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Exeter Gallery Showcases Two December Exhibits



"Lighting The Way" by Ann Brown.

EXETER — The Seacoast Artist Association will feature two special exhibits throughout December, showcasing the work of local artists through contrasting themes of nature, personal inspiration and creative expression.

"Nature's Quiet" features the work of artist Ann Brown, whose charcoal and pastel pieces on unfinished wood panels capture the subtle beauty of landscapes at dusk.

"I've always been drawn to the landscape at dusk: the mystery, the loss of detail, the soft shapes that let the imagination wander into near darkness while everything grows quiet and still," Brown said. Her layered process combines charcoal, fixative, soft pastel and cold wax.

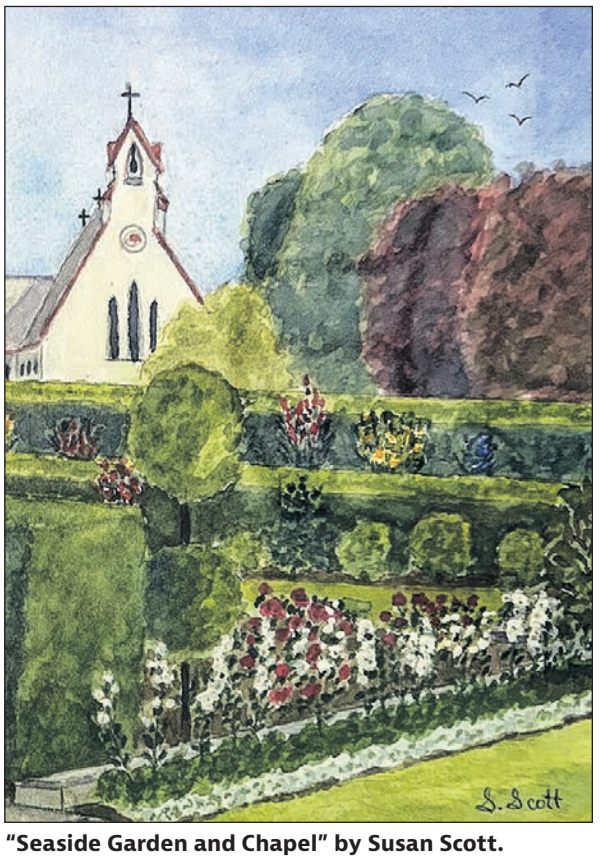
The second exhibit, "Our Favorite Things," features members of Seacoast Open Studio, an eclectic group of Seacoast-area artists who have met weekly in Exeter for 15 years to create art, exchange ideas and offer inspiration.

The group's work spans abstract and traditional styles, a variety of mediums and subjects, and pieces ranging from miniatures to murals. The participating artists are Helene Alland, Gerry Bresnahan, Cori Caputo, Judy Kopen, Lynn Krumholtz, Susan Long, Barbara McGrath, Carol Poitras, Nancy Reiss, Marjorie Rizzo and Susan Scott.

The public is invited to meet the artists during a second Friday reception from 5 to 7 p.m. Dec. 11. The evening will include music by Dacha and Sava Thurber, who will perform classical selections and holiday favorites.

The gallery is at 130 Water St. in downtown Exeter. Admission is free, and parking is available. December hours are Wednesday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Sunday, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

For more information about the exhibits, events and membership, visit seacoastartist.org.



"Seaside Garden and Chapel" by Susan Scott.



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Kingston Seniors Reveal Secret to Great Roommates

Contributed content

KINGSTON — What makes two people great roommates as they age? At All American Assisted Living at Kingston, two resident pairs offer completely different answers.

Florence Thurber and Beverly Cote have lived together for nearly three years, but they don't need to do everything together to make their arrangement work. Florence loves trivia, intellectual games and politics. Beverly prefers music, crafts and community activities. They value their independence, but both say the best part of having a roommate is simple: you're never alone.

Beverly says, "The number one reason is that you are never alone."

Florence adds, "We enjoy each other's companionship while also appreciating having private space."



Beverly Cote, left, and Florence Thurber have shared a room comfortably together for nearly three years.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

Nancy Pion and Annabelle Briggs developed their own nightly ritual.

Watch Nancy Pion and Annabelle Briggs on any evening and you'll see their nightly ritual. Annabelle calls out, "Hey, David Muir is on!" That's their cue to settle in together, watch the news and joke about the anchor. After a year as roommates, they've become close friends, building their days around the things they enjoy together.

Nancy says, "We enjoy being together and have become dear friends."

Research reinforces why these everyday connections matter. A Population Reference Bureau research brief highlights the health implications of social connection in later life, citing research that found dementia risk increased by about 10% for every two years spent living alone.

Executive Director Kelly Ritter says, "Roommates make a real difference. We see that residents are often more engaged, happier, and enjoy having someone close by to share their day with, while still having the privacy of their own bedroom. Having a roommate creates a sense of companionship and connection that can be difficult to find elsewhere. Those everyday moments of conversation, laughter, and simply having someone nearby can make a meaningful difference in a resident's happiness and overall well-being."

For these roommates, there is no single formula for finding the right fit. They show how the right match can shape daily life in meaningful ways.



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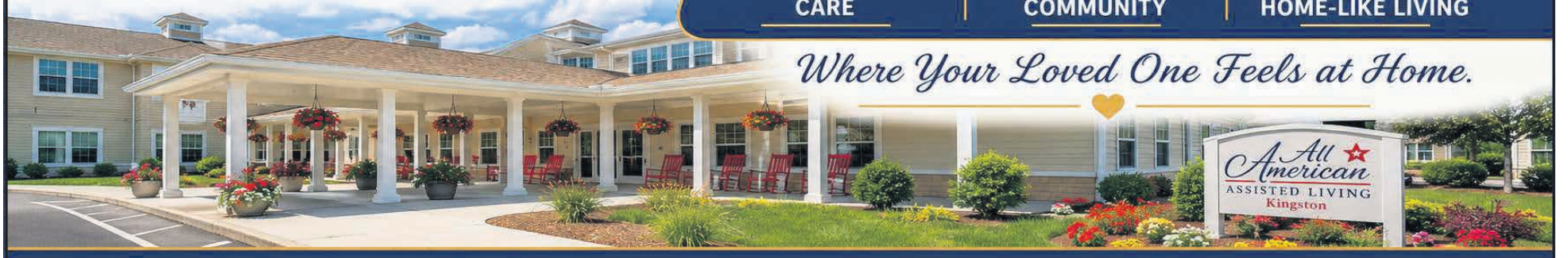

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Community Calendar: Events and Announcements

Christmas Concert Returns with Holiday Music and Ugly Sweaters

HAMPSTEAD — Hampstead Cable will host its annual Christmas concert Wednesday, Dec. 9, featuring the return of musical duo The Last Duo for an evening of holiday favorites.

The free concert will run from 6 to 8 p.m. at Hampstead Middle School, 28 School St. Attendees are invited to sing along and celebrate the start of the Christmas season.

Admission is free, but donations of nonperishable food are encouraged. Donations will benefit St. Anne's Heaven's Kitchen.

Festive attire is encouraged, with prizes awarded for the best ugly Christmas sweaters.

Everyone is welcome to attend. For more information, call 603-560-5069.

