

# Nutfield News

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## Tax Rate and Property Value Update Explained Council

MAC LEATHURBY  
NUTFIELD NEWS

The hot residential real estate market has increased home selling prices in Derry. The higher home values as well as other factors including new construction, have contributed to a lower tax rate of \$26.03 per thousand for Derry property owners.

Because home prices have risen significantly over the past couple of years, it means some homes were undervalued over the past year, so the recent valuation update and residential home assessment process may have increased the tax burden for some home owners. This happened because the

value of their property went up above a certain threshold, thus creating a new fair market property tax exceeding the previous years taxes paid even as the tax rate has gone down.

The good news is that for many homeowners, whose property was at or near the new fair market value, with the new tax rate, their property taxes will go down a bit. It is important to understand the relationship between your home value and the tax rates to know where your property tax will come out. Tax rates are calculated to meet the budgets of the Town's commitment. Here is the example from last year of the breakdown of the

property tax rate to meet the require budget guidelines.

Unit of Government 2017	
Town Services	\$08.44
Local Schools	\$17.14
Other Education	\$02.23
Rockingham County	\$01.05
Total	\$28.86

Derry Town Administrator, David Caron presented an overview of the new Tax rate work to the Town Council Tuesday, Nov. 20 and gave a status report about how the new tax rate was determined and the impact on property holders. Here is an overview from that presentation.

Derry raised about 1.8% more in tax dollars for 2018 vs. 2017 across all levels of

**continued on page 3**

## Derry to Increase Traffic Enforcement Staff and Equipment for Town Safety

MAC LEATHURBY  
NUTFIELD NEWS

The Town of Derry passed a resolution to accept a New Hampshire Safety Agency Grant for various traffic enforcement activities. Police Chief Garone presented an overview of the grant during a public hearing that took place on Tuesday November 20, during the Town Council meeting. The Police Chief will execute the grant in the near term, so the Police Department can increase staffing as soon as possible.

Periodically, The NH Highway Safety Agency distributes funds to select traffic enforcement patrols and for certain types of safety

enforcement equipment including smart speed data collection devices. This grant enables the Town of Derry to better resource Police patrols and update equipment for better driving safety law enforcement.

The Police Department has received a grant contract for seven such programs. The funds allocation and resource will be deployed as follows:

- Sustained Traffic Enforcement (STEP) — \$11,593 = 40 4-hour Patrols
- Operation Safe Commute — \$3,161 = 12 4-hour Patrols
- Join the N.H. Clique — \$5468 = 2 4-hour Patrols
- Distracted Driving — \$5,652 = 20 4-hour Patrols

- Pedestrian/Bicycle Patrols — \$6,587 = 24 4-hour Patrols

- DWI Patrols — \$9,880 = 24 6-hour Patrols
- Speed Enforcement/ Data Collection Equipment — \$24,324, requires 50% match of \$12,162

The seven grants total \$49,503 in grant funds and will really help the Police with staffing.

The New Hampshire Highway Safety Agency will reimburse the Derry for 100% of the salary-related expenses plus associated roll up costs for all hours worked under the grants. The Town is responsible for in-kind cost matches for the 6 patrol grants totaling \$9,335.25.

**continued on page 3**



Santa and Mrs. Claus put an exclamation point to finish the annual Holiday Parade sponsored by the Derry/Londonderry Chamber of Commerce. This year's theme was "Season of Superheroes."

*Photo by Chris Paul*

## Chamber Hosts Super Hero Holiday Parade

MAC LEATHURBY  
NUTFIELD NEWS

The Greater Derry Londonderry Chamber of Commerce held its annual Holiday Parade on a sunny Saturday afternoon, Nov. 24, and warm temperatures allowed for a larger than average crowd to come out and help ring in the holiday season.

The theme of this year's parade

was "Season of Superheroes" and many area businesses and civics groups entered floats to try and win the distinction of the parade's best.

This year, the First Place spot went to Dance Impressions with their "Super Elves - Fighters of the BaHumBugs" float and dancers.

Second Place went to T-Bones

**continued on page 4**



# South Range Fifth Grade Student Recognized by State Council

Derry resident and South Range Elementary School fifth grade student, Timothy Dineen was recognized at the Champion Youth Award Luncheon in Concord on Monday, Nov. 26.

The New Hampshire Council for Youth with Chronic Conditions sought nominations of young people who have chronic health conditions, and are inspiring with their dogged resilience, cheerful optimism and determination.

Tim was nominated for this award by the staff at South Range Elementary School.

Despite his physical disability, Tim is described as a boy who thinks and acts beyond any limitations. He is always happy and maintains such a positive attitude, and he cares about others. He



Back row, from left, Susan Linehan RN (SRS school nurse) , Kristin Dineen, mom, Timothy Dineen, Dad, Destinee DiPrima, Wonder Woman, Isabella Dineen, sister, Michelle Cremone, SRS assistant Principal. Front row, Timmy Dineen, Tegan Dineen, sister, Raymond Dineen, brother.

*Courtesy photos*

is the epitome of perseverance and is an inspiration to those who know him.

Tim's parents, Tim and Kristen Dineen, along with his three siblings and his school nurse Sue Linehan and Assistant Principal Michelle Cremone attended the ceremony to celebrate and honor Tim and the other recipients.

South Range School was thrilled that Tim received this recognition as he is a shining example of what it means to be a champion.



In The picture with Timmy Dineen and Destinee DiPrima (Wonder Women) with Steve Shurtleff of the New Hampshire House of Representatives.

# Derry Economic Development to Have Business Owners Forum

**CHRIS PAUL**  
NUTFIELD NEWS

Derry's Economic Development Director, Beverly Donovan is encouraging businesses to join the Derry Economic Development Advisory Committee (EDAC) on Monday, Dec. 3, at 7 p.m. in the third floor Meeting

Room at the Derry Municipal Center to talk about Challenges and Opportunities for businesses looking to locate, grow and thrive in the neighborhoods South of Route 102.

The Town wants to hear from business owners about their thoughts and ideas for improving their economic

outcomes.

Input gathered will also help to inform the Master Planning process that the Town will be undertaking beginning this month.

This forum is the second in a series designed to learn from Derry businesses. The first forum took place on Oct. 1, and focused on the downtown area. All EDAC meetings are open to the public.

