

Nutfield News

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Seven School Board Candidates Look for Derry Resident's Votes

On the March 12 district ballot, voters will have to choose between seven candidates for three seats on the Derry School Board.

The Nutfield News asked each candidate to submit a brief reason why voters should choose them. They are arranged alphabetically.

Derick Anderson - Incumbent

The Derry Cooperative School District has a rich history of providing a solid education, a desirable workplace, inroads into the community, and passionate administrative and teaching team. 3 years ago I joined the Derry School Board because I was concerned with a couple trends. First, our academic rigor and stu-

dent growth had begun to slip. Second, there were many concerns with budgeting and what the future would hold for our school district's finances.

I was interested in how we were managing our district overall and if and how the district was reacting to these trends. Although not formally trained in the rigors of education, the lessons I have learned as a small business owner assist me in the management role a school board member performs. It takes a fair amount of time to come up to speed on the school board and I believe I am in a good spot now with the overall business and academic structure of our district.

Over the past 3 years I have been active on our cur-

riculum and high school committees. We have implemented instruction in our district to include programs that meet our student where they are and focus on their individual growth rather than assuming proficiency based on grade level. I have supported expanding our PACE program for advanced students as well as additional reading support for students showing need. I have supported utilizing outside consultants for anything from enrollment studies to instructional methodology as well as how well our schools deliver special education programs. Although, our district and Pinkerton Academy still have a lot of work to improve collaboration on

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Town Council Candidates Share Thoughts Before Vote

On the March 12 town of Derry Ballot, voters will have a number of candidates to choose from.

The Nutfield News asked each candidate to submit a brief reason why voters should choose them.

Councilor At Large - Three-Year Term:

James Morgan (incumbent)

My name is Jim Morgan and I am seeking re-election to the office of Town Councilor at Large on March 12. When I was elected in 2016 our community had suffered some serious attacks on our employees and our safety. This Council has worked very hard over the last three years to fix many of the mis-

takes of the past and move the town in a positive and inviting direction. Because of this we have achieved many milestones never before thought possible for our town. Our Municipality has a Moody's Bond rating of AAA which is only the case in three other New Hampshire Towns.

We have stabilized the town side tax rate while providing more services, more stability and more transparency than seen in the past. I have helped to settle Union contracts that focused on compromise and benefits for our community. We have hired a professional and experienced Town Manager and have been able to restore the employees morale and hire additional people need-

ed to fill long term empty spots. We have made decisions to cut expenses, outsource services and streamline departments to provide a stable budget without surprises. Our town is in a great place and I wish to continue this exciting momentum.

I recognize that our tax rate is made up of not only the town side but the Schools as well. I have worked to create the Legislative Committee that meets with the School Board and State Legislators in order to solidify a working cohesive relationship that will ultimately bring additional tax relief to Derry. I wish to continue this and by doing so bring money to Derry to reduce our taxes.

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POPPIN' IT UP Annabella Stevens and Ryan Carrigan played Mary Poppins and Bert in the West Running Brook Middle School performance of Mary Poppins Jr. over the weekend at the Stockbridge theatre. Over 70 students finally hit the stage on Friday and Saturday after their rather long rehearsal schedule that started back in October. More photos on page 5.

Photo by Chris Paul

Resident Launches Granite State Kestrel Falcon Project

MACK LEATHURBY
NUTFIELD NEWS

In significant decline over the past several decades, useful creatures including bee, butterfly and important bird populations are being threatened and this not only impacts our local eco-systems, but may also play a role altering human

food supplies and health. One such bird is the American kestrel, the smallest North American falcon or raptor, that hunts mice and other vermin, including certain birds that are pests for farmers. Today, however, the ability of these raptors to survive is threatened. The American kestrel is an inter-

esting "birds of prey" population in N.H. that can be used to track ecosystem impact. "Birds of prey" predators are at the top of the food chain and threats like pesticides, habitat loss, and climate change have the most dramatic impact on these top level predators.

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School Board

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budgeting, the two administrative departments have done amazing work to prepare our students for the best possible high school careers.

Challenges that we will face moving forward are uncertainty with state funding of education, continued increases in special education costs, and loss of experienced and talented staff due to retirement. Although, we have made some progress on student academic growth, we still have work to do in this area as well. I am excited about the groundwork we have laid these past few years and look forward to seeing those efforts pay off.

I believe I have the experience and knowledge to serve our district moving forward.

A few goals I would like to work on over the next term would be continued improvement of our academic achievement, continue building on collaboration with Pinkerton Academy and NEXT Charter School, and begin updating our school district's strategic plan to address the issues and challenges noted above. I ask you for your support and your vote on Tuesday, March 12..

Tom Cardon

I am running for School Board to have a conservative



Lynn Perkins

voice on the board but also to offer the perspective of an experienced educator who has spent 34 years in a public-school system. There are a number of issues that need to be addressed by the School Board.

I applaud the School Board making the decision to close a school and set a limit at 1,925 students in the elementary schools to begin the process. The planning should start now as I am sure it will take a few years to put their plan in place. By the time they're done planning they will have passed that number. I understand that no one wants to close a school but the time has come with the district losing 1,300 students in the past 10 years.

There was a suggestion at the last School Board meeting to have a five or ten year plan just like the town. I think it is an excellent idea and would help in budget planning and infrastructure upgrades that would result in consistent budget increases and not the peaks and valleys that we have seen in recent years.



Brenda Willis

It is important that the relationship between the School Board and Pinkerton Academy improve. They have been at odds for a number of years. This type of relationship sets a poor example for education in Derry. Pinkerton Academy is a very important part of our community and we should expect our two school partners to have a better working relationship.

As a member of the Net Zero Committee I would hope that the School Board would get together with our committee and work toward renewable energy for the schools. The committee has been working with the Town Council on solar energy projects and would very much like to see the schools follow suit.

Lastly and most important are the Derry scores from the N.H. Statewide Assessment Scores that are in need of improvement. I am glad to see the district is addressing the issue because, based on these test scores, Derry schools are failing at meeting the needs of their



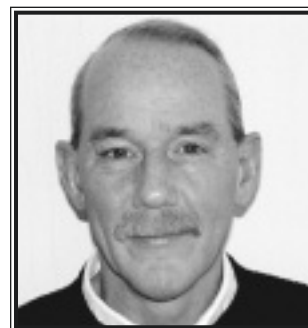
Derrick Anderson

students. More than half of the students are not proficient in English Language Arts, Math and Science. I think they deserve better.

Anne Copp

I raised my children in Derry New Hampshire they attended South Range, Grinnell, Barka and Hood Schools. I am running to give back by creating community engagement from the School Board to the citizens. Help lead the board with strong collaboration and mutual trust. Create district wide round robin meetings with school officials and the public. It not only matters for the Children K-8 and the Teachers at the Schools they attend, it matters to the community that supports the Schools. I feel more work is needed in this area; I have spoken to many parents and taxpayers they feel they have lost their voice. I would like to be that voice as a member of the school board advocating for policies to improve student achievement.

