcomed. We give away free gently used apparel that has been donated by the community, and sorted and organized by volunteers Enter at marquee sign of Calvary Bible Church, 145 Hampstead Road in Derry. Limits: To make sure our newest items are available for all our visitors we limit each household to up to 20 of our newest items plus a reasonable number of our older items. Donations of good condition, modern clothing may be placed in our donations bin by our door at any time. No housewares, books, toys, or bedding, please. Sorry, we are unable to provide tax-receipts. No donations of money are asked for or accepted in return for our clothing. Contact us by searching for "Renew Derry" on Facebook, by emailing renewcalvary@gmail.com, or calling the church secretary at 434-1516.

Garden Club Meeting

Derry Garden Club's next meeting will be held on Fri., Dec. 1, at the Derry Boys and Girls Club, 40 Hampstead Rd, Derry, at 10 a.m. It will be our annual greens workshop with Alison Kennerly demonstrating wreath making along with a video. Members bring greens to share and their own container to create a holiday piece for the home. Members will also make a small arrangement in a mug to donate to Meals on Wheels, from the Derry Garden Club. The committee will provide a potluck meal, dessert and beverages. For more information contact Derry Garden Club 434-5016

Snowmobile Safety Course

The Town of Derry Parks & Recreation Department, the Derry Pathfinders, and New Hampshire Fish and Game would like to announce open enrollment for the annual Snowmobile Safety Course. This safety course will be held on Sat., Dec. 2 from 8:30 a.m. - 4 p.m. at the Alexander-Carr Lodge on 28 Pierce Ave in Derry. Participants must be at least 12 years old by April 2018 to participate. All participants under the age of 18 years old must attend the course with an adult. Advance registration is required. Space is limited and fills up quickly. To register please contact the Derry Parks & Recreation Department at

(603) 432-6136 from 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. Additional questions can be answered by contacting the Derry Pathfinders at info@derrypathfinders.org

Basketball Referees

Applications for Basketball Referees are being accepted for the 2018 winter basketball season. Referees will be hired to help on Saturday's throughout the months of January, February, and March. An orientation and training process takes place in December to help Referees learn department policies as well as program expectations. This individual acts as a liaison between the program and the Coordinator, is a role model; and an effective communicator with other basketball referees, coaches, and players. Applications are available at www.derryh.org/ and should be returned to Derry Parks & Recreation Department, 31 West Broadway, Derry, NH 03038. Professional/Volunteer references are required. For more information on the position or application requirements call (603) 423-6136 during business hours.

Used Toy Sale

St. Gianna's Closet will hold its annual used toy sale on Dec. 2, from 9 a.m. - noon at St. Thomas Church, 26 Crystal Ave in Derry. There is a huge selection of beautiful toys at low cost like puzzles, games, dolls, ride on toys, kitchen sets, play sets and more. All proceeds go to fund St. Thomas Parish's outreach/food pantry programs. Cash and carry, bring your own bags.

Folsom's Open House

Folsom's annual Open House on Dec. 2, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. & Dec. 3, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at 130 Candia Rd. Chester. We'll have beautiful and fun holiday wreaths, plenty of maple goodies for gift giving and Gift Baskets to take some of the headache and stress off the holiday shopping experience Thank you to you all for your continued support of us and all our local businesses.

Tiny Tots

A storytime for ages 6 months - 2 years meets Mondays and Fridays at 10 a.m. at the Taylor Public Library. Space is limited so called the library at 432-7186 to register or with questions.



Arlene Hajjar 603.490.1001 Karen Ahern 603.682.7237 Denise Burgess 603.490.1078 Claudia C 603.425.4532 John Conley 603.867.7743



Craig Formalarie 603.490.4281 Laura Hajjar 603.303.0311 Roger Hirschfeld 603.321.8415 Joan Janas 603.494.9934 Diane Killoran 603.966.0868



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