The mission of the EDAC, according to the town's website, is to assist in creating an environment that attracts robust businesses to Derry that meet the demand of our residents and the local workforce, and inspires current and future businesses to succeed in our community of historic Main Street storefronts complimented by the convenience of larger retailers, industry, and medical

professionals.

The groups goals include:

- Updating the Town's Website.
- Effective Use of Social Media to Support Economic Development and establish an EDAC Facebook Page.
- Market Derry
- Create Brochures
- Contact Businesses and Get Input from them
- Develop a Chamber of Commerce Economic Development Page for Derry
- Support Local Businesses by creating a Local Business Support Day
- Recruit Restaurants - High End, Different Cuisines Downtown
- Promote 79-E Tax Incentive and REDC Business Loan Program
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## Tax Rate

continued from page 1

government. Specifically .97% was from new construction in Derry. \$20-30 million dollars is projected to be coming into the community in new construction that can then be taxed accordingly. The balance of the increased tax dollars raised (under 1%) came in from existing properties.

New Hampshire requires that values are maintained by the Town be between 90-100% of fair market value. Last year in 2017, Derry was at 89.7% of fair market value in context to the tax

structure that is just below the State required level. The Derry assessment organization projected values that were in place for 2018 at that time would have been about 20% below fair market value, so the State makes the town do is a value update to insure property values are equitably assessed throughout the Town ...to correct market values out of alignment to a more accurate fair market value. So a property value update and home assessment initiative to adjust fair market values was undertaken in Derry this past year per State law.

What happens if no

value update is completed? That would mean that many properties would be comparatively under assessed in value, so those property owners would be paying less than their fair share of taxes. Some properties might be over assessed compared to other properties and those property owners are paying more than their fair share of property taxes.

It is critical to understand that a value update initiative does not raise more tax dollars throughout the community. What it does – is to redistribute the tax burden more fairly to bring property owners to pay their

fair share to meet budget commitments.

The total town commitment of tax to be raised to cover the budgets is just under \$82 million dollars. If the Town had not undertaken a value update, then the tax rate would have increased from \$28.86 to \$29.13 to meet the budget commitment.

With the value update undertaken, and in consideration to meet the new Town budget, the 2018 tax rate calculated by the Derry Department of Revenue Administration adjusted from a rate in 2017 of 28.86 downward to a rate for 2018

of 26.03 per \$1000. For about 1/3 of the Towns property owners it means they will pay less taxes for about another 1/3 of the property owners it means they will pay more tax monies.

The goal of the valuation update is to adjust the taxes so that is focused for property owners to pay their fair share of taxes - no more or no less than is fair.

## Safety

continued from page 1

Those costs are soft-match costs that are funds already budgeted for administering the grants, prosecuting any cases resulting from the enforcement efforts and for the equipment costs associated with the conducting the patrols — i.e. vehicle and fuel costs.

The acceptance of these grant funds will have minimal impact on the Town budget, since all salary and attendant roll-up costs are reimbursed by the NH Highway Safety Agency and all matching costs are already budgeted in the department's operating budget. Enforcement patrols will be scheduled throughout the grant period

as one-man patrols. Officers assigned will be reimbursed at their respective overtime rate.

This grant is very beneficial for the Derry Police to step their enforcement for State and local safety laws. For example, Police Chief Garone and Derry Town Council members pointed out that too many times people are still using smart phones illegally in their cars, which can result in distracted driving situations leading to accidents. Derry Police typically issue one warning about using cell/smart phones in an unlawful situation. However, note that NH laws stipulate fines up to \$500 dollars for breaking the law. Smart phones that are integrated into car audio-visual systems via

Bluetooth, navigation systems USB or similar connections are legal to use providing users are not put in situations where they might become distracted from their driving responsibility. The grant acceptance means that Derry Police will likely step up observation and ticketing for those illegally using phones while driving.

Overall the grant is welcomed by the Derry

Police Chief and Police Department as an asset to a lean staffing situation, so that the Police can add more coverage for the Derry streets and highways to insure safe commutes, obedience to safe speeds, stops for driving while impaired, and other driving safety law enforcement. Derry can expect to see more police staff on patrol in rapid order as the grant is now in place.

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## OBITUARY

### Donald E. Mitchell



Donald E. Mitchell, Sr., 88, of Manchester, NH, died Sunday, Nov. 25, 2018, in Hanover Hill Healthcare Center, Manchester, NH. He was born in Gorham, NH on Feb. 26, 1930, a son of John and Honorah (Murphy) Mitchell. Donald married his beloved wife, Geraldine in the St. Rose Church of Chelsea, MA in 1954. They were residents of Derry, NH for 30 years, after which they divided their time wintering in Florida and camping in NH during the summer.

Donald spent 24 years as a butcher for Columbia Gem in Boston, MA and served as a Trustee in the Meat Cutters Union. He was also the last vice president prior to the merger with United Food and Commercial Workers. Donald also sold real estate for twelve years.

Active in Derry youth sports, coaching Jet Jr. and CYO basketball. Donald was also an avid swimmer, participating in a family triathlon and also the Senior Olympics at the age of 62 and 80.

Donald enjoyed poetry and was the founding member of the Poets Corner Club at the Senior Center in Suncook, NH. He was an avid reader, specifically of history and geography.

He is survived by five sons, Donald Mitchell, Jr. and his wife Deborah of Pelham, NH, John Mitchell and his wife Sharon of Port Charlotte, FL, Thomas Mitchell of Laconia, NH, Joseph Mitchell and his wife Jean of Manchester, James Mitchell and his wife Morgain of Kingfield, ME; daughter, Theresa Mitchell of Dover, NH, thirteen grandchildren and six great grandchildren. Donald is predeceased by his wife, Geraldine (Dyer) Mitchell and his half-brother Lawrence "Joe" Mitchell.

Calling hours will be held on Friday Nov. 30, 2018 from 4 - 8 p.m. in the Peabody Funeral Homes & Crematorium, 15 Birch St., Derry. A Mass of Christian Burial will be held on Saturday Dec. 1, 2018 at 10am in St. Thomas Aquinas Church, 26 Crystal Ave., Derry. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to St. Thomas Aquinas Parish Food Pantry.

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# Editorial

## Getting in the Spirit of the Season

As many of you read this, you're probably hard at work filling up your holiday to-do list. After all, it's the most wonderful (and most busy) time of the year.