Wreaths Across America in East Kingston

EAST KINGSTON — Millions of volunteers and supporters are expected to gather Saturday, Dec. 19, at more than 5,500 locations in all 50 states and at sea and abroad for Wreaths Across America, an annual effort to remember fallen veterans, honor those who serve and teach future generations about their sacrifices.

East Kingston's local ceremony will take place at noon outside the East Kingston Library, 47 Maplevale Road.

Leading the ceremony again this year will be Mark A. Pearson, who represents Hampstead, Kingston and East Kingston in the New Hampshire House of Representatives. Pearson also serves as a major in the Civil Air Patrol, the U.S. Air Force auxiliary.

Karen Worcester, executive director of Wreaths Across America, emphasized the personal stories behind military service and sacrifice.

"We often speak of 'our service members' as though they are one unified group," Worcester said. "Yet within that group are countless individuals, each with a name, a family, and a story that helped shape the freedoms we cherish today."

Worcester noted that honoring service members collectively can sometimes overshadow the individual sacrifices made by military families, young recruits and veterans who return home carrying difficult memories.

Residents in other communities throughout the Carriage Towne News distribution area are encouraged to contact their local veterans organizations to find information about ceremonies taking place in their towns.

Newton Tree Lighting

NEWTON — The annual Newton tree lighting will take place Saturday, Dec. 5, at 5 p.m. at a new location: the Newton Safety Complex, 8 Merrimac Road.

Sponsored by the Newton Recreation Commission, the family-friendly event will feature cookies and hot cocoa, ornament decorating for children, candy canes, holiday crafts and a station where children can write letters to Santa.

Santa Claus also will make a special appearance.

Residents are invited to bring their families and join the community in welcoming the holiday season and lighting up Newton.

Wreath Drive for Veterans

ATKINSON — The Atkinson Veterans Club is launching its annual Wreaths Across America campaign to ensure every veteran's grave in town is honored during the holiday season while helping fund the care and beautification of the cemetery.



COURTESY PHOTO

The Last Duo will perform holiday favorites during Hampstead Cable's annual free Christmas concert Wednesday, Dec. 9, at Hampstead Middle School.

Now in its eighth year, the local effort aims to place wreaths on nearly 400 veterans' graves in Atkinson. Wreaths purchased through the club's Wreaths Across America group account also generate rebate funds that are reinvested in maintaining veterans' gravesites.

Flyers with ordering information will be available at locations throughout Atkinson beginning in September. Wreaths cost $17 each, and purchases made through the Atkinson Veterans Club's group account, NH0022P, earn the club a $5 rebate for every wreath sold.

The rebate funds are used to enhance veterans' graves throughout the year. This spring, the club purchased and planted 400 geraniums before Memorial Day at veterans' gravesites and throughout the cemetery. In recent years, the organization has invested more than $2,600 annually in cemetery beautification through the rebate program, without using municipal tax dollars.

The 2026 Wreaths Across America ceremony will be held Saturday, Dec. 19, at noon at Atkinson Cemetery. Community members are encouraged to attend the ceremony and support the effort by sponsoring a wreath.

Wreaths may be purchased through the Atkinson Veterans Club's Wreaths Across America group account, www.wreathsacrossanerica.org/NH0022P.

Hampstead Lions Club Luminaries will Light up Homes on Christmas Eve

HAMPSTEAD — The Hampstead Lions Club is inviting residents to brighten their homes and support the community through its Christmas Eve luminary fundraiser.

The club's luminaries offer a warm, welcoming glow along driveways, walkways and other outdoor spaces, adding a festive touch to the holiday while supporting a community cause.

Residents can order luminaries online at https://shorturl.at/9WKFt or by contacting Karen Gronberg at 603-203-0405 or gronberglions@yahoo.com.

The club encourages residents to take part in the effort and help illuminate the community on Christmas Eve.

Carnivale to Benefit Homeless Animals

SALEM — Tickets are now on sale for the Salem Animal Rescue League's annual Winter Carnivale, a fundraising event supporting the animals in the organization's care.

The event is scheduled for Friday, Dec. 4, from 5:30 to 9:30 p.m. at Castleton Banquet Center.

Guests can enjoy an evening of dinner, raffles, silent and live auctions, and opportunities to support the Salem Animal Rescue League's mission of helping animals in need.

Tickets cost $125 per person. Organizers encourage guests to purchase tickets early for this special evening of fundraising and community support.

For tickets and more information, visit www.sarlnh.org.

Hampstead Church to host Christmas Craft Fair

HAMPSTEAD — Holiday shopping and family fun will be on tap at the Hampstead Congregational Church Christmas Craft Fair from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 5, at 61 Main St.

The fair will feature handmade crafts, a bake sale, yard sale and raffles. Children and families also can meet Santa and have their pictures taken with him from 1 to 3 p.m.

The community is invited to shop, enjoy the festivities and get a head start on the holiday season.

NH Philharmonic Holiday Pops Return to Salem

SALEM — The New Hampshire Philharmonic Orchestra will present its annual Holiday Pops concerts Dec. 19-20 at the Seifert Performing Arts Center at Salem High School, featuring seasonal music, choral performances and a special appearance by Santa Claus.

Under the direction of Music Director and Conductor Mark Latham, the concerts will include familiar holiday songs, orchestral arrangements, audience singalongs and performances by the Salem High School Chorus.

Santa will attend both performances and be available for photos with children and families after each concert.

Holiday Pops has become a seasonal tradition for families throughout southern New Hampshire and northern Massachusetts, offering audiences of all ages an opportunity to enjoy live orchestral music and celebrate the holiday season.

Performances are scheduled for Saturday, Dec. 19, at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday, Dec. 20, at 2 p.m. A livestream option will be available for Sunday's performance.

Both concerts will take place at the Seifert Performing Arts Center at Salem High School, 44 Geremonty Drive, Salem.

Tickets and additional information are available at NHPhil.org. Advance ticket purchases are encouraged.

'Plows4seniors' Needs your Help

ATKINSON — At 13 years old, Samuel "Sam" Weller is already making a difference in his community through

See **CALENDAR,** Page 6

» Calendar

Continued from Page 5

an organization he founded to help local seniors weather the challenges of winter.

Two years ago, Weller started Plows4Seniors, a New Hampshire nonprofit organization recognized as a 501©(3). Its mission is straightforward: raise funds to pay local plow operators to clear the driveways and walkways of seniors who are unable to safely remove snow themselves.

Plows4Seniors serves seniors in southern New Hampshire who are on fixed incomes or have physical disabilities. The organization works with town Elder Services departments and other community organizations to identify seniors who need assistance.

Donations to Plows4Seniors can be mailed to: Plows4Seniors, 25 Maple Ave., Atkinson, 03811.

Those interested in learning more about the organization, requesting assistance or supporting its mission can visit www.plows4seniors.org.



COURTESY PHOTO

Participants enjoy a game of Stramash, a Scottish board game, during a Hogmanay celebration. The next celebration is scheduled for Jan. 2, 2027, at the Concord City Wide Community Center in Concord.

2027 Calendars Available

CONCORD — The 2027 New Hampshire Wildlife Calendar is now available from the New Hampshire Fish and Game Department. Don't miss this early opportunity to plan for another gift-giving season and an exciting New Year. When the calendars are all gone, they will not be reprinted—so get yours today!