Our School Budget is to



Tom Cardon

be used 100% to educate our children; we must address falling academic scores. Class enrollment is directly related to these academic achievements. The #1 reason families choose which town to move to is where schools are rated the highest; quite reasonable I would say. Achievements can set a new standard of excellence for what students should know at each grade level, I would like to help define clear goals toward that vision.

If strong shared beliefs and values about what is possible for students are overlooked; a system where scores fall below the standards, enrollment suffers, and schools may need to be closed. The people should be heard when these crises arise. Accountability and performance shall be tied together; it is the community's responsibility to hold the officials accountable. The School Board should be OUR Community Education watchdog making sure taxpayers get the most for their education dollars. A strong communications structure is needed to inform and engage people in setting and achieving district goals.

We must maintain high

standards even in the midst of budget challenges. Enrollment should be up, we should not have to discuss closing a school, though that is where we are today.

Exceptional Education of our children should be our 1st priority; enrollment will improve when we achieve this goal. We win when our Schools and Community work together to create the Excellent Schools we want.

I ask for your vote on March 12. If elected I will do my level best to represent the Children in our district. I continue to work hard to earn your vote. Townspeople would like to see great schools with their tax dollars being spent wisely, so wisely in fact that we return surplus back to the taxpayer.

Nick del'Etoile - Derry School Board

My name is Nick del'Etoile and I am running for School Board here in Derry. I am a 35 year old father of 3, a loving husband and an active member of our community. I am currently the Chairman of the Board of the Greater Derry Londonderry Chamber of Commerce, and a member of the Economic Development Advisory Committee. I have managed various retail stores over the last 15 years, have been self employed as an insurance agent and co-founded and chaired DLYPN, a young professionals networking organization whom operated as an

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School Board

continued from page 2

arm of the Chamber of Commerce.

I have been a Derry resident for the last 4 years moving from Londonderry in 2015 and have been actively involved in some form with either the business community or the town the entire time. I believe that the time is now for me to increase my involvement and I see a position on the school board as the ideal way. We need new voices, with new ideas and a common vision. We must challenge the status quo.

We have been trending down in grades and overall school ranking all while our budget continues to grow, the time for change is upon us. We have to do better for our community and our children. We need to be able to take into account the economic impact our ever growing school budget has on the local community as well as how our decrease in overall school rankings has impacted home sale/purchase trends. We need to work in concert with our elected town officials to continue to Move Derry Forward hand in hand, as opposed to being two wholly separate entities.

We need to take a hard look at how to best prepare for our continued decline in enrollment and work with local realtors and town zoning/planning committees to determine future trends. We must take in as much information as possible and make informed, smart decisions, even ones that are extremely difficult. I look very much forward to representing our community on the school board and look forward to the opportunity to win your

vote.

Matt Leavitt

I am excited to be running for the Derry School Board! I am an 8-year resident and homeowner in Derry, and my wife and I chose to raise our 4 children in Derry where they have attended DEEP, Grinnell, Barka, Hood, and Pinkerton. We are highly-invested in how our children and the students and children of our community as a whole are educated. I have become concerned about declining test scores and enrollment in our schools, as well as ever-increasing budgets and how that affects our town financially. I am getting involved to bring a new voice to help change this trend and bring Derry back to what it used to be: one of the top 10 ranked school districts in the state. We need to work together with the Town Council, our State Reps, and Pinkerton to take action and not just accept the status quo.

I am currently the Vice President of Quality for a Geographic Information Systems (GIS) software company where I strive to deliver first-rate products under a tight budget, and I will apply my ingenuity and eye for detail to improving our schools. I listen with both ears, I'm always open to new ideas, and I balance both sides of every issue. And I recognize that the Schools, the Town, and our State Reps all need to work together to grow Derry through communication and teamwork.

I have always been a strong supporter of high-quality education, and I also have direct education experience including volunteering as a classroom assistant and working for two years



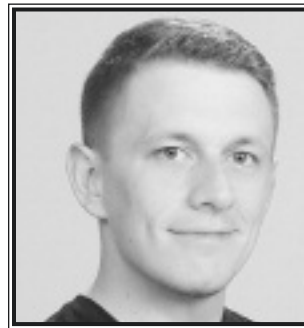
Anne Copp

as a substitute teacher where I gained a strong appreciation of the daily effort that it takes for our teachers and administrators to educate our youth. They are unsung heroes who are too often forgotten in the battle of budgets and scoring, and we need to always remember who is on the front line of our children's education and help them in any way we can. I will be a voice of excellence and quality, and I always will speak for everyone.

Please feel free to check out my Facebook Page or ask me any questions, and I hope you will be able to come out and vote for me on Tuesday, March 12.

Lynn Perkins Incumbent

Over the last 3 years I have had the opportunity to serve the Town of Derry through the capacity of the School Board. This has been an enlightening life experience, both through a greater understanding of the educational process, as well as the working relationships needed with other board members to achieve an end result which we all would appreciate. That being quality outcomes



Nick del'Etoile

in education and lower cost.

During the first 2 years on the School Board, goals for the district were hindered during an extended transition of superintendents bringing us to finalize with Dr. Connors Krikorian. But that time period left a lasting impression on myself to some of the intimate issues which the Derry school district faces and became the frame work for where the district will need to go in the subsequent years following, relative to the quality of education and cost factors. I have extended my request for a seat at the table of the board because despite the accomplishments of this third year, the frame work which was laid out has not been accomplished yet.

This past year presented some new and difficult challenges which I have presided over as Chairman, just recently wrapping up a final decision to contracting our district with a threshold target to close a school. Last March, the question of how our town government would be shaped, became a focal point within the community which started a level of discord and distrust.



Matt Leavitt

However, with patience, and the creation of a subcommittee, cooler heads eventually prevailed and a path was found which allowed the board to work cohesively with the Town Council to address the cost impacts of the school district and a clearer understanding to what is needed for better student achievement in Derry. From this subcommittee, joint meetings with our legislators and senator, not to mention engaging the legislative subcommittees for adequate education funding in N.H. have come about. There are still milestones on the road ahead to achieve for our School district and the town of Derry in order to provide a strong education in a budget friendly way. I hope I have conveyed my ability to work with others in order to achieve both of those pieces, if so please give me your vote on March 12.

Thank you.

Brenda Willis - Incumbent

My name is Brenda Willis and I am a candidate

for re-election to the Derry School Board.