But what's included on your list? Gifts? Volunteering time to help those less fortunate? Holiday dinners and parties? Maybe even a brief vacation when the kids are out of school?

Those certainly are December thoughts, but there's likely something missing from your holiday agenda. Something equally important and yet so easily forgotten.

Town and school district budgets: not as exciting as deciding what decorations to put up or what cookies to bake, but perhaps just as critical. It's something you can't put off.

The 2019 elections will be here before we know it, and those pesky budgets need your input. After all, it is your money at stake and you do have a say on how it is spent.

All of our towns and school districts are debating budgets, whether it's cost-of-living increases, new buildings, new services, or on rare occasions, finding new ways of doing things.

Citizens have the right—no—the duty to tell their elected officials what they consider important for inclusion in the budget and what can be held out, especially considering the difficulty most people have in finding the money to pay their ever increasing taxes.

You've likely just gotten your tax bill. Are you satisfied with what it's pay-

ing for

We hear a lot about making sure employees are paid well and have strong benefit packages so they don't move to better-paying jobs. But those better-paying jobs just aren't around, even as we're taxed for pay-raises.

Is every school job vital, dose the positive have an impact on education? Is every town job important, with an impact on the community? Could some jobs be combined or eliminated, or maybe even out sourced to a local business? And when that service is perhaps one day no longer needed, will we be made to feel guiltily about letting them go?

These are things that happen in the public sector, all the time without boosting pay. We haven't heard much of that conversation.

It's up to the residents to advocate for budgets that maintain the "needs" and cut the "wants." Those better days haven't arrived yet. It is up to us to question and ask for the back up documents to support officials' statements as to why they need all of our hard-earned money.

If you don't let your elected officials know now what you think, you'll miss the opportunity. All the budgets have fluff built into them some more than others.

Once again, we encourage you to get involved and have your say now, when change remains possible.

December brings more than the sound of Santa's reindeer. Democracy is calling. Make your voices heard. Or keep silent and just write the check.



## Parade

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Great American Eatery for their wide variety of super heroes on-board their float designed to look like Gotham City, and third place was awarded to the Calvary Bible Church

The First Place Youth Award was given to the Derry Diamond Athletic Association.

The honor of Most Unusual went to Haas Dental Associates; Best Creative

use of Theme was the Derry Demons and the Lead Sponsor for the parade was Walmart.

Many of the area's Middle School and High School bands made their way down West Broadway and Crystal Avenue also. The marching bands from Pinkerton Academy, Londonderry High School and Alvirine High all participated again this year, sporting holiday attire, as well as band from West Running Brook, Gilbert H. Hood.

Not to be forgotten, what

is always the main attraction for those attending, Santa and Mrs. Claus wound out the parade with a ride from the Derry Fire Fighter on their ladder truck.

After the parade, children made their way to Veteran's Hall for crafts snacks and balloons, an annual treat sponsored by the Derry Recreation Department. Tables were set up for cookie decorating, ornaments painting and face painting. Joe Tombarello, of Silly Solutions was on hand to create holiday themed bal-

## Nutfield News

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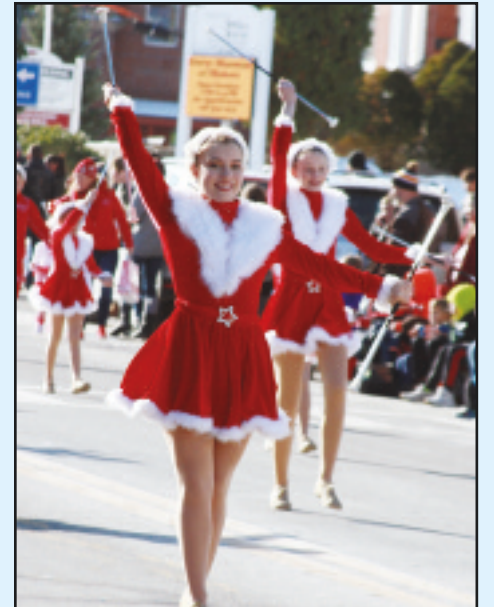
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# Annual Holiday Parade Rings In Holiday Cheer in Derry



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# First Parish Church Host 74th Annual Sugar Plum Fair

The First Parish Congregational Church in East Derry Hosted its annual Sugar Plum Fair for the 74th time recently. The fair featured local Artisans with Unique Crafts and Special Holiday Gifts; Homemade Cookies in their Famous Cookie Walk; a White Elephant Sale; Homemade Pecan Rolls and Breads; and lots of tasty treats and satisfying refreshments. The church is still going through a major renovation project, and is currently hoping to get their steeple replaced.

*Photos by Chris Paul*



## Pinkerton Players Present "Little Women" Starting Dec. 7

MACK LEATHURBY  
NUTFIELD NEWS

Based on Louisa May Alcott's life, *Little Women* follows the adventures of sisters Jo, Meg, Beth and Amy March with their beloved Marmee at home in Concord, Massachusetts while their father is away during the Civil War, serving as a Union Army chaplain. As the sister's lives unfold, vignettes recreate the events as portrayed from the melodramatic short stories Jo writes in her attic studio.

This timeless, captivating story is brought to life in this glorious musical filled with personal discovery, heartache, hope, and everlasting love. The original production starred the unparalleled Sutton Foster, who received Tony, Outer Critics Circle and Drama



Desk nominations for her performance.

The Pinkerton Players for *Little Women*, The Musical are: Jenna Sullivan, Jo; Samantha Griffin, Meg; Shea Flanders Beth; Emma Cahoon, Amy; Michael Hughes Laurie; Tony Gallo, Professor Bhaer; Harrison Christilles, Mr. Brooke; Sydney Steger, Marmee;

Adam Fungal, Mr. Laurence; Amelia Hansen, Aunt March and Gabbie Deutsch, Mrs. Kirke.

Join the Pinkerton Players to see their performance of *Little Women* at Pinkerton's Stockbridge Theatre on Friday, Dec. 7, and Saturday Dec. 8 at 7 p.m. or the matinee performance on Dec. 9 at 2 p.m.

Tickets are available on line at: [www.stockbridgetheatre.com/events/little-women](http://www.stockbridgetheatre.com/events/little-women) Tickets are also available during Box Office Hours though Phone Sales by calling (603) 437-5210 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. or from the Stockbridge Theatre Box Office in person from 2 p.m. - 4 p.m.