This award-winning calendar features close-up images of native wildlife and includes hunting, fishing, and recreational season dates for the Granite State. The 2027 New Hampshire Wildlife Calendar will be appreciated by anyone who loves wildlife and enjoys the outdoors. Every calendar purchase helps support the New Hampshire Fish and Game Department's work managing the state's natural resources for all to enjoy.

Visit shorturl.at/S5Bhi to purchase calendars online and receive free shipping. Or stop by the New Hampshire Fish and Game Department, 11 Hazen Drive in Concord, Monday–Friday, 8 a.m. to 3:45 p.m., where you can purchase calendars and gift certificates before the holiday rush begins.

Celebrate New Year at the Hogmanay Festival

CONCORD — Ring in the New Year with Scottish music, traditions and family-friendly festivities at NHSCOT's annual Hogmanay celebration Saturday, Jan. 2, 2027, from 3 to 6 p.m. at the Concord City Wide Community Center in Concord.

Hogmanay, Scotland's traditional New Year celebration, will bring families and friends together for an afternoon of Celtic music, cultural activities and winter fun.

Live entertainment will include performances by the Dashing Rock Celtic Trio and the Pipes & Drums of NHSCOT. Activities for all ages will include Stramash, a Scottish board game; street curling; and opportunities to try Highland dancing and piping.

The celebration also will feature Hogmanay royalty, a traditional toast to Scotland and a group singing of "Auld Lang Syne." Guests can gather around warming fires to roast marshmallows, enjoy light refreshments and visit the cash bar.

Tickets are $45 for adults ages 15 and older, $15 for children ages 6-14, and free for children 5 and younger.

Attendees should bring their ticket confirmation email, either printed or available on a mobile device, so the QR code can be scanned at check-in.

For tickets and additional information, visit www.nhscot.org.

The Slow Start: A Women's Mini Retreat to Begin the Year

KENSINGTON — She Flows Collective will host "The Slow Start: A Women's Mini Retreat" from 5 to 6:30 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 21, at Alnoba, 24 Cottage Road. Doors open at 4 p.m. for guests to explore the grounds and art.

The evening will include yoga, guided meditation, journaling, group Reiki healing and tea, offering women an opportunity to relax, connect and set intentions for the year ahead. The retreat is open to all experience levels.

‣ The cost is $39.19. For more information, visit sheilaanne.com or sheflowscollective.com. For directions, enter 24 Cottage Road, Kensington, into a GPS device and follow the driveway to the parking lot.

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Exeter Festival of Trees to Benefit Local Children

EXETER — The 2026 Exeter Festival of Trees will bring holiday cheer to Exeter Town Hall on Wednesday, Dec. 2, from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Thursday, Dec. 3, from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. The event is free and open to the public.

Each year, Exeter Town Hall is transformed into a festive display of live, decorated Christmas trees available through a silent auction. Visitors can admire the creatively decorated trees, enjoy the holiday atmosphere and purchase treats at the bake sale.

Raffle tickets also will be available for a chance to win a special committee-decorated tree filled with gift cards and certificates from local businesses.

Proceeds from the festival benefit the Community Children's Fund, which provides vouchers for warm winter clothing to children in need throughout the Seacoast area.

Community members and businesses can support the festival in several ways, including becoming an event underwriter, donating a gift card or gift certificate for the raffle tree, or making a direct donation. All 50 tree decorating spots have been reserved. Those interested in decorating a tree may email info@exeterareacharitablefoundation.org to join the waitlist.

For more information about sponsorships, donations and other ways to participate, email ExeterFestivalofTrees@gmail.com. Additional updates are available on the festival's new Facebook page.

The Exeter Festival of Trees invites residents and visitors to celebrate the season while supporting local children and families.



Exeter Festival of Trees will be held on Wednesday, Dec. 2, from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Thursday, Dec. 3, from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. The event is free and open to the public.

Newton Plans Festive Holiday Events

NEWTON — Newton will celebrate the holiday season with a month of community events, including a tree lighting, senior luncheons, a visit from Santa and a Toys for Tots collection.

The festivities begin Saturday, Dec. 5, with the annual tree lighting in front of the Police Department, 8 Merrimac Road. A tree transported from Pennsylvania will be lit at 5:30 p.m. Festivities begin at 5 p.m. and include music, treats, hot chocolate, cookies and activities for children, including ornament decorating, glow sticks and trinkets. Santa will arrive for the lighting.

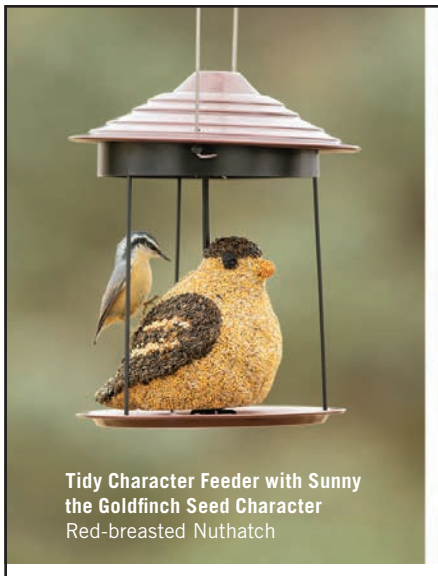
Seniors are invited to a free holiday luncheon at noon Tuesday, Dec. 8, at Country Pond Fish and Game. The event will include a buffet and activities. To register, email recdirector@newtonnh.net.

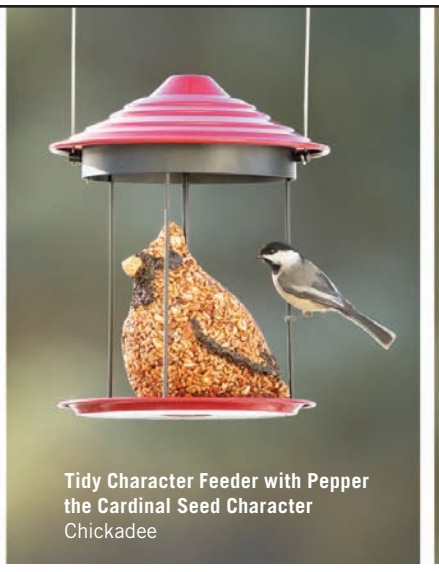
The Recreation Commission will host another luncheon at noon Tuesday, Dec. 15, at Packer Meadows, with games and activities for residents.

On Sunday, Dec. 20, the Fire Department will escort Santa around town. His route will be posted on Facebook.

The Newton Fire Department is hosting its 11th annual Toys for Tots drive through Dec. 12. Donations of new toys can be dropped off at the Newton Fire Department, Newton Police Department, Gale Library and Newton Town Hall. The drive will conclude with an open house from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 12, at the Fire Department, 8 Merrimac Road. Firefighters and Marines will join the celebration.

The Newton Recreation Commission sponsors community events throughout the year and invites residents to take part in the holiday celebrations.





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Trout Fishing Opportunities Abound for Fall and Winter Anglers

CONCORD — Throughout October and November, the New Hampshire Fish and Game Department will stock additional trout to bolster this fall's late-season open water and this winter's ice fishing opportunities. "Stocked 2-year-old trout will average about 14–15 inches, and surplus broodstock typically range from 2–4 pounds," said Fish and Game Inland Fisheries Program Supervisor John Magee. "I would encourage anglers of all skill levels to take advantage of this season's stocked trout opportunities throughout New Hampshire."