My husband and I have lived in Derry for 37 years. We are the proud parents of two children, who were educated in the Derry School District and are enjoying our new grandchildren, Elizabeth and Joey. I have been involved in our community in many different ways. I have served on a variety of committees supporting the town and the school district, from serving on a Charter Commission and the Downtown Committee, to Boo Hoo Breakfasts and May Fairs. I served as a State Representative from 2016-2018. Serving on the Family and Child Law Committee in Concord provided me with additional insight to issues facing families and youth. I volunteer in each of our schools wherever needed, whether it is to make copies for a project, set up or clean up for an event, or help a struggling reader. Each experience provides me with a new perspective and additional knowledge of how to serve our students better. I have also served for many years on the Boys and Girls Club Auction Committee, volunteered with the American Cancer Society and as a cancer survivor, I serve as an advocate for cancer patients.

I genuinely care about our students, our schools and our community. I am extremely proud of the work

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Editorial

Meager Masses

We weren't surprised by yet another poor turnout at Deliberative Sessions in the area. A place where you can, lower, zero out, or increase budgets and warrant articles. High numbers and Deliberative Sessions definitely do not go hand in hand; in spite of taxes and an explanation or question on warrant articles can take place and be tweaked before going on the ballot.

Many towns have adopted the SB2 Deliberative Session in the hope of attracting more voters, and have all articles voted on by ballot. This got rid of the traditional New England town meeting, and switch to SB2.

Even though more people vote, compared to the number of registered voters, voter turnout is still very low.

To give that some context, Hampstead has about 7,000 registered voters, Chester, with about 6,000 voters, Sandown 4,500, and in much larger towns like Derry with about 22,000 and Londonderry with about 19,000. Only about 2,000 to 4,000 people show up to vote for town elections. We'll spare you the pitiful percentages.

In some cases, surprisingly enough, they represent a better turnout than usual. Do these figures mean that all the other voters agreed with the numerous articles on the town and school warrants and are ready for the voting booth March 6, highly unlikely. Ask the question: are the people who represent you

doing an outstanding job or just getting it done? Be honest.

Regardless of what the majority of voters were doing that was more important than attending Deliberative Session, the next chance to participate in democracy is the March 12 election. You've got some time to study the candidates, read about them in our pages and boost your knowledge of the issues that will appear on the warrant. We encourage you to study the numbers, check out candidate forums, ask questions, and verify what proponents and opponents of a particular warrant article are telling you.

This year's election has attracted, in most cases, a choice among candidates. Make your vote an informed one. If people have made the effort to offer their time for public service, we owe them, at the very least, enough interest to pay attention to their words and if their words are platitudes, agendas and generalities, to demand answers to the tough questions.

Local politics matters and is bipartisan. We have far more of a say in town and school elections than in any other election. Send in letters letting others know how you feel and who you support. So maybe you missed your chance to participate at Deliberative Session. For your own good and the good of the community, please get out and vote on March 12.



Chantel Perkins of Derry, Brittany Peck, Erik Yankowski and Chris Hobby of the Granite State Kestrel Team display some young falcons. *Courtesy photo*

Falcon

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Kestrel falcons are affected by pesticides through their diet of insects and small rodents, making them a great "indicator species". Analyzing the kestrel populations can provide valuable insight as to how ecologies are doing health wise providing us with facts about impact of our own food chain, and biological safeties.

Kestrels are one of the most common falcons in North America, though research is showing a significant decline in kestrel populations over recent decades; this is mostly due to loss of available nesting areas.

Upon a realization that she was seeing fewer kestrels in NH, Chantel Perkins and her friend Brittany Peck, who are both Wildlife Sciences degrees, were inspired to start the Granite State Kestrel Project in 2017. Chantel grew up in the Derry-Londonderry area and has intimate knowledge of our flora and fauna locally and across N.H.

Their primary kestrel project goal is to increase the breeding population of American kestrels, by creating better nesting areas, while helping educate the public about the importance of raptors in our ecosystems. Their project is primarily based out of the Lakes Region in NH.

They have modeled their project from the American Kestrel Nest Box Project run by Mark Manske, of Adiron-

dack Raptors. Mark was their mentor and Bird of Prey professor while they earned their Wild Life degree at Paul Smith College.

Kestrels primarily use environmental cavities for nesting, so the project team builds nest boxes to provide nesting in a most attractive habitat. Kestrels typically inhabit open areas such as fields, meadows, or other areas with short ground cover, so a lot of consideration goes into finding suitable places for boxes. The project relies on private land owners to allow the team to hang boxes.

Once end of winter/early spring starts, tiny falcons can be spotted most easily hanging out on telephone wires scoping for food, mates and available nesting. While kestrels are shown to have a range all year long that can stretch into NH, it is common for them to migrate to warmer climate areas more south for winters. Kestrels return to NH in the late winter-spring to look for nesting areas, so the team works all year including the winter season to get the boxes ready for the spring. Once breeding season starts, the project team uses a fiber-optic camera to peek into the boxes to see if any adults are nesting. A fiber-optic camera is less invasive than a ladder, and sticking a face into a box which may stress kestrels.

When nesting occurs, the team returns when the chicks have hatched to band them, so each bird has an identification marker. The

team would like to band adults though that is a difficult process. When chicks are collected to band them, the team determines their sex and checks their overall health including a fat score, while looking for parasites or physical deformities. Bands are an important aid in data collection about the birds, where they may be found at later life stages or upon their death.

Once data marking and collection is complete, chicks are put back into the nest box and the process is complete. 2018 was the first year for project boxes being up for the nesting season and the team did not really expect any nesting pairs, though they ended up with three pairs. Two of the three nests ended up being successful and a total of 8 chicks (6 females and 2 males) were banded in the first project season.

This Granite State Kestrel project is done out of pocket and the team is always looking for new properties to get boxes out for anyone who is interested to support this project.

Currently the main location focus is the Lakes Region area, and anyone around that region, who would like a box installed and to help the project, should reach out. Contact Chantel Perkins at 603 203-9323 or via Facebook, Facebook.com/granitestatekp/ or email at granitestatekp@gmail.com.

Kestrel falcons await your support and thoughts about keeping our environment properly in balance.

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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West Running Brook Students Perform Mary Poppins Jr.



Over 70 West Running Brook Middle School students have been working over the past four and a half months on the production of *Mary Poppins Jr.* that was performed over the weekend at Pinkerton's Stockbridge Theatre. Under the direction of Blake Leister and Jennifer Clarla held two shows, one on Friday night and the other on Saturday. The lead role of Mary Poppins was played by Annabella Stevens. Ryan Carrigan played Burt; Alex Spencer was George Banks; Sophia Convey played Winifred Banks; Jane Banks was played by Kaylee Gifford; and Noah Lopshire played Michael Banks. The cast did a wonderful job of bring back to life an old classic with a number of memorable songs.

Photos by Chris Paul

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Council

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We are very close to success with this and I hope to be re-elected to finish this work

Being a Councilor is not all about budget and money. As your Councilor at large I worked to help Veterans and co-created an organization that helps local veterans in need. I have helped businesses within the community and been extensively responsible for bringing in some new and not so new developers and getting them positioned and reengaged at investing in Derry. We have some exciting projects in the works for the coming year.