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# Winter Holidays Are A Time for Fire Safety Awareness

**MACK LEATHURBY**  
NUTFIELD NEWS

While the holiday season can be hectic and busy, it may save your life to take a moment to consider how to make yourself, your home or your business safe.

Paul Parisi, NH State Fire Marshal has a message for everyone in NH. He says "By taking a moment to ensure your home is fire and life safe this holiday season, your holidays will become much less worrisome. We all agree it is fun to decorate for the winter holidays, but what many of us do not realize is that the holidays and their decorations increase the risk for a home fire. As you deck the halls this season, please be fire smart." Here are some key points to consider from this month's NH State Fire Marshall's safety newsletter, The Safety Educator — Holiday Edition.

Make sure you and your family has a fire escape plan — with two ways out for every room with an outdoor meeting place established. If there should an alarm or a fire/hazard warning sounded out — get out of the building and stay out. Then call 911.

Lt Michael Stanhope, Director of Fire Prevention for Derry says a safety mindset is always important this time of year. He says those who cut cord-wood should have their chainsaws and axes properly prepared and they should also wear the right gear like chaps when cutting wood

Lt Stanhope also says people should pay close attention to water bodies for ice depth before they walk

on it or put snowmobiles on it. He says the Derry Fire Dept. has done multiple ice water rescues within local ponds and lakes areas the past several years. The Lieutenant warns us to also consider "Don't go on ponds or lakes in the winter without a Personal Flotation Device (PFD) preferably worn or handy nearby. The Derry Fire Department team also kindly requests everyone to adopt a nearby fire hydrant to make sure it is not buried with ice/snow in case of an emergency.

Brian Johnson is the Chief of Fire Prevention in Londonderry and his team is focused on Londonderry's overall safety. Lt Jon Cares is a Line Lieutenant and Paramedic for his team and he points out that winter-time safety requires specific attention. Jon offered some important tips in line with the NH Fire Marshals recommendations for having a safe winter holiday:

\* Keep candles away from anything that can burn. Put them on a sturdy base.

\* Blow out all candles when you leave the room or go to bed.

\* Don't burn a candle all the way down — put it out before it gets close to the holder.

\* Avoid the use of can-

dles in the bedroom and other areas where people may fall asleep.

\* Never use a candle if oxygen is used in the home.

\* Try using LED candles instead of wax candles with flames.

\* Have battery-powered lighting ready to use during a power outage. Never use candles.

\* Make sure your Christmas tree is watered and away from the fireplace.

\* Inspect lights. Have no more than three strings attached end to end.

\* Make sure the chimney is clean to prevent fires and for Santa!!

Lt Cares also reminds us, it is a bad idea to take paper wrapping and boxes from gifts and throw this all at once into a fireplace thus creating a bonfire. A chimney fire may start that can spread quickly, so go easy when burning gift wrapping paper. It is a good idea to insure all smoke detectors are in place on every floor and they are in working order. Remember smoke alarms typically also have expiration dates and should be replaced every 10 years.

Devin Van Avery of Matthew Thornton School in Londonderry points out that November is Carbon

Monoxide (CO) Awareness and Safety month. He reminds us to check Carbon Monoxide detectors, replace batteries and test they are in working order. Fireplaces, pellet stoves and oil burning systems all put off CO and detectors can save your life. CO is the invisible killer that is colorless, odorless and poisonous. It is caused from faulty furnaces/heating appliances, cars left running in garages or misplaced portable generators. Devin reminds us that everyone should be sure snow is not blocking appliance vents and to not leave a car running inside the garage.

Over the recent past,

some people have decided that frying a turkey in hot oil outside in a gas fueled fryer is how they want to cook a Turkey. This situation can lead to safety emergencies. Unless you have the exact safe place, really know what you are doing, and have fire extinguishers ready, this turkey cooking strategy is discouraged by the NH Stay Fire Marshall. There are better ways to get a moist turkey anyway and burning your home down or burning yourself or someone in your family with hot oil is not necessary to have a great Turkey.

With so much cooking

taking place on the holidays, be proactive and safety aware especially with kids around the kitchen. If a cooking fire starts, you should have a lid close by to smother the fire. For an oven fires, turn the oven off and close the door tightly. If you have any concerns just get out and call 911 from outside your home.

Schedule some time with your family to go through all the appropriate considerations for safety these winter holidays and have a blast with safety in mind. Contact our local Fire Departments for any questions or for more safety information.

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Photos by Chris Paul



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# DERRY SPORTS

## Nearly 700 Brave Cold and Run in the Annual Turkey Trot

IDAN VINITSKY  
NUTFIELD NEWS

There were over 650 runners participating in the 45th annual Greater Derry Track Club Turkey Trot race Thanksgiving morning.

The freezing temperatures were not enough to scare off the dedicated runners, who came to begin their holiday celebrations in style and completed the 5K scenic course, which took them around the residential roads of Beaver Lake in Derry.

Out of the 325 male runners, the winner was 21-year-old Aushir Smith from Topfield, Mass. He crossed the finish line after 16:35 minutes, only four seconds ahead of runner up Joe Gagnon, an 18-year-old Pinkerton Academy runner from Hooksett, who was the first among his division's (15-19 year olds) 38 participants. In third place came 20-year-old Seth Richardson from Wolfeboro Falls. He crossed the line at 16:41 minutes. Of note, the 54-year-old runner Mark Hecox, from Salem, New Hampshire, finished ninth overall with an impressive time of 18:30 minutes.

There were 339 women running the race, and the winner was 27-year-old Morgan Lingor, who came all the way from New York and ran a 19:20 minute 5K. The second woman to cross the finish line was the 40-year-old Pinkerton Academy running coach, and previous title-holder, Amy Bernard from Hampstead. She came



Aushir Smith from Topfield, Mass. was this year's race winner



Morgan Lingor, of New York was the first female runner this year.



Hundreds of runners from all over headed out around the 5K trek around Beaver Lake on Thursday, Nov. 22 taking part in the Greater Derry Track Club's annual Turkey Trot.  
*Photos by Chris Paul*

in just 43 seconds after Lingor.

Between the locals, the fastest Derry resident was 17-year-old Jeff Mize, who finished seventh overall with a time of 17:47. Those who followed were Rusty Risteen (19-year-old, 12 overall, 19:09 minutes) and Craig Coventry (13-year-old, 19 overall, 20:14 minutes). The best Derry female runner was Emilee Risteen (23-years-old, 43 overall, 22:48 minutes) with Ginia Rufo (12-year-old, 65 overall, 23:45 minutes) coming second.