Waterbodies scheduled for 2026 fall stocking include:

Two-Year-Old Rainbow Trout

- Akers Pond, Errol
- Cedar Pond, Milan
- Martin Meadow Pond, Lancaster
- Pearl Lake, Lisbon
- Streeter Pond, Sugar Hill
- Big Diamond Pond, Stewartstown
- Newfound Lake, Bristol

Broodstock Brook and/or Brown Trout

- Highland Lake, Andover
- Manning Lake, Gilmanton
- Mirror Lake, Woodstock
- Pleasant Lake, Deerfield
- Tewksbury Pond, Grafton
- Webster Lake, Franklin
- White Lake, Tamworth

"Most of these waterbodies remain open to fishing year-round by all legal methods, however anglers should note that Big Diamond Pond and Newfound Lake are open to the taking of trout on January 1 with the opening of ice fishing season," said Magee. "2027's winter Free Fishing Day is Saturday, January 16. No fishing license is required to try your hand at targeting these magnificent fish, but all other fishing regulations apply."



COURTESY PHOTO

Additional year-round trout fishing opportunities and regulation details can be found on the Fish and Game website:

- For lakes and ponds, visit https://shorturl.at/zulnF.
- For rivers and streams, see https://shorturl.at/gwzfr.
- Rules for waterbodies with special regulations are listed in the NH Freshwater Fishing Digest, available from license agents or by visiting https://shorturl.at/dyDuH .

"The Granite State's rivers and streams open to fishing on January 1, and there are some quality fish to be caught in a variety tailwater fisheries such as the Newfound River," said Magee. "When water levels are drawn down on larger lakes for the fall, prize-sized fish often drop down below dams creating opportunities for savvy winter anglers."

Your experience matters. Please take the Inland Fisheries Division's angler survey to help inform management priorities and improve recreational angling opportunities in the Granite State.

To learn more about fisheries management in New Hampshire, which is funded in part by the federal Sport Fish Restoration Program, visit https://shorturl.at/sMq4P.



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» Kingston Police Report 26 Arrests in October

Joel Johnson,
Kingston police chief

KINGSTON — Kingston police reported 26 arrest records in October, including arrests involving driving offenses, impaired driving, warrants, assaults and disorderly conduct.

Among the arrests, a 29-year-old man from Newton, New Hampshire, was arrested Oct. 3 on a warrant. A 22-year-old woman from Gilford, New Hampshire, was arrested Oct. 4 on a charge of driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs.

A 68-year-old man from East Hampstead, New Hampshire, was arrested Oct. 5 on multiple motor vehicle charges, including operating after being certified as a habitual offender, driving after license revocation or suspension, and operating a vehicle without a required ignition interlock device.

Other arrests included:

- **Oct. 6:** A 40-year-old woman from Haverhill, Massachusetts, was arrested for driving after license revocation or suspension.
- **Oct. 8:** A 39-year-old woman from Kingston was arrested on a driving under the influence charge.
- **Oct. 9:** A 47-year-old man from Kingston was arrested for driving after license revocation or suspension.
- **Oct. 10:** A 49-year-old man from Kingston was arrested on domestic violence, simple assault and bodily injury or physical contact charges.
- **Oct. 10:** A 39-year-old woman from Bradford, Massachusetts, was arrested on a driving under the influence charge.
- **Oct. 11:** A 30-year-old woman from Exeter was arrested for operating without a valid license.
- **Oct. 12:** A 43-year-old woman from Boston was arrested on charges including resisting arrest, theft of services, reckless conduct and protective custody for alcohol.
- **Oct. 14:** A 39-year-old man from Kingston was arrested for disorderly conduct.
- **Oct. 14:** A 34-year-old man from Kingston was arrested on a warrant.
- **Oct. 14:** A 21-year-old woman from Kingston was arrested on domestic violence, simple assault, bodily injury or physical contact, and reckless conduct charges.
- **Oct. 15:** A 69-year-old man from Kingston was arrested on charges including criminal mischief, reckless conduct, public urination or defecation, disorderly conduct and breach of bail.
- **Oct. 15:** A 48-year-old woman from Milton, New Hampshire, was taken into protective custody for alcohol.
- **Oct. 16:** A 19-year-old man from Portsmouth was charged with transporting alcohol or marijuana as a minor.
- **Oct. 18:** A 26-year-old man from Haverhill, Massachusetts, was arrested for driving after license revocation or suspension.
- **Oct. 22:** A 51-year-old man from South Berwick, Maine, was arrested on a warrant and multiple driving-related charges, including driving under the influence and driving after license revocation or suspension.
- **Oct. 23:** A 49-year-old man from Pike, New Hampshire, was arrested on a warrant.
- **Oct. 23:** A 25-year-old woman from Brockton, Massachusetts, was arrested for resisting arrest or detention.
- **Oct. 23:** A 37-year-old man from Haverhill, Massachusetts, was arrested for driving after license revocation or suspension.
- **Oct. 24:** A 58-year-old man from Plaistow was arrested on charges of reckless operation and disobeying an officer.

Road Rage: Is It Really Worth It?

Joel Johnson, chief
» Kingston Police

We have all experienced frustrating drivers. Someone cuts us off, follows us too closely, or ignores traffic rules. Anger can rise quickly, turning an ordinary drive into a dangerous battle of egos. Is reacting really worth the consequences?

A vehicle can become dangerous when combined with anger and poor judgment. Yelling, gesturing, chasing another driver, or trying to teach them a lesson only gives a stranger control over your emotions and puts everyone nearby at risk.

You never know who is behind the other wheel or how far they might take a confrontation. A minor incident can escalate into violence, injuries, criminal charges, lawsuits, job loss, or lifelong regret. Passengers, pedestrians, and innocent motorists may also suffer because two drivers refused to back down.

Driving is not a competition. Its purpose is to get you safely from one place to another. If someone acts aggressively, let them pass, create distance, avoid eye contact and gestures, and seek help if necessary. Remember, we all make mistakes behind the wheel, and a little patience can prevent tragedy.

The next time another driver makes you angry, take a breath and think about the people waiting for you at home. Let the other person have the last word or the last space in traffic.

Don't let a stranger's bad driving become the worst decision of your life. Arriving safely is the only victory that matters.

Take a breath, let it go, and drive away. It is not worth risking your life.

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Thursday, 12/24, at 4 PM
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Christmas Eve Traditional Service w/ candlelight
Thursday, 12/24, at 9 PM
A beautiful traditional service with carols

Christmas Morning Service
Friday, 12/25, at 10 AM

Blue Christmas
Thursday, Dec. 17
7 p.m.
Sometimes due to loss or change the holiday season is tough. Join us for this special service.

St. Christopher's Episcopal Church
187 East Road, Hampstead, NH
603-329-4674 | stchristophersnh.org
Rev. Zachary Harmon

Conservation Easements Resources in East Kingston

Vicki J. Brown, East Kingston Conservation Commission

EAST KINGSTON — Do you have a conservation easement question? The live recording of a panel on the topic is available to view on the East Kingston Public Library's YouTube Channel: https://shorturl.at/ETWqe.