Being your Councilor for the last three years has



James Morgan



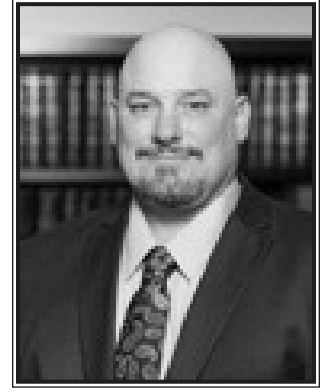
Kevin Coyle



Brian Chirichiello



Randall Kelly



Charles (Charlie) Foote

been a joy and an honor. I thank you all for the opportunity to serve Derry and help move our community forward. I ask that you consider the work we have done, the issues we have solved and the projects we have completed as the litmus test that earns your vote. Its

not all one person it's a team and when considering supporting me please also consider to support our other two Councilors up for re-election. Good teams are hard to find and with your vote you can make sure the right team is on the field for you.

Kevin Coyle

I'm Kevin Coyle and I'm running for Derry Town Councilor at large. I've lived in Derry for most of my 54 years. I am married to my wife Kate and have three children. I am currently a Rockingham County Commissioner representing Derry and several surrounding towns.

I previously held the position of Town Councilor from 2006-2012. At that time I pledged never to run for that position again. Yet here I am running again, not because I need to boost my political stature or because I need political power, but because Derry needs someone who will look after the taxpayers' interests. Over the last six years the Town Council has raided millions of dollars from our fund balance to accomplish various

pet projects and make themselves look good. It took decades to raise this money, yet in less than the last six years we have seen that money begin to evaporate.

Instead of trying to work with the school district or follow the State Law about changing Derry's form of government, my opponent and his friends on the Town Council tried to take the school board over in a hostile takeover in the State Legislature. Thankfully this effort was thwarted by our State Senators. This has left a major rift between the Council and the School Board. Instead of bringing Derry together, this Town Council is tearing Derry apart.

My opponent and his minions on the Town Council have been looking to boost their political careers

and really don't care about the future of the Town that I grew up in and want to see succeed. They have tried to make themselves look good by spending our savings and doling out political favors by making various political appointments. They certainly have perfected the art of political payback.

So although I never wanted to sit on the Town Council again, I'm willing to do it to bring some transparency and common sense back to this political body. If you choose to vote for me, I vow to stop the raid on our savings and try to heal the rift between the school board and the Town Council. My opponent has thrown around his money and power to try to become the de-facto mayor of Derry. My mother always taught me to stand up to bullies. I respectfully ask for your vote.

**Councilor District 4
Three-Year Term:**

**Brian Chirichiello
(Incumbent)**

I am a 56 year old real estate agent and have been married for 33 years with 2 children. I have lived in Derry for 33 years. I have been a 4 term Town Councilor, Planning Board Member, State Representative & cable committee member over my time here in Derry. I have always enjoyed volunteering my time for my community and am proud to call Derry my home.

I feel the next three years will be very critical in deciding what our town will look like moving forward. From everything I have learned over time has put me in a position to use my knowledge for making Derry a great community. We have

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OBITUARY

Priscilla Ann DeVoid



Priscilla Ann DeVoid, 71, of Derry, NH, passed away Friday Feb. 15, 2019, surrounded by her loving family in the Community Hospice House in Merrimack, NH. She was born in Derry, NH on Aug. 21, 1947, a daughter of the late Oscar and Thelma (Clark) York. Priscilla loved camping, NASCAR, trips to Foxwoods and the King of Rock and Roll, Elvis Presley. She loved the color purple and enjoyed making other people happy. Above all else, family was the most important part of Priscilla's life.

She is survived by her beloved husband, David DeVoid, her four children, Kimberly Dimitroff and husband Jim Barker, Christine Stapleford and husband Scott, Rama Dimitroff and wife Kelly, and Pamela DeVoid and husband Brian Stickney; nine grandchildren as well as many nieces and nephews.

Calling hours will be held on Tuesday, Feb. 19, from 5 p.m. - 7 p.m. in the Peabody Funeral Homes and Crematorium, 15 Birch St., Derry. The family asks that you wear purple in honor of Priscilla. Private graveside services will be held in the spring. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the Community Hospice House, 210 Naticook Rd., Merrimack, NH 03054.

Council

continued from page 4

some very big decisions coming up such as Exit 4A, Zoning and tough decisions that need experienced leadership.

In 2015, We learned a valuable lesson when we had a Town Council with no experience run our town and it was a rough time in our town. I was one of a few people who stepped up to challenge those councilors and sued them in Superior Court & brought it to Supreme Court when they did not follow our town charter.

Some of the accomplishments over the last three years as been that we hired a professional town administrator. We solved seven union contracts, all with 5 year deals that did not cost our taxpayers anything for the first two years. We now have a "AAA" Financial rating which Derry is only three towns with top ratings. We focused on economic development which is starting to payoff.

I would be honored to have your vote on March 12

and look forward to moving Derry forward.

Randall Kelley

My name Randall Kelley a 7 year resident of Derry currently running for District 4 Town Council. I have been involved in Derry politics since the attempted closure of the fire department approximately 4 years ago due to a budget crisis. Since then I have submersed myself into my community.

I am currently on the Zoning board, 3years.

I'm fully immersed in the Salvation Army Advisory Board, as well as with many aspects of the Derry fest committee (from games to field organization).

You can also find me on the last Friday of the month at First Parish Church spaghetti dinner, my favorite is playing Santa during the SA kettle bell-ringing season.

I also step up to many aspects where Derry residents are in need, most recently my effort and petition to save the Human Services Department.

As you can see I have a huge desire to better not

only District 4 but steer a path for all the residents of Derry.

I would like to see improvements in our downtown, put efforts into helping the community with taxes, take advantage of exit 4A by accessing State funding available to help with commercial properties. Not only having District 4 but all residents of Derry benefit from the great opportunities coming our way!!!

I will be there for the people!!

You will never have to guess where I stand. I will only be an email away and will do my best to answer all questions and concerns to the best of my ability for the people in District 4, all the residents of Derry, and for the betterment of Derry's future. Thank you! I would be honored to have your Vote on March 12!

Councilor District 2 - Three-Year Term: (Unopposed)

**Charles (Charlie) Foote
(Incumbent)**

My name is Charlie Foote, and I am officially

announcing my candidacy for re-election to the Derry Town Council District 2.

I have resided in Derry for over 20 years, where my wife and I are raising our five school aged children. My kids attend Derry schools.