The best Londonderry resident of the day was 14-year-old Matthew Palmer, who came in 38th after running a 22:18 5K. Right behind him, at the 48th overall place, was Londonderry's fastest female runner, 18-year-old Kalin Gregoire. She had a time of 23:04

minutes. Zack Luongo managed a top-50 spot with a time of 23:05.

The youngest runners were Simon Manners from Pelham and Leah Unger from Raymond, only eight years old. The oldest runner was Londonderry's John Loker, a 75-year-old who needed only 29 minutes to complete the course and finished in the 201 place overall. Charles Morganson from Derry, a 72-year-old, finished 489 overall with a time of 38:27.

Race director Sean Coyle said: "We had a great race. Everything went smooth despite the frigid temperatures and wind. I was very happy to have all the volunteers who braved the cold. If there is one club that can put on a cold weather race it is the GDTC. We are the oldest Turkey Trot in New Hampshire and all pro-

ceeds from the race will go to local food pantries. It is my eighth year as race director and this was by far the toughest weather I had, but I really well. It is a great community event and we love to organize it".

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# Nine Pinkerton Academy Athletes Sign Letters of Intent

**IDAN VINITSKY**  
NUTFIELD NEWS

There was a lot of excitement at the Pinkerton Academy lecture hall earlier this month, as nine athletes signed their Letters of Intent and committed to different colleges.

Brooke Kane will be playing basketball on the University of New Hampshire's Division I team next year, while Southern New Hampshire University will see three Pinkerton kids joining their squads, Madison Mahoney to the basketball team, Genarro Marra to the men lacrosse team and Sydni Dery to the women lacrosse team. Ava Dorci will play field hockey

at Merrimack College, Ryan Auger is going to Bryant University to play lacrosse, Kiley Davis committed to Coastal Carolina's lacrosse team, Reagan Kolinski is going to play soccer for Millersville University and Dani Martineau will join Sacred Heart University's lacrosse program.

After signing his Letter of Intent, Auger, who was recruited after his freshman year, was already chosen twice as an All-American and is currently the fourth all-time scorer in PA's lacrosse team's history, expressed his joy, "It is a big accomplishment for me, completing my process and it is a big deal for me and my family, the icing on the cake.

I liked the coaching stuff and the beautiful facilities in my new college and that is what convinced me to go there. In my senior season here, I still need to improve my strength in order to be ready for the next level".

Kane, who was described by Pinkerton Athletic Director Brian O'Reilly as "One of the most dynamic and all around players in the league", said, "It is really exciting to know that college is around the corner. I wanted a big school, close to home. I had a visit there and felt I will fit well. I can bring something different to their basketball program, the New Hampshire pride that I have."



Nine Pinkerton Athletes were signed to a number of colleges at a signing day that took place just before the Thanksgiving break. *Courtesy photo*

Kane's parents, Jim and Lauren, added, "It is a great day. It has been fun to watch the kids grow up and have success. Brooke was born with height and some ath-

leticism, but she put the work in, with extra practices and time in the gym and we are happy to see it paid off for her. She has been ready for a while for college. Of

course, it is more competitive in Division I college basketball, but she is ready and UNH is a great fit for her."

# Pinkerton Graduates Make Contributions to College Teams

**IDAN VINITSKY**  
NUTFIELD NEWS

While sports fans in the area wait for the winter season to begin, the Nutfield News took the opportunity to check how the fall season went for some of the ex-Pinkerton Academy athletes spread around New Hampshire colleges .

**Volleyball at Keene State:** Olivia Mathieu (Junior, Outside Hitter) - The Owls won 22 out of their 32 games during the fall season, and made it all the way to the LEC Championship Game, where they lost three sets to one against Eastern Connecticut State. Mathieu played 31 games this year, for a total of

104 sets. She finished the season with a total of 209.0 points, 2.0 points-per-set, a little drop from her 2.2 on her sophomore year. She was playing her best volleyball during the playoffs, recording a season high of 13 points in the 3-0 quarter finals win over Plymouth State and 12 points in the Championship Game.

**Basketball at Keene State:** Ben Olson (Junior, Center) - The 6-6 center scored two points in the comfortable 89-64 win over Salem State, that opened the Owl's season on Nov. 10. He went on to score six points in the next game, an 89-81 loss to the number 7 seed Springfield. Olson will try to improve his 5.0 points-per-game average from his sophomore season, where he shot a nice 62.4 percent from the field.

**Diving at Keene State:** Jessica Masotta (Sophomore) - After a successful freshman year, the ex-Astro gymnast was able to win both the 1-meter and the 3-meter dives in a meeting against Roger Williams University, in late Oct, scoring 176.32 and 167.25 points, respectively. The Swimming and Diving sea-

son will continue until the end of March.

**Volleyball at Plymouth:** Alexis Bowers (Junior, Outside Hitter) - As mentioned above, the Panthers' season ended with a 3-0 loss to Keene State in the first round of the LEC Tournament. Plymouth won 11 games during the season, while losing 20. Bowers played 103 sets in 31 games, scoring 222 points (third on her team), a 2.1 points-per-set average (compared to her 2.4 last season).

**Football at Plymouth:** Kayden Baillargeon (Freshman, Defensive Back) - The Panthers finished their season on Nov. 10, with a 21-10 loss to Husson on Senior day, a loss that brought their record for the season to 6-4. The first year Baillargeon participated in five games this season, his best game

coming in a 28-0 victory over Fitchburg State, where he had two tackles and two assists.

**Indoor Track at Plymouth:** Dean Squires Jr. (Senior, Throws), Nora Robichaud (Junior, Sprints, Hurdles and Pole Vault) and Brianna Warnick (Junior, Sprints, Relays and Pole Vault) - The last Indoor Track season for Squires in college will begin on Dec. 1, when Plymouth will participate in the UMass Boston Indoor Open at UMass. The next week, they will have one of their two home events this season. Squires led the team in Weight Throw last season, with a 12.04m (39-6.00 feet) throw at the LEC on Feb. 10.