The panel program was hosted by the East Kingston Conservation Commission, which provides conservation easement and other resources at https://shorturl.at/JtCnS.

The helpful Conserving your Land guide is available to view and download at https://shorturl.at/9wLQi. Or ask your town conservation commission member for your own printed copy.



VICKI J. BROWN

Conservation Easements panelists included Jill & Chris Rider, who conserved 156 acres in 2025, and Kaitlin Deyo of Southeast Land Trust of NH (SELT).

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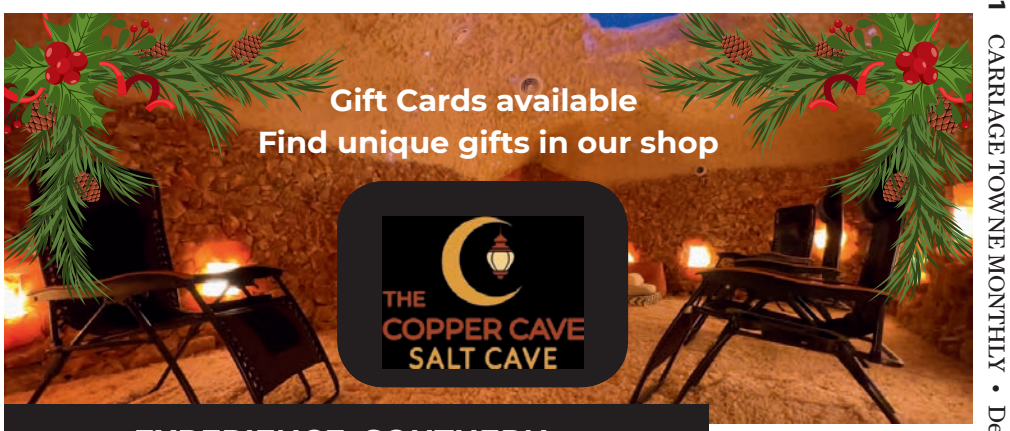

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CONTRIBUTED PHOTOS

Veterans from Atkinson and surrounding communities gather with their families for the town's annual Veterans Day breakfast at the Atkinson Fire Department. The tradition, now in its 26th year, honors their military service and sacrifice.



Scouts presented the colors during the Atkinson Veterans Breakfast ceremony.

Atkinson Honors Veterans with Annual Community Breakfast

ATKINSON — Veterans from Atkinson and surrounding communities gathered with their families on Veterans Day for a breakfast honoring their military service, continuing a town tradition spanning 26 years.

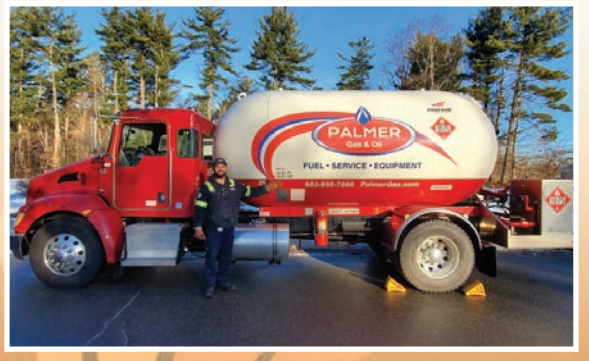
The Atkinson Fire Department hosted the event, organized by the Atkinson Recreation Department. The Atkinson Women's Civic Club and Lions Club provided breakfast, while members of the Timberlane hockey team set up tables and helped welcome guests.

Keynote speaker Maj. Gen. John Deyermond, who served 39 years in the military after entering as a private, spoke about the sacrifices made by service members and their families. He discussed the challenges of repeated deployments, relocations and adjusting to new communities and schools.

Deyermond also highlighted the military's training and the high regard in which U.S.-trained service members are held among NATO countries. He emphasized the importance of family support during active duty and after veterans return home.

Scouts presented the colors during the ceremony. Musical tributes included Jim Garrity's original composition, "Remember Me," honoring service members who did not return home. Timberlane Middle School student Carly Dawidowicz sang "God Bless America," and Timberlane High School junior Emma McCrillis played taps.

The annual gathering reflects Atkinson's longstanding commitment to recognizing veterans and honoring their service.



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Help save a life: Give blood or platelets with Red Cross

MANCHESTER — The American Red Cross asks donors to go for a spin and help save lives by giving blood or platelets. The last two months of the year can be a challenge for many donors trying to juggle regular donation appointments with packed schedules full of seasonal activities and holiday planning. Donors of all blood types — especially those with type O blood — are urged to make an appointment to donate now.

The Red Cross and Wheel of Fortune are teaming up to give back to donors this Thanksgiving. Those who come to give blood or platelets between Nov. 23 and Dec. 6, 2026, will receive an exclusive Red Cross x Wheel of Fortune oversized mug, while supplies last. Additionally, all who come to give Nov. 23-Dec. 6 will automatically be entered for a chance to win a three-night trip for two to Los Angeles with entry to a Wheel of Fortune taping. Full details can be found at RedCrossBlood.org/WheelofFortune.

Every spin counts. Every drop matters. Reserve your spot to give blood or platelets by visiting RedCrossBlood.org, downloading the Red Cross Blood Donor App, or calling 1-800-RED CROSS.

The Red Cross urges donors not to wait to make a lifesaving



difference — share your good health this holiday season by donating blood for patients in need. In November during National Diabetes Awareness Month, successful donations will get free A1C testing (one result per calendar year; do not fast before donating). For details, visit RedCrossBlood.org/Maze.

We understand donors have busy schedules. Need a weekend or evening appointment? Consider giving blood at one of our local Red Cross blood donations centers.

Upcoming blood drives in Rockingham County:

Atkinson

Dec. 5, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., Buzz Durkin's Karate School, 2 Commerce Drive.

Exeter

Dec. 4, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Exeter Area YMCA, 56 Linden St.

Londonderry

Dec. 1, 12:30 to 5:30 p.m., Orchard Christian Fellowship, 136 Pillsbury Road.

Portsmouth

Dec. 2, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., Senior Activity Center, 125 Cottage St.

Dec. 4, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Piscataqua Savings Bank, 200 Griffin Road, Unit 10.

Salem

Dec. 3, noon to 4:30 p.m., Rockingham Christian Church, 2 Keewaydin Drive.

Stratham

Dec. 3, noon to 5 p.m., Stratham Volunteer Fire Department, 4 Winnicutt Road.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Thank you to the Community

To the editor:

The Atkinson Women's Civic Club extends a thank you to the community for its help, support, and donations, as we are proud to announce that our fundraising activities again exceeded expectations this year. Our large fundraisers included the Spring and Fall Artisan Markets, two Town-Wide Yard Sales, a Photography Contest/Exhibit and Spring Shredding Day. We are grateful for community participation and support and are looking forward to another successful year coming up.

These successful fundraising programs allowed us to donate to: Scholarships for three high school seniors, St. Anne's Food Pantry, St. Luke's Food Pantry, TRHS Peer-to-Peer Program, Wreaths Across America, Atkinson Day 2026, Atkinson Academy Night Owls, Kimball Library Playaway Products, Curious Creatures program at Kimball Library, Atkinson Elder Gift Cards & Transportation Fund, Atkinson Historical Society, Atkinson Academy Student Support, Southern Rockingham Coalition for Healthy Youth (SoRock), TRHS Mental Health Week & Envirothon Competition, St. Luke's Back-to-School Back Packs, YMCA Camp Lincoln Student Scholarship, YMCA Camp Tricklin' Falls Student Scholarship.