I have been actively involved in many civic, charitable, youth, and athletic activities and organizations. Summarily, I have coached T-Ball, Grasshopper Baseball, Basketball, Derry Little League softball, served as East Derry Memorial School PTA President, Cub Master for Pack 98, Assistant Scout Master for Troop 98, coached Pop Warner football in a surrounding community with Derry youth participants, and volunteered with the Salvation Army on many charitable events. Currently, Head Coach for the WRB Middle School softball team and an active member of Derry Village Rotary Club.

Professionally, I have over 25 years of public safety experience in multiple capacities, having retired as

a full-time career fire fighter, along with my additional employment as an EMS provider in the public and private sector. Currently, I am a self-employed dog trainer which has afforded me the opportunity to meet and interact with many Derry residents.

I proudly and honorably served our country as a soldier in the US Army after graduating high school.

In 2015, Derry became a divided and incensed community as a result of deep budget cuts that impacted public safety. It was at that time, I decided to get involved and seek my first candidacy on the Town Council.

I vowed that: "The next Town Council must restore trust, credibility and confidence of our citizens in our town government, particularly our elected officials...must restore a balance between services and costs, with reasonable solutions that are fiscally responsible.... must be respectful and responsive to its citizens and employees.... will have

the important task of hiring the right Town Administrator to work with the Town Council, employees and residents to continue to move Derry forward and meet the demands of our community as a whole".

I believe we the Council, have accomplished these objectives, by doing the following: continual open line of communication with respectful dialogue, responsiveness with residents and employees, line by line budgeting, negotiated seven collective bargaining agreements, approved tax incentives to business owners to improve facades, increased tax basis with increased development/redevelopment; rezoning to minimize overgrowth, and the initiation of dialogue with the school board to curb over-taxation.

My belief in transparency and the willingness to listen, I respectfully ask for your vote for Derry Town Council District 2, so that I may continue to work hard as a team member to make Derry the place to be!

School Board

continued from page 3

and the many accomplishments of our school district, yet there is also much work to be done. Our board unanimously hired Dr. Connors-Krikorian as the Superintendent of Schools last March. She has worked closely with the board to initiate change to better serve all students. Together, we have worked to build on the culture in our schools, improve facilities and provide targeted professional development for our staff. Education is continually evolving and changing to meet the diverse needs of stu-

dents, and to comply with state and federal mandates. Education is the foundation of our community and I want our schools to continue to be a place where children feel safe, can grow and love to learn.

My experience on the school board gives me the opportunity to continue the ongoing work of our district. We have a diverse population, with families of many different backgrounds. Our families help us to create diverse experiences and educational environments that complement each of our schools. I want all of our children to have a well rounded education that pre-

pare them for the future in an ever changing world. I want to continue to ensure our students are safe, our teachers and staff are effective have the tools they need and that Derry continues to attract the best and brightest educators while our school district continues on its path to be the best it can be.

I am passionate and dedicated to our community, our school district and most importantly to our children. It has been my honor to serve the citizens of Derry and to be a voice for our children. I humbly ask for your vote March 12.

Congratulations Captain



Lieutenant Ryan Bump is being promoted to Captain on March 3. Bump was hired by the Derry Fire Department on Sept. 15, 2003 and was promoted to Lieutenant nine years later. During his time with the Department, Bump has been an active member of the Regional Hazardous Materials Team, Department Honor Guard and Chairman of the Department's Health and Safety Committee. He has been an active leader within our Bureau of Emergency Management and functions as Department Liaison to the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT), playing a vital role in team development, recruitment, training and leadership. Captain Bump is also one of only a handful of New Hampshire Fire Officers to receive his Fire Officer Designation through the Center for Public Safety Excellence.

Courtesy photo

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Kids Coop Theatre Group Prepares for Singing in the Rain Jr.



The Student directed production of Singin' in the Rain Jr. is underway by the Kids Coop Theatre. With only a few weeks left before the performance, the cast has been busy making ready in their new locations in Windham and Londonderry. The play involves silent movie stars Don Lockwood and Lina Lamont who are a hot item, but behind the scenes, things aren't always as they appear on the big screen! Meanwhile, Lina's squeaky voice might be the end of her career in "talking pictures" without the help of a talented young actress to do the talking and singing for her. Logan Young of Derry plays Don with Megan Lautieri also of Derry playing Lina. Derry's Ryan Carrigan plays Cosmo Brown and Kathy Selden is played by Bryn Steinmetz. The play is being directed by Tim Gore, a junior at Londonderry High School, Jillian Pooler is directing Choreography and the Music Director is Allison Newey. The play will be performed at the Derry Opera House on March 8 and 9. *Photos by Chris Paul*



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DERRY SPORTS

Pinkerton Wrestler Team Take Third Place in State Meet

IDAN VINITSKY
NUTFIELD NEWS

Pinkerton Academy's Varsity Wrestling team made the short trip to Londonderry High School's gymnasium last Saturday (Feb. 16), where they finished third in the NHIAA Division I State Meet and celebrated with two new state champions and three runner-ups. Pinkerton

wrestlers won 26 of their 36 matches during the long day and eight of them will compete in the Meet of Champions on Saturday, Feb. 23, at Nashua South High School.

Tyler MacKiernan won the 152 lbs. weight division with three wins. He pinned rivals from Exeter and Concord in the quarterfinals and semifinals and won by decision (7-3) over Tom

Cullerton from Nashua South in the title match. After his finals victory, MacKiernan commented, "I feel great. I was wrestling three full periods, I had the right mindset coming in and it has played out good for me."

In the 182 bracket, Sterling McLaughlin took the top spot, he pinned all of his opponents in a dominating day, "I was doing my own things, the way I like to do it, and it worked well. I knew I had a tough opponent in the final, but was sure I was going to come out on top," said McLaughlin.

The win gave McLaughlin 100 career wins and his second straight DI title.

David Hammond (132) used two wins to reach the final, where he lost to a tough Timberlane opponent. Kyle Setzer (195) had three wins, all by pin, before losing 5-1 in his final bout of the day. Robbie Fahey (220), who just returned from a knee surgery, made it all the way to the final as well, thanks to two wins. He lost his last match to a rival from Concord, a down to the last second 3-2 decision loss.

Nathan Lindquist (120) had two wins and two losses, Marcus Sconza (138)

lost in the quarterfinals and had a win and a loss in consolation and Jack MacKiernan (160) placed third, thanks to two consolation wins (the second one came in overtime) after winning his quarterfinals match and losing in semis.

Robert Morin (170) finished fifth. He lost his first match and went to consolations, where he had three wins and a loss. Nick Fortunata (285) got the fourth place after winning round 1 and quarterfinals, losing the semis and winning once and losing once in his consolation matches.

Coach David Rhoads was pleased: "It was a good day. We came in short-handed, with three big scorers who couldn't wrestle. We got eight guys going next week and that is big".



Sterling McLaughlin celebrates after his 100th career win and his second straight DI title.