Robichaud was one of the women's team stars last season, leading the Panthers

**continued on page 11**

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# Pinkerton's Adam Spencer Aims at Being New England Champion

IDAN VINITSKY  
NUTFIELD NEWS

The Pinkerton Academy Indoor Track team will open its new season on Dec. 15, at the UNH meet, but their eyes are already looking at the Division I State meet and the New England Championship meet, thanks to Adam Spencer, who can become a New England champion in a few months, if everything goes according to the plan.

Spencer, a senior at Pinkerton, finished last year's hurdlers race at the New England Championship meet in fourth place

and the three athletes who beat him were all seniors, so he is now the number one returning hurdler in the area. "He should be the indoor track hurdlers champion in the state meeting this season. I will be pretty surprised if someone beats him. And he can be a New England Champion. That is exciting, because you don't see a lot of those", said the Boys' Indoor Track coach at PA, Ian French, to the Nutfield News.

Spencer himself seems to love the situation: "This year is a challenge, because my entire high school career, there was someone in



Adam Spencer

front of me. I liked that, as it gave me motivation and I wanted to be better next

time. This year I might be the top runner and I want to see if I can be the person who everyone wants to beat", he says, "I always feel pressure when I run. I like to win, but if I am able to run faster and keep improving, that is more important than winning. I rather run better than just win. I always set impossible goals for myself and try to get them. It seems to be working".

He played soccer, until soccer became rough and he wanted to stay in shape. So Spencer went to track in eighth grade and quickly realized he is good at it: "I love to jump, so why not run

and jump?" When asked about the best advice he got from his sprinting coach, Carol Quarles, Spencer answers: "That the winner isn't always the one who works the hardest, but the one who works the smartest. I try to remember that during races".

Coach French is full of compliments: "Adam has been outstanding. You can see his progression from freshman to senior year. You are either fast or you are not, but hurdling is a skill. There is a lot of mechanics that go into it and you have to be consistent in order to be successful. Adam does that,

thanks to his work ethic. He comes in every day and does whatever his sprinting coach tells him to do, over and over. He is one of the best hurdlers we ever had".

And how can you still improve him in his senior year? "There are always things to fix in the High School level. No matter how good you are, you are not a perfect hurdler when you are 18. Now, with him, it is improving the little things, not the big ones. It is getting those last couple of hundreds of a second. Hopefully, he can get down to 7.5 seconds this season. That will be very impressive".

## PA Alumni

continued from page 10

in the 400 meter dash (1:05.59), 60 meter hurdles (11.08) and pole vault (2.75m), while also being a part of the relay teams in the 4X400 meter (4:31.51), the 4X200 meter (1:53.54) and the distance medley relay (13:22.59). She will be one of the three team captains this season.

**Cross Country at University of New Hampshire:** Nicolas Sevilla-Connelly (Junior) and Maison D'Amelio (Freshman) - The Wildcats Cross Country season concluded on Nov. 9 with the 25 overall spot at the NCAA Regional Meet in Buffalo, New York. Sevilla-Connelly finished that race in the 138 place, with a 35:38.5 time for the 10K run. He had his career best this season in the 5K Cross Country run, stopping the clocks at 15:28.9 minutes at the CCSU Mini Meet on Oct. 19, a result that was good for the

22 overall spot in that race.

D'Amelio recorded her careers bests in the 3K run (11:20.7 at the CCSU Mini Meet) and in the 5K run (19:43.2 at the New England Cross Country Championship).

**Football at University of New Hampshire:** Noah Robison (Junior, Offensive Line) - Robison, the ex-All-State player who was part of the dominant and undefeated Astros, state champions in 2014, was a starter this season for the 4-7 Wildcats. The team lost its first four games of the season, and six-out-of-seven, but recovered to win three straight times before dropping the season ender to Rhode Island. The Wildcats O-Line allowed 37 sacks this season, for a loss of 240 yards.

**Cross Country at Colby-Sawyer:** Kyle Hajj (Sophomore) - Hajj, a state champion in his Astros days, finished in the top 20 in four different races this season for the Chargers. At the NCAA Regional, the last

race of the season (Nov. 10), he took the 159th place with a time of 28:09.48, finishing third on his team. Colby-Sawyer as a team was 30th out of 58 schools that participated. As a distance runner, he will now focus on the Indoor season, which begins for the Chargers on Dec. 1, with the meeting at UMass Boston.

**Field Hockey at Colby-Sawyer:** Whitney O'Brien (Freshman, Defense/ Mid-field) and Jess Shatford (Freshman, Defense/Mid-field) - The two freshmen were part of a Charger team that had a strong 14-5-0 record and made it all the way to the GNAC Tournament semifinals, where they lost to Lasell 5-1. O'Brien played in six games, starting in four of them. Shatford saw action in 19 games, including eight times as a starter.

**Soccer at Colby-Sawyer:** Sam Mitchell (Junior, Goalkeeper) - The goalie that helped the Astros win their first ever champi-

onship, back in 2015, had four appearances this season, making a total of five saves while conceding twice. The team finished with a 7-8 record, before suffering a heavy 10-0 defeat against Johnson & Wales University in the GNAC quarterfinals.

**Soccer at New England College:** Devon Claverie Murphy (Senior, Defense) - The senior was in the starting 11 for the Pilgrims in six of their 23 matches, playing a total of 444 minutes in 11 appearances. NEC went 13-8-2, including a good 7-1-1 record in their conference. They entered the playoffs as the number two seed, win-

ning twice before losing the finals 3-2 to Lesley University, when Claverie Murphy came in as a sub for 21 total minutes.

**Volleyball at Rivier:** Courtney Collins (Graduate, Middle Hitter) - The Raiders' women team dropped four of their first five games of the season, but were almost unstoppable after that, winning 27 games and losing just three more times. The last time, unfortunately for them, was the Nov. 3, GNAC Championship game, 3-0 to the number two seed Johnson & Wales University. Collins, who played volleyball, basketball and softball for the

Astros, led her team in the kills-per-set (2.63) and blocks-per-set (0.88) categories, and was second in hitting percentage, with .328 and third in total kills with 221. Her best performance of the season came in an away game at Keene State, where she had 21 points in a 3-1 victory.

**Basketball at Rivier:** Cydney Lessard (Freshman, Guard) - Rivier tipped-off their season with a rough stretch of five straight losses within nine days. Freshman Lessard played 23.4 per game so far, scoring 5.2 points. The Raiders' season will go on until Feb. 16.