The AWCC continued the Adopt-a-Family programs in which several Atkinson families who might not have had a joyous holiday received presents at Christmas and Easter. We recently expanded on this idea with our Senior/Elder Gift Card program. Throughout the year, AWCC donates to organizations in memory of AWCC club members' loved ones and provides assistance to those in the Atkinson community who have a special need due to illness or unfortunate circumstances.

AWCC also sponsors many Civic functions throughout the year. This year, we continued our usual contributions and volunteer time to Recreation Department and other town committees' sponsored programs and events: Senior luncheons at the Community Center, the Annual Veteran's Breakfast, Town Tree Lighting, sponsored two Red Cross Blood Drives and lunch and snacks at Town Deliberation. Once again, AWCC organized and presented Candidates Night just prior to town elections in March.

We give thanks to the following groups and organizations for their support and donations this past year: George Family Charities, New Balance, Town of Atkinson, Atkinson Police Department, Atkinson Fire Department, Atkinson Post Office, Kimball Library, Atkinson Academy, Atkinson Community Center/ Recreation Department, Atkinson Community TV, Atkinson Village Store, Atkinson Lions Club, The Evergreen, Eagle Tribune, WHAV Radio, WMUR TV, The Valley Radio Station, Salem Life, Haverhill Life, Scouts BSA Troop 9 Atkinson, Community Service students from TRHS, Sam Butler, and James Garrity. So many in our community donated their time and talents to assist us and we sincerely thank all of you.

We greatly appreciate the generous sponsors of our Spring Shredding Event Fundraiser: 4Core Fitness Training in Atkinson; Edward Jones/Matthew Tylus of Salem; GTR Enterprises Inc. of Atkinson; Insurance Solutions Corporation of Plaistow; J. Bresnahan Moving and Storage of Plaistow;; and Jill & Co. Realty Group of Salem.

Thanks go to our many sponsors and donors for our Spring and Fall Artisan Markets:110 Grill, A Balanced Body, Accolade Environmental, Arsenault Chiropractic, Atkinson Electric, Atkinson Lions Club, Atkinson Resort & Country Club, Atkinson Village Store, Axe Towne, Blue Tangerine, Busby Construction, Common Man, Cornicello, Donahue's Fish, Dover Saddlery, East Coast Lumber, Elements Massage, Feuer Lumber, Freshwater Farms, Gourmet Bites Catering, Grande Mexico, Hampstead Area Water Company, Holland Orthodontics, Home Depot, Jameson Excavation, J&B Butcher, Klemm's Bakery, Lewis Builders, Longhorn Steak House, M & T Bank, Merrimack Valley Philharmonic Orchestra, Naser Diamonds & Jewelry, Nest Pub, Ober Easy Diner, Osaka, PB Power Washing, Pasta Loft, Pete's Sewer Systems, Pinnacle Physical Therapy, PPC Restaurant, Prime Butcher, Red's Shoe Barn, Rick's Food, Rita's Mexican, Salon Grazielle, Scruffy to Fluffy, SevMar Mediterranean Bistro, Stillwell's Ice Cream, Sugar Blossom Bakery, Texas Roadhouse, Troy's Fresh Kitchen, Wild Bird's Unlimited, Wild Pines, and Wrap City.

In addition, thanks go to those who allowed us to use their parking lots during the Artisan Markets for additional parking near the Community Center: Pignatiello & Company, Atkinson Depot, Little Footprints Learning Center, Atkinson Post Office and Matos Diesel Truck Repair Inc.

We reprised the Photography Contest and Exhibition from years ago and it was a great success. We could not have done this without the assistance and enthusiastic support of the Kimball Library team. We thank our judges: Ron Watson, Kelly Blackadar, Paul Wainwright, and Alan Rich. Great appreciation also goes to our program sponsors: Haverhill Bank, Cyr Lumber and Home Center of Windham, K2N Advisors/CPAs of Windham, and Naser Diamonds of Plaistow.

Please join AWCC as we continue our fundraising activities over the next year. In addition to our fundraiser events, you can support us by:

• Dropping clothes at the Helpsy or Planet Aid donation boxes at the Atkinson Community Center;

• Becoming a corporate sponsor; or

• Making a personal donation.

AWCC is a 501©3 organization so your donation is tax-deductible.

Please see the donation section of our website: www.awcc-nh.org/donate or mail your check to: AWCC, PO Box 432 Atkinson, NH 03811.

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East Kingston Conservation Commission Elects New Chair

EAST KINGSTON — The East Kingston Conservation Commission has elected Brooke Anne Petrucelli as its new chair, effective July 2026. She succeeds Dennis Quintal, who has served the commission as a member or chair for more than 30 years.

"We are grateful to Brooke for her expertise and for volunteering her time to support our town and its beautiful natural resources," Quintal said.

Petrucelli joined the commission as a full member in May 2023. She has lived in East Kingston with her family since 2003. Recently retired from a technology and digital learning position at Deerfield Community School, she enjoys gardening, hiking, history and dogs.

She will work with commission members Matthew Allen, Adam Barss, Vicki Brown, Julie Ostopchuk, Gordon Powers and Quintal on two key initiatives: restoring and improving the Powwow River bank at the Railroad parcel town beach and pursuing the conservation of 1,000 acres of East Kingston land over the next 15 years.

The commission works to protect the town's natural resources for current and future generations.

For more information, visit https://shorturl.at/wxdS7 or email EKconservation@gmail.com.



Brooke Anne Petrucelli, newly elected chair of the East Kingston Conservation Commission, will lead efforts to protect and preserve the town's natural resources.

State Police Launch Toys for Tots Drive

CONCORD — New Hampshire State Police are once again supporting the U.S. Marine Corps Toys for Tots campaign, partnering with area businesses and agencies to collect new toys for children in need this holiday season.

Through Dec. 12, troopers will host collection events and accept donations at State Police facilities across New Hampshire. Additional collection events may be announced on the department's social media channels.

New, unwrapped toys can be donated at the following events:

Toy collection events

Tuesday, Dec. 1, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., New Hampshire State Police Headquarters, 33 Hazen Drive, **Concord**.

Wednesday, Dec. 2, 7:30 to 9 a.m., Brown Building, 129 Pleasant St., Concord.

Sunday, Dec. 6, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Walmart, 1458 Lake Shore Road, **Gilford**.

Sunday, Dec. 6, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Bass Pro Shops, 2 Commerce Drive, **Hooksett**.

Saturday, Dec. 12, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., Walmart Supercenter, 35 Fresh River Road, **Epping**.

State Police Collection sites

New, unwrapped toys also may be dropped off during regular business hours, Monday through Friday, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., at the following locations:

Troop A Barracks, 315 Calef Highway, **Epping**; Troop B Barracks, 16 East Point Drive, Bedford; Troop C Barracks, 15 Ash Court, **Keene**; Troop D Barracks, 139 Iron Works Road, **Concord**; Troop E Barracks, 1864 White Mountain Highway, **Tamworth**; Troop F Barracks, 549 Route 302, Twin Mountain; Troop G Barracks, inside the Division of Motor Vehicles, 23 Hazen Drive, **Concord**; Marine Patrol Headquarters, 31 Dock Road, **Gilford**; and State Police Headquarters, 33 Hazen Drive, **Concord**.