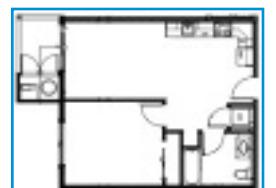
Tyler MacKiernan won the 152 lbs. bracket at the Division I Wrestling Tourney. Photos by Chris Paul

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PA Girls Hoops Squad Improve Record to a Stellar 15-1

Idan Vinitsky
NUTFIELD NEWS

Teams do not get to play many back-to-back games on the High School level, but thanks to the last week's Tuesday snowstorm, and a postponed game, that was something Pinkerton Academy's Girls Varsity Basketball team had to face. The results were impressive for the Lady Astros, and with one week left in the regular season, they

improved their season record to 15-1 thanks to two wins in a 24-hour span, one at home and the other on the road.

On Wednesday, Feb. 13, Pinkerton made its second comeback win in a row, beating Bedford 55-45 at the Hackler Gym. After coming from a late 16-point deficit against Memorial the previous week, coach Lani Buskey's team was quickly chasing the Bulldogs, who built a 16-5 lead and showed some strong defense. The locals slowly found their way back into the game and by half-time, Bedford's lead was just three points, 28-25.

Eventually, Pinkerton took the lead for the first time after 22 minutes of basketball, finished the third quarter up by two points (39-37) and used a 7-0 run in the first couple of minutes of the last quarter to secure the lead and the win. Brooke Kane scored eight of her 20 points in the third quarter and the point distribution was key for the Astros, with Madison Mahoney and Avah Ingalls scoring eight points each, Allison Ingalls finishing with seven (all in the

final quarter), Jesse Ames getting six points, Megan King had four and Alyssa DiMauro two.

Buskey said after the game, "We had some slow starts this season. We are talking about it, and we respond in the next quarter, but that will catch up to us, sooner rather than later. It takes us too long this season to figure out the scheme and we step up, but we have to come up with intensity on the defensive end. And it can't be just two girls scoring, because then it is easier to defend against us".

The next day, the Astros traveled to Merrimack, where they were able to pick a relatively easier victory, 48-32 over their home opponent. Pinkerton led for most of the game, 15-7 after a strong opening quarter, 24-15 at the break and 35-25 entering the final eight minutes. Kane with 23 points and Mahoney with 16 did most of the damage, both Ingalls' sisters had three points each and DiMauro, Mackenzie Dolan and Mya Landry finished with two-points each.

The team's regular season will come to an end this week. On Tuesday, Feb. 21, after the Nutfield News went to print, they were scheduled to host the 3-11 Alvirne High School and on Thursday, Feb. 21, they will play an away game against Nashua South (6-10).



Seniors Madison Mahoney and Brooke Kane have been major scorers this season in helping their team reach 15 wins.
Photos by Chris Paul

Athletes of the Week

Week of Feb. 11



Annabel Veale, Sophomore:
Girls Alpine Ski

Annabel displayed stellar sportsmanship cheering on her team and donating everything short of her skis to help her teammates have a better afternoon in the State Meet. Annabel stepped up when the team needed her most.



Mason Drouin, Junior:
Boys Ice Hockey

Drouin scored a hat trick, including a late equalizer and the overtime winning goal in a thrilling 3-2 win over Exeter. The Astros are have the best Division I record.

Athletes are chosen by Pinkerton Academy Athletic Office

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Astro Boys Hockey Team Gets Three Hard-Fought Wins

IDAN VINITSKY
NUTFIELD NEWS

The Pinkerton Academy Varsity Ice Hockey team entered the last week of the regular season with the best record in Division I (14-2), thanks to three great wins that helped Sam Littlefield's team quickly forget their second loss of the season.

Pinkerton got some time off after their Windham match was postponed, and they returned to the ice Wednesday, Feb. 13, with a

hard fought 3-2 overtime win over Exeter at the Ice Den. After a scoreless first period, Mason Drouin put the Astros on the board midway through the second, but a penalty against the home team proved costly and Exeter leveled the score on the last second of the Power Play and scored their second goal of the game just 24 seconds later, to enter the final 15 minutes with a 2-1 lead.

With the clock winding down and just over four minutes left, Drouin was

able to find the net for the second time in the evening and send the game into overtime. There, he needed only 46 seconds more to complete his hat trick and win the game for the Astros. "It wasn't our best game, definitely not the second period," Littlefield explained, "We realized we had to turn it around in the third and the overtime was really good and quick. At this part of the season, when everyone is looking at the standings, this is a big win for us".

On Saturday, Feb. 16, the Astros faced another tough opponent, and squeaked out a one goal victory yet again. The Astro squad led the Salem Blue Devils 1-0 at the end of the first period, thanks to an Ethan Burgess goal and this time, had a much better second period, at least offensively and with 15 minutes to go, the score was 4-2 Astros.

Jack Normand, Drouin again and Jonathan Last scored in the second. Salem used a five-minute penalty

against PA (Brendon Banks) to cut the host's lead by half in the third period, but could not find the equalizer, with Astros goalie Matt Gilliland making 20 saves.

The game against Windham High School, that was originally scheduled for Feb. 6, took place on Monday, Feb. 19 and the Astros needed another overtime period for the win. Windham had the lead for most of the game, scoring in the first period and entering the last one up by a single goal.

There, Ethan Burgess used a Patrick Last assist to send the game into overtime, where he scored his second of the evening and sent everyone home, thanks to a Hunter Drouin assist.

Pinkerton was scheduled to play rivals Londonderry High School (8-7-1) on Wednesday, for their second meeting this season. They will finish their regular season on Saturday, Feb. 23, with a 7:10 p.m. home game against Manchester Memorial (2-13-1).

PA Boys Basketball Team Gets Second Win of the Season

IDAN VINITSKY
NUTFIELD NEWS

With only four games left to the season, Pinkerton Academy's Boys Varsity Basketball team was able to put an end to a three game losing streak last Wednesday, Feb. 13, and get its second victory of the season. Two days later, the Astros dropped a close home game, and saw their season record drop to 2-12.

In the team's second

win, Pinkerton traveled to Bedford High School (4-10) and beat the Bulldogs 51-48 thanks to a strong fourth quarter. Bedford led 17-16 after one quarter and Pinkerton had a 30-28 lead at halftime. The locals regained their lead after the break and with eight minutes to go, the score was tied at 38-38. Pinkerton strong defensive showing continued into the money time and they won the final quarter 13-10 and came out victori-

ous. Jay Reynolds had a great game and scored 24 points. Nick Lombard finished with 14, Nazair DaBreo with six, Brady Day had four and Aidan Conroy scored three points.