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# Eight Pinkerton Football Players Make First Team All-State



Rob Fahey



Allen Gault



Gannon Fast



Gennaro Marra

**IDAN VINITSKY**  
NUTFIELD NEWS

The Pinkerton Academy Varsity Football team’s season wasn’t always stable, but they almost ended with it the Division I title.

The Astros squad won their last game of the regular season, bringing their record to 8-2 and wound up getting the number four seed in the DI playoffs. Then, they elevated themselves by winning two fantastic back-to-back games on the road, beating their rivals Londonderry High School 20-14 thanks to a late stop by the defense, and beating Salem on the road in the

Division 1 semis, a comfortable 30-7. In the finals, Brian O’Reilly’s team lost 28-14 to Bedford. Both of these games were played in the sloppiest of conditions.

Before Thanksgiving, the All-State teams were announced, and to no one’s surprise, the Astros, who made it to 12 of the last 15

state finals, received plenty of recognition.

Eight Pinkerton Astros were selected for the All-State First Team: Seniors offensive linemen Rob Fahey and Allen Gault, who were excellent in the team’s postseason run, are on the team as well as their teammates senior running backs Gannon Fast and Gennaro Marra, senior punter Alex Tveter, senior defensive back Nick Lombard (who also ran the ball with success) and linebackers Jake MacInnis (junior) and Jackson Clark (senior).

Three more defensive players are part of this year’s Second All-State team: Senior defensive lineman Mike Sarette, senior defensive back Ryan Auger and sophomore linebacker Evan Wilson, the only sophomore to enter one of the two All-State teams this season. Senior quarterback Aiden Goujon received an Honorable Mention.

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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 [nutfieldnews@nutpub.net](mailto:nutfieldnews@nutpub.net).

## Snowmobile Safety Course

Free Snowmobile Safety Course Saturday, Dec. 1, 8:30 a.m. - 4 p.m. Snowmobile Safety Course sponsored by the Derry Pathfinders will be held at Alexander-Carr Lodge, 28 Pierce Ave., Derry. Residents can register at Derry Parks & Recreation Office 31 W. Broadway or contact us at (603)432-6136.

## Elijah's Table

Elijah's Table is offering a free holiday breakfast on Dec. 16, from 10 - 11:30 a.m. Elijah's Table is a joint project of the Episcopal Church of the Transfiguration and Etz Hayim Synagogue. The Dec. 16 breakfast will be held at Etz Hayim Synagogue. Come in from the cold, and enjoy a special breakfast in a warm, comfortable, and friendly environment. For information about other free meals, please go to our blog at <http://freemealsinderry.blogspot.com>.

## Preschool Storytime

Story program for children ages 3-5 years old and their caregiver will be held Monday Dec. 3, 10 - 10:45 a.m. at the Derry Public Library. Lively time of sharing books, songs, puppets, nursery rhymes, early literacy, and pre-school activities

## Minecraft Monday

Work together with friends in our Realm and hone your "craft" from 3:45 - 4:30 p.m. or 4:45 - 5:30 p.m. on Dec. 3. At the Derry Public Library. Due to popular demand, two groups will be offered again this year! Ages 8-11. Registration required Contact: Raymond Fontaine [rayf@derrypl.org](mailto:rayf@derrypl.org) There are 4 spaces available.

## Angels of Hope

Provide support and hope, gather info and share challenges for people who have brain tumors on Dec. 3 from 5:30 - 7 p.m. at the Derry Public Library.

## YOPD Support Group

Provide opportunities for people affected with Young Onset Parkinson's Disease and their caregivers to connect for support, discussion and cama-

raderie on Dec. 3 from 6:30 - 8 p.m. at the Derry Public Library.

## Step Into Music

Join Ms. Eileen for this lively music and dance program for young children (ages 3-5 years old) and their caregiver on Dec. 4 from 10 - 10:45 a.m. at the Derry Public Library. Celebrate early childhood with songs, stories, games, and movement.

## CASA of NH

Support group/in-service training for CASA volunteers who work out of the Derry Family Court on Dec. 4 from 1 - 3 p.m. at the Derry Public Library.

## Dungeons and Dragons Club

Do you love adventure, theater of the mind, gaming? Join our campaign on Dec. 4 from 3 - 4:30 p.m. at the Derry Public Library. We'll continue and level up. New characters welcome to join, but might have to jump into the middle of a campaign! Ages 12-18, Contact Erin Robinson 432-6140 [erinr@derrypl.org](mailto:erinr@derrypl.org) There are 7 spaces available.

## Gingerbread Man Visit

The Gingerbread Man Visits the Derry Public Library on Dec. 4 from 4 - 4:45 p.m. Join us as we read the age-old fairytale and see how the Gingerbread Man narrowly escapes the clutches of various critters only to be gobbled up by one tricky, sly fox! We will also make a scented craft to round out this exciting gingerbread experience! Ages 5-7 Club Fun! Registration required Contact: Alexis MacDonald-Britton [alexismb@derrypl.org](mailto:alexismb@derrypl.org) There are 6 spaces available.

## Bedtime Stories

This storytime on Dec. 4 from 6:30 - 7 p.m. at the Derry Public Library puts the emphasis on fun! Stories, flannel boards, games, and crafts are included in this bedtime activity. PJs and blankies welcome. Recommended for ages 2-7. No registration required.

## Parent Outreach Group

Networking with and providing resources and emotional

support for local families of children who have special needs on Dec. 5 from 9:30 - 11:30 a.m. at the Derry Public Library.

## Infant Storytime

All infants and their caregivers are welcome at this lap-sit storytime for babies (birth - walking). Learn fingerplays, songs, and nursery rhymes to share with your baby as she/he sits in your lap. Connect with other parents and caregivers. On Dec. 5 from 10 - 10:30 a.m. at the Derry Public Library. No registration required.

## Teen Writers Group

Gather around the teen table this winter to get creative, share stories and use your imaginations on Dec. 5 from 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. at the Derry Public Library. This program includes writing prompts and workshopping. Feel free to bring something you have been working on or just come and listen. Character drawings and illustration are always welcome. Ages 12-18. No registration required.

## Elf Training

Elves-in-training will make special elf hats, decorate cookies, create a beautiful ornament, sing songs, and play reindeer games! Children ages birth through 11 are invited to join us for hands-on holiday fun on Dec. 6 from 1 - 2 p.m. or 3 - 4 p.m. or 6 - 7 p.m. at the Derry Public Library! Registration required Contact: Raymond Fontaine [rayf@derrypl.org](mailto:rayf@derrypl.org) There are 21 spaces available.