Online donations through Amazon can be shipped to Michal Sventek, PIO, NHSP Operations Bureau, 33 Hazen Drive, Concord, NH 03305.

For updates and additional information, follow New Hampshire State Police on Facebook (@NHStatePolice), X (@NH_StatePolice) and Instagram (@nhstatepolice).

‘A Christmas Carol’ at the Players Ring

PORTSMOUTH — The Players Ring will present a reimagined production of Charles Dickens’ “A Christmas Carol,” directed by Joshua Goldberg, Nov. 28 through Dec. 27 at 105 Marcy St.

Goldberg collaborated with original playwright Ben Bagley to reshape the familiar holiday classic, presenting the story as a group of London street-dwellers recounting Scrooge’s tale. The production features a cast of youth, teen and adult performers and new staging that remains faithful to Dickens’ original themes.

Constance Witman stars as Scrooge, with Andrew Strout providing live piano accompaniment. The cast also includes Chris Bradley, Ryan Charland, Max Jagentenfl, Tim Hackney, Sam Kovick, Charlotte McClain, Ciara Neidlinger, Lucy Schnaars and Kaia Williams.



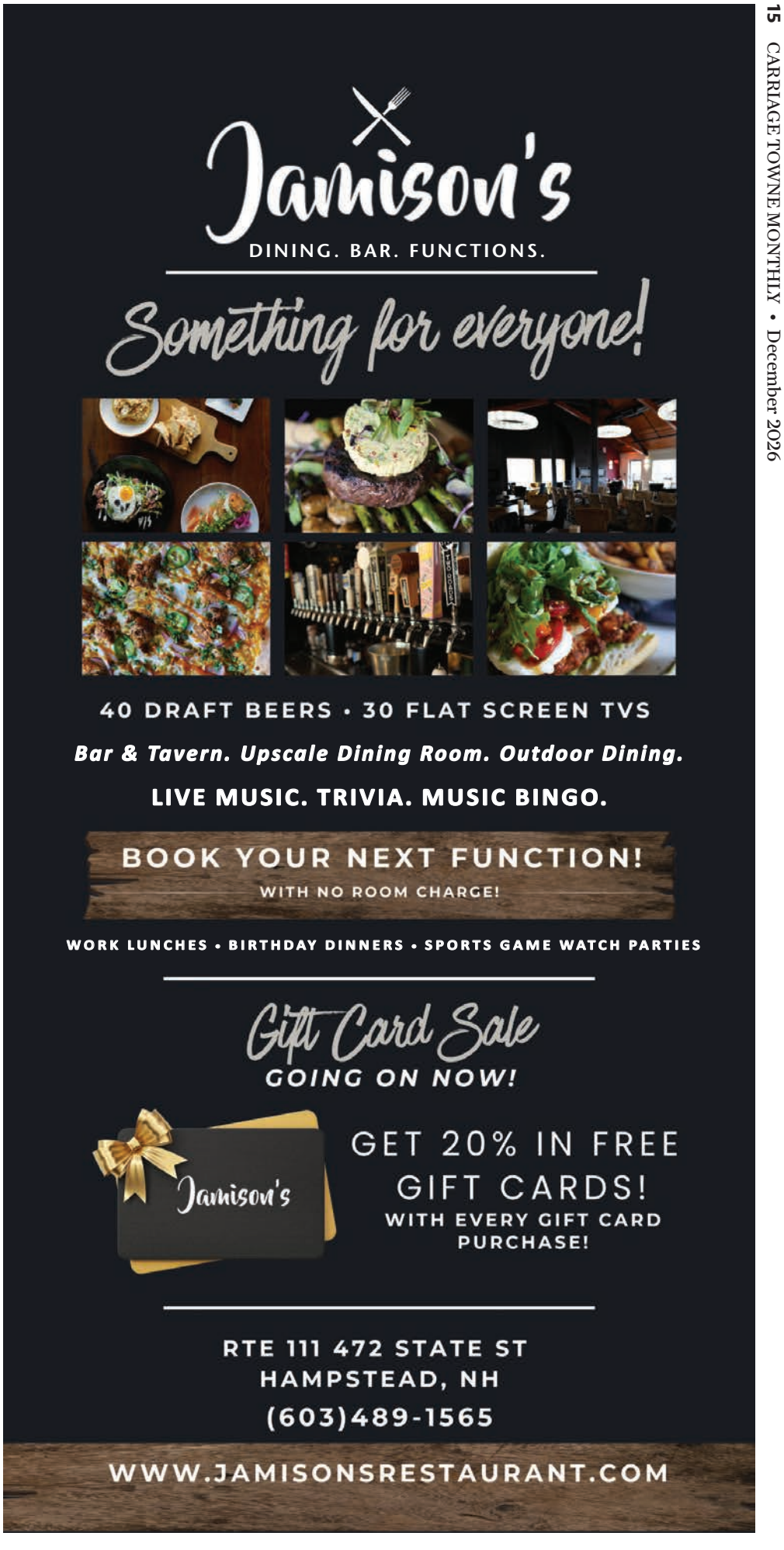
BEN BAGLEY

Constance Witman as Scrooge in the Players Ring annual production of “A Christmas Carol.”

Performances run Nov. 28-Dec. 27, with evening shows Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays at 7 p.m. and weekend matinees at 2 p.m. Additional performances are scheduled Dec. 22 and 23 at 7 p.m. Tickets are $36 for general admission, $34 for seniors, students, veterans and first responders, and $25 for children younger than 12.

For tickets and information, visit www.playersring.org or call 603-436-8123. The 90-minute production includes one brief intermission. Late seating is not permitted.





Holiday Crafts, Music and Programs at Hampstead Library



The English Handbell Choir of the First Congregational Church of Pelham will perform at the Hampstead Public Library at 7 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 10. Presented by the Friends of the Hampstead Public Library, the concert is free and open to the public.

Janet Arden, head of circulation

HAMPSTEAD — The Hampstead Public Library has scheduled a variety of programs and activities for November and December, including holiday crafts, a concert, children's activities and teen programs.

For Thanksgiving, the **library will close** at 5 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 25, and remain closed through the weekend. It will reopen at 9 a.m. Monday, Nov. 30. Online services will remain available around the clock. The Elaine David Thrift Shop, located in the library, also will be closed Saturday, Nov. 28. Regular shop hours are Tuesdays and Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Young students ages 10 to 13 are invited to **"Unmask Mythical Monsters"** with the Pinkerton Classical Society at 4 p.m. Monday, Nov. 30. Pinkerton students will lead a short lesson about Greek and Roman mythological monsters, followed by an interactive guessing game, another game and a mask-making craft. Snacks will be provided. Registration is appreciated.

The Brick Buddies **LEGO Club** for children up to age 12 will meet at 5:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 2. Participants will receive a building prompt and can create whatever they choose. Advance registration is required.

The library will host NHCPR's **Safe Sitter babysitting course** from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 5. The hands-on course is for students in grades six through eight and teaches them to be responsible, safe and confident when caring for themselves and others. Advance registration and payment are required.