Two days later, on Feb. 15, the Astros lost a home game to Merrimack (3-10), 49 to 46. Peter Rosinski's team led 11-8 at the end of the first quarter and 26-24 at the half, but the visitors outscored Pinkerton in the third, 13-8 and keep their

small lead in the final seconds to win the dramatic game. Reynolds had 13 points, Day scored eight, Andy MacDonald and An-

drew Bolduc had seven points each, Conroy finished with six, Lombard with three and DaBreo had two points. After scheduled to play

an away game against Alvirne on Tuesday, the Astros will host Nashua South (8-5) this Friday, Feb. 22, with tip-off at 6:30.

PA Skiers Finish Sixth in States

IDAN VINITSKY
NUTFIELD NEWS

Three days after the girls State Meet, and two days after its original date, the Alpine Skiing Division I State Meet took place on Gunstock Mountain Thursday, Feb. 14 where the Pinkerton Academy team finished sixth in the state. The Astros were sixth in the Giant Slalom, the Slalom

and the overall rankings, where they gained 602 points. Bishop Guertin won the title with 732.

Captain Kenny McCarthy led the team in the Giant Slalom with the 13th place overall, thanks to a time of 1:11.47. Owen Sezgin finished 18th, Brandon Simpson got the 37th spot, Camden Caswell the 40th and Zak Kahn was 42nd. Jack Berrigan finished

64th.

In the Slalom, McCarthy was once more the fastest Astro with the tenth place and a time of 1:16.69. Sezgin had his second 18th place of the day, Caswell was 31st this time, Simpson got the 57th place, Kahn the 62nd and Ethan Hatch the 66th. McCarthy will represent the boys' team at the Meet of Champions.

Pinkerton Bowlers Exit State Meet in Quarterfinals

IDAN VINITSKY
NUTFIELD NEWS

The 2018-19 Bowling season came to an end on Saturday, Feb. 16, with the Pinkerton Academy Varsity team able to qualify for the State Meet's second round, the quarterfinals.

The meet was held at Strikers in Raymond and Pinkerton was one of the four teams, which participated in the first round. The Astro bowlers faced the

Sanborn Indians in a best-out-of-five match and were able to "sweep" it, winning all three games and advancing to the next round.

Pinkerton jumped into a 1-0 lead with an impressive 190 to 130. The second game was the closest and the Astros won 150 to 135. They completed the task with a 180 to 112 in the third game.

In the quarterfinals they battled eventual runner-ups, the top seeded Keene

Blackbirds (lost to Stevens 4-2 in the finals) and were eliminated in three games, again in a best-out-of-five match. Keene was fantastic in the first game (265-171) and dominated the rest of the matchup as well, with 191 to 142 and 216 to 159.

Pinkerton's team members were captains Jason Barton and Meghan Slater, Lance Lemieux, Bryant Nourse, Matthieu Gagnon, Jarod Wong and Connor Grimard.

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First Year PA Girls Hockey Team Headed to DI Tourney



Astro freshman Molly Fahey tries to outpace her BG opponents during the Saturday night game in Mass.

IDAN VINITSKY
NUTFIELD NEWS

In its inaugural season, the Pinkerton Academy Girls Ice Hockey team is playoff-bound. The Lady Astros' winning streak eventually came to an end last weekend, but the four game streak was enough to bring their record to 6-8 and with only one game left in the regular season, on Saturday, Feb. 23, 6 p.m. against the 11-4-1 Exeter Blue Hawks at the Rinks in Exeter, secure a place in this year's tournament. A big achievement to a team that needed the first few weeks of the season to learn about itself, form a system and create a good rhythm.

The Astros' week began on Thursday, Feb. 14, at the Keene Ice, where they

topped the local Keene team 5-4. Leading scorer Jordyn Wasiejko scored twice and Kelsey Levesque and Molly Fahey found the net as well, before Spencer St. Pierre got the dramatic game winner for Pinkerton.

The Astros' streak stopped on Saturday night, Feb. 16, when the girls lost 9-1 to Bishop Guertin (7-8) at the Skate3 arena in Tyngsboro Mass. Wasiejko scored the only goal in a game that Pinkerton would like to quickly erase from its memory.

The Astro girls never seemed to get anything going in this one. The BG Cardinals came out strong, scoring four times in the first period. They added two more, one minute into the second period, where Spencer St. Pierre found herself with a five-minute major for a temper flare, and the BG side never looked back.



Freshman Capatain Jordyn Wasiejko got the lone goal in the Astro loss to BG last week. Photos by Chris Paul

After the Exeter game, NHIAA Preliminary round, Pinkerton will have three which is scheduled to begin days to prepare for the on Tuesday (Feb. 26).

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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.

Law Enforcement And Your Smart Phone

Do you use your smart phone? If you do, you will Definitely want to come to this Free lecture with N.H. Assistant U.S. Attorney Seth Aframe and two other attorneys will educate us on the many uses that law enforcement make of "smart devices" in investigations, including GPS tracking, cell site tower information, texts, What's App messages, and so forth on Thursday, March 7, at 7 p.m. at ETZ Hayim Synagogue. He will also discuss the conflict between allowing law enforcement access to the evidence on smart devices and the privacy interests of device users - a conflict that has led to several, recent Supreme Court decisions. He will also answer questions that you may have about how federal criminal investigations work—a constant topic in the news these days. Attorney Aframe is a supervisory AUSA at the United States Attorney's Office in New Hampshire and also teaches First Amendment law at UNH Law School. The lecture is part of Etz Hayim Synagogue's continuing education program, "Hot Topics, Cool Contemporary Stuff." It is free and open to all. Donations to help EHS continue to offer such programs are always gratefully accepted. For more information, please contact: Stephen Soreff, MD, at soreffs15@aol.com.

MyHealtheVet Seminar

The Derry VFW will be hosting an information session on the VA MyhealtheVet program beginning at 1 p.m. on Feb. 28, at 18 Railroad Ave., Derry. The program will be held in the upstairs function hall. Entry is via the front of the building. The MyhealtheVet program is an application that permits authenticated veterans to perform multiple VA related functions such as; secure messaging, checking scheduled appointments, refilling prescriptions, and online VA medical record review. Information can be viewed, e-

mailed, and even printed to provide greater accessibility to your VA health record. These online services may eliminate the need to call or visit the VAMC in many instances. The event is open to the public. Congressional stakeholders, and veteran service and non-governmental organizations are also encouraged to attend. For information from Manchester VAMC Outreach please contact: Michael Bichrest at 603-624-4366 x2830. Michael.Bichrest@va.gov

Antiques Appraisal

The 2nd Annual Londonderry Antiques Appraisal Day will be held on Sunday, May 19, start gathering your finds! It was a giant success last year so we're doing it again! Bring your antiques, collectibles & family treasures to our second annual event featuring Daniel F. Reidy, appraiser/antiques dealer/auctioneer. Reidy has over 30 years of experience and is the owner of Discerning Eye, an estate appraisal and disposition planning business. Stay tuned for updates!