## Stop Motion Animation Class

This Is An Ongoing Class and Meets Dec. 6, 20, Jan. 3, 17, 31, and Feb. 14, and 28 from 3 - 4:30 p.m. at the Derry Public Library. This hands-on class teaches the step-by-step process of creating stop motion animation, from the making of flexible characters out of clay, all the way to the completion of a finished scene. Using more modern frame grabbing technology to capture images, students will be able to see their progress each day. Ages 12-18 Registration Required. Contact: Erin Robinson 432-

6140 [erinr@derrypl.org](mailto:erinr@derrypl.org) There are 6 spaces available.

## 1, 2, 3 Explore!

We have so much to explore! Join us for interactive sensory play activities designed to stimulate toddlers' growing minds. On Dec. 7 from 10 - 10:30 a.m. Toddlers ages 1, 2, and 3 with their caregivers. No registration required.

## Cookbook Book Group

We will pick a new cookbook for each meeting. Make something from the book and bring it in to share! Discuss tips, tricks, troubles, and eat! Cookbooks will be available to borrow at the front desk of the Derry Public Library. This month's cookbook will be: Magnolia Table by Joanna Gaines, and we'll meet on Dec. 7 from 11:30 - 1 p.m.

## Film Discussion Group

Join our IFC film group and make it happen! We will provide the film for you to watch at home, and the discussion will be here on the 2nd Wednesday of the month starting at 6:30 pm. No registration is required. This month's film will be: Spring, Summer, Fall, Winter...and Spring, and the meeting will take place on Dec. 12. Films will be available to pick up at our front desk of the Derry Public Library and are loanable for one week.

## Mother Goose on the Loose

Exciting toddler storytime for children 12 to 36 months and their caregivers. This storytime engages young children using music, finger plays, props, and movement on Dec. 13 from 10 - 10:45 a.m. at the Derry Public Library. No registration required.

## Harry Potter Club

Fantastic Beasts hit theaters in November! Let's delve into the world of Harry Potter this winter and spend the cold months working on magical crafts. On Dec. 13 from 3:30 - 4:30 p.m. make a Golden Snitch Ornament. For Ages 10-18. Registration is Required contact Erin Robinson at 432-6140 or [erinr@derrypl.org](mailto:erinr@derrypl.org) There are 15 spaces available.

## Women Writers Group

The Greater Derry Creative Women Writers Group will meet on Dec. 13 from 6:30 - 8:15 p.m. Women writers of all ages and skill sets meet monthly

to critique original writings, share information and offer seminars on topics related to writing.

## Toddler Tunes and Tales

A 30 minute storytime recommended for children 12 to 36 months and their caregivers incorporating fun movement songs, stories, and props. No registration required will be held on Dec. 14 from 10 - 10:30 a.m. at the Derry Public Library.

## The Roving Readers

Classes offered to learn jewelry techniques focused on beadwork on Dec. 15 from 12 - 4 p.m. at the Derry Public Library. There will be a fee for materials and supplies.

## Christmas Party

Christmas Party with Upper Room on Dec. 21 from 11 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. at the Derry Public Library. Join us for Cookie Decorating and Cocoa with SANTA! Brought to you by your friends at The Upper Room [www.urteachers.org](http://www.urteachers.org)

## Garden Club Green Workshop

The Derry Garden Club will be hosting its annual Green Workshop on Friday, Dec. 7 starting at 10 a.m. at the Derry Boys and Girls Club, 40 Hampstead Rd., Derry. Lesley Verity will demonstrate wreath making. Members will bring greens to share and their own container to create a holiday piece for their home. Members will also make small arrangements in mugs to donate to Meals on Wheels. Bring a ring if you plan on making a wreath and mugs for the Meals on Wheels arrangements. The committee will provide casseroles, dessert and beverages. As always, new members are welcome.

## Democrat Meeting

The Derry Democratic Committee normally meets on the 4th Thursday of the month at 7 p.m. at the Marion Gerrish Community Center in Derry. Join us in November on the 5th Thursday of the month, Nov. 29. We will be talking about how the election went and upcoming plans. Everyone is welcome.

## Annual Used Toy Sale

St. Gianna's Closet is accepting toy donations for its used toy sale. Dec. 1, from 9 a.m. - noon at St. Thomas Church, 26 Crystal Ave., Derry.

## Renew clothing opening Dec.

Renew will be open

Saturday, Dec. 8, from 8 - 10:30 a.m. at Calvary Bible Church, 145 Hampstead Rd., Derry. Arrive by 10 a.m. Renew will also be open every Thursday 9 - 11:30 a.m., please arrive by 11 a.m. Derry residence not required. Renew offers free, gently-used apparel. Each household is limited to 20 of the newest items, plus a reasonable number of older items. Enter at the church marquee sign. Donations of good condition, modern clothing may be placed in the donations bin by the door at any time. No donations of money are asked or accepted. For details, search for "Renew Derry" on Facebook, email [renewcalvary@gmail.com](mailto:renewcalvary@gmail.com).

## Free Meals

Please join us for free, family-friendly meals, served in a relaxed atmosphere. Meals are generally held as posted below, but may be rescheduled for holidays. Please call the facility to check on holiday times. We look forward to seeing you! Dinner on Nov. 30 from 5 - 6:30 p.m., at First Parish, call for more information at 434-0628; Dinner on Dec. 9 from 5 - 6:30 p.m., at Episcopal Church of the Transfiguration, call for more information at 5432-2130, Dinner on Dec. 15 from 5 - 6:30 p.m., at St. Luke's church, call for more information at 434-4767; Breakfast on Dec. 23 from 10 - 11:30 a.m., at Etz Hayim Synagogue, call for more information at 432-0004; Dinner on Dec. 28 from 5-6:30 p.m., at First Parish, call for more information at 434-0628; Lunch on Dec. 30 from 1:30-2:30 p.m., at St. Jude's, call for more information at 432-3333. For more information, please visit: [freemealsinderry.blogspot.com](http://freemealsinderry.blogspot.com).

## Story Hour with a Craft

A story hour with a themed craft is available for children ages 2 - 5 years old on Wednesdays and Sundays at 1 p.m. at the Taylor Public Library. Space is limited so called the library at 432-7186 to register or with questions.

## 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.





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