Candidates Forum

The Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) at 18 Railroad Avenue here in Derry will be hosting candidate forums for the town council and school board candidates. The school board forum beginning at 6:30 p.m. on Feb. 21. This is an opportunity for citizens to ask questions directly of the candidates to learn what their vision is for the town and school district. The public is invited and encouraged to attend. Doors open at 6 p.m.

Voter Checklist Session

On Saturday, March 2, from 11 - 11:30 a.m. at Derry Municipal Center The Supervisors of the Checklist will meet in session to: register new voters & receive name, address, & party changes from voters, approve applications for voter registration, and approve changes to the voter checklist. After this meeting of the

Supervisors, the voter checklist will be closed until election day. Please note: Residents can register to vote at the polls on election day, March 12. Residents can also complete applications to register or to change their registrations with the Town Clerk during regular office hours through March 2. Voters can check their registrations on the voter checklist in the Public Research Room on the first floor of the Municipal Center or at the Derry Public Library or online at app.sos.nh.gov.

Evolve!

A group for young woman ages 13 to 18 to talk about today's challenges meets every Wednesday from 5:30 - 6:30 p.m. at the Upper Room, 36 Tsienneto, Rd. Derry. This is a free weekly group. To register, Call 437-8477 to register ext. 16.

Renew

Renew will be open Saturday, March 9, 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 11am. NH residents only. Renew offers free, gently-used apparel. Each household is limited to 15 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 or call the church secretary at 434-1516.

Transitions Young Adult Strategies

A new group where young adults can talk about things that are challenging meets every Thursday from 6 - 7 p.m. at the Upper Room, 36 Tsienneto, Rd. Derry. This is a free weekly group. Drop ins welcome. Call 437-8477 to register ext. 24 for more information/

ation/options for dates and times.

Vaping Deterrent Workshop

Do you know someone who is looking to give up vaping? This workshop will show teens how to break the habit and replace it with healthier options. On Thursday, March 7, from 2:30 - 4 p.m. at the Upper Room, 36 Tsienneto, Rd. Derry. Participants will gain strength by being with other people also trying to quit. This event costs \$25. Call 437-8477 to register, ext. 15. Will also be held April 4, May 2, and June 6.

UR Parents

A weekly Resource group for parents, grandparents and caregivers raising teens meets every Thursday, from 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. at the Upper Room, 36 Tsienneto, Rd. Derry. This is a free weekly group. Drop ins welcome.

Co-Parenting Workshop

A workshop series for co-parenting after divorce or separation will be held on March 11, 18, 25 and April 1, from 5:30 - 7 p.m., at the Upper Room, 36 Tsienneto, Rd. Derry. Learn how to protect your child's well-being by keeping the children out of the middle, allowing children to love both parents, and working on communication and recovery. This workshop costs \$50 (book included) scholarships available. Call 437-8477 to register, ext. 22.

Teen Information for Parenting Success

A weekly support program for young parents ages 13 to 23 will meet every Wednesday, from 5 - 7 p.m. at the Upper Room, 36 Tsienneto, Rd. Derry. This is a free weekly group. Childcare available. Call 437-8477 to register, ext. 12.

Play with a Purpose

This workshop is for early childhood educators in their programs, and how to help parents understand the importance of play skills; and how to play with their children. It will be held on Feb. 21, 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. at the Upper Room, 36 Tsienneto, Rd. Derry.

MacGregor Poetry Contest

It is time again for the (2nd) annual MacGregor Poetry Contest. Last year there

were almost 200 entries! We are hoping to get the word out about the contest to all the poets and wannabe poets in our community. There is a \$250 cash prize for the winning poem, generously provided by the Frost Farm Trustees. The judges include Bob Crawford, Poet Laureate of Derry, and staff members of the Derry Public Library. Guidelines: Submit up to 2 poems, no more than 2 pages each. No restrictions as to form or subject. Please do NOT put your name on poem - all poems are judged anonymously. No Google Docs, please! Do not enclose a self-addressed stamped envelope with your entry. Entries are not returnable. Submissions accepted until March 15. Contest results will be announced in April 2019. Winners will be contacted by phone or email. Entries may be submitted via: email macgregorpoetrycontest@derrypl.org Mailed to; Derry Public Library Poetry Contest, 64 E Broadway, Derry NH 03038. Drop it off at the library.

Theatre Tryouts

Ovation theatre company is extremely excited to announce its first production, Les Misérables - School Edition, which will be presented May 24-26 at Granite State Arts Academy in Salem. While rehearsals won't start until late March, auditions are very soon on Feb. 16; interested students in grades 7-12 can sign up at www.OvationTC.com. For more information contact Meg Gore can be reached at OvationTC@gmail.com or 603-932-3232.

Youth Free Throw

All boys and girls ages 9 to 14 are invited to participate in the district level of Youth Free Throw competition for the 2019 Knights of Columbus Free Throw Championship. The competition will be held Saturday, Feb. 23 from 1:30 - 4 p.m. (registration begins at 12:30 p.m.) at St. Thomas Aquinas Center Gymnasium in Derry, NH. You must register between 12:30 - 1:30 p.m. to participate. No registrations will be accepted after 1:30 p.m. The Knights of Columbus Free Throw Championship is sponsored annually, with winners progressing to the state competition. All boys and girls 9 to 14 years old are eligible to participate and will compete in their

respective age divisions. All contestants on the local level are recognized for their participation in the event. Participants are required to furnish a birth certificate as proof of age and written parental consent. This event is sponsored by Local Knights of Columbus Councils from St. Mark, St. Thomas, St. Jude and St. Peter.

Theatre Talks

Theatre KAPOW will host the first of a new series of talks in advance of their theatrical productions. Theatre KAPOW's production of Shipwrecked! An Entertainment runs Feb. 22 - March 2 at the Derry Opera House. For more information, visit www.tkapow.com

Women's Writing Group

Derry Women's Creative writing group meets the second and fourth Thursdays of every month at the Derry public Library at 6:30 p.m.

Lenten Fish Fry

The Knights of Columbus council 3023 of St. Thomas Aquinas in Derry, will be holding their 10th annual Lenten Fish Fry beginning on Friday March 8, and continuing on each Friday until April 12. We will be serving dinner from 5 to 7 p.m. at the St. Thomas Aquinas Center, 26 Crystal Avenue in Derry. Dinner includes a fried haddock fish fillet, french fries, cole slaw, tartar sauce and a roll for \$9.50. The children's dinner includes fish sticks, or mac and cheese, with french fries for \$3.50. Take out dinners are also available. For more information contact stevell-hom@aol.com.

Greater Manchester Lyme Disease Support Group

Hosted by David Hunter this group meets on the third Wednesday of every month at 6:30 p.m. at the: Bedford Presbyterian Church 4 Church Road Bedford. For more information call 660-3425 or email dhunter31@gmail.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.



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