Two free **holiday craft sessions** for adults and teens are scheduled for 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 8, and 10 a.m. Thursday, Dec. 10. Participants will make Scrabble ornaments and festive bath salts. Advance registration is required.

The Friends of the Hampstead Public Library will present the **English Handbell Choir** of the First Congregational Church of Pelham in concert at 7 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 10. The concert is free and open to the public.

A **Homeschool Hangout** is scheduled for 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 11. The program offers local homeschooling families an opportunity to connect, with crafts, toys and snacks. Youth Services Librarian Megan will be available to answer library-related questions and give families a tour.

A **holiday centerpiece workshop** with instructor Kari Allard of Shady Hill Greenhouses & Nursery will be held at 1 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 12. Advance registration and payment are required.

Teens in grades six through 12 are invited to **Teen Improv Night** with the Stranger Than Fiction Improv & Comedy troupe at 5:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 17. Participants will play interactive theater games, create scenes and build confidence in a relaxed setting. No acting experience is necessary. Advance registration is required.

The library also will offer three **book club discussions**, two **movie matinees**, seven **Mah Jongg** sessions, two **Bridge** sessions, three **Dominoes** sessions and other activities in December.

For more information, registration and the complete events calendar, visit HampsteadLibrary.org, stop by the library for a printed calendar or call 603-329-6411.

Kingston Community Library Seeks Input, Plans Holiday Activities

Melissa Mannon, director

KINGSTON — The Kingston Community Library is asking residents to complete a brief survey to help determine how it can reach more people and better serve the community.

The survey takes about five minutes and is available at bit.ly/kclcommunity or through a link on the library's homepage.

The Friends of the Kingston Community Library also are hosting their annual holiday raffle, featuring donations from local restaurants, businesses and community members. Proceeds support library programs and materials not covered by the library budget. The drawing will take place Dec. 18 from 9 to 10 a.m. Ticket prices and details are available at kingston-library.org/friends.

Holiday Events and Activities

The library will celebrate the season with a variety of December programs. A book display will highlight the winter solstice and seasonal holidays.

The fourth annual **Older Adult Holiday Party** will be held Dec. 17 at 11:30 a.m. This free luncheon is open to all Kingston residents and their families. Registration is not required.

On Dec. 12 at 12:30 p.m., families are invited to **Santa's Workshop**, a hands-on holiday celebration featuring a foam gingerbread house decorating kit for each family. A hot cocoa and cookie bar, complete with marshmallows and freshly baked holiday cookies, also will be available.

Before the workshop, violinist Michelle Cloutier and cellist Ethan Chen, known as the **Wildbloom Duo**, will perform.

Tweens and teens can sign up for the **Mobile Gaming Van** on Dec. 5 at 11 a.m. through the library's online calendar. A Kingston Community Library card is required, and space is limited.

The library also offers six book clubs, weekly Wednesday matinee movies, daily children's programs and weekly teen activities. Adult offerings include exercise and wellness programs, crafting, hobbies and more.

For a complete schedule, registration information and additional details, visit the Kingston Community Library's website.

Holiday Crafts, Programs and Activities at Gale Library

Michelle Baker, director

NEWTON — The Gale Library has a full schedule of holiday activities, crafts and programs planned for December.

Tree Ornaments and Holiday Lighting

Children of all ages are invited to make large tree ornaments at the library Saturday, Dec. 5, from 10 a.m. to noon. Participants can keep their creations or bring them to the Newton Tree Lighting that evening to hang on the town tree.

This year's tree lighting will be held at the Newton Safety Complex, beginning at 5 p.m. Activities include cookies and cocoa, holiday crafts, a Santa letter-writing station and a visit from Santa.

Older children, ages 7 and up, can make jar-top tree ornaments Wednesday, Dec. 16, at 6 p.m. at the library. Ornaments can be kept or given as gifts.

Family Storytime

Family Storytime for children from birth through preschool meets Tuesdays at 10 a.m. Each week features a new theme, three stories, a movement or learning activity, songs and a craft.

There will be no storytime Tuesday, Dec. 29, during school vacation week. Children of all ages are welcome to enjoy the Youth Room, where a craft cart and STEAM table are available.

Holiday Basket Raffle

The Friends of the Gale Library's annual holiday basket raffle features more than 20 baskets and gift cards. Items are on display, with tickets available for purchase during library hours through Tuesday, Dec. 15. The drawing will be held Dec. 16.

Holiday Reading on the Go

Travelers can enjoy e-books, audiobooks and magazines through NH Downloadable Books. Using the Libby app or OverDrive website, library cardholders can download up to three e-books and audiobooks at a time. Librarian-created collections feature family favorites, popular genres and a variety of interesting topics.

Library Hours

The Gale Library is open Mondays from noon to 6 p.m., Tuesdays from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., Wednesdays from noon to 8 p.m., Fridays from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. and Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Follow the library on Facebook and Instagram at @GaleLibrary for updates, new arrivals and program information.

Plaistow Library Plans Holiday Concerts, Crafts and Family Fun

Jen O'Connor, adult programming and publicity librarian

PLAISTOW — The Plaistow Public Library will offer a variety of programs and activities for children, families and adults throughout December, including a handbell concert, holiday crafts, workshops and games.



DAVID TAVITIAN

The Granite State Ringers' Quartet Handbell Choir, featuring musicians from communities throughout New Hampshire and northern Massachusetts, will perform at the Plaistow Public Library at 6 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 1. The concert is sponsored by the Friends of the Plaistow Library.

Children and family programs

Friday Flicks Jr.: Friday, Dec. 4, at 3:30 p.m. Children ages 6 and older can enjoy a family-friendly movie and popcorn.

Toy Swap: Saturday, Dec. 5, at 9 a.m. Residents can exchange gently used toys for new-to-them treasures at this free event. Toy donations will be accepted Thursday, Dec. 3, from 5 to 7 p.m., and Friday, Dec. 4, from 3 to 7 p.m.

Yoga for Kids: Thursday, Dec. 10, at 3:30 p.m. Miss Jaimie will lead a yoga session for children in kindergarten through fifth grade.

Family Game Night: Pizza, Fun and Family: Thursday, Dec. 10, at 5:30 p.m. Families of all ages can enjoy games, puzzles and pizza.

Ice Cream Cone Christmas Trees: Monday, Dec. 21, at 4 p.m. Participants of all ages can decorate ice cream cones with frosting, sprinkles and candy to create festive Christmas trees.

Adult programs

Granite State Ringers' Quartet Handbell Choir Holiday Concert: Tuesday, Dec. 1, at 6 p.m. The concert features New Hampshire's only elite handbell choir, with musicians from communities throughout New Hampshire and northern Massachusetts. The program is sponsored by the Friends of the Plaistow Library.

Boxwood Tree Workshop: Wednesday, Dec. 2, at 1 p.m. and 6 p.m. Felicia Motherway will lead two sessions on creating and decorating a holiday boxwood tree.

Holiday Flower Arranging Demonstration: Wednesday, Dec. 9, at 6 p.m. Shannon of The Green Griffin in Kingston will demonstrate how to create holiday floral arrangements. Attendees will have a chance to win an arrangement.

Mahjong: Wednesdays at 5 p.m. Players are invited to enjoy the game in a relaxed, welcoming setting.

Sewing and Needlework Get-Together: Wednesday, Dec. 16, at 5:30 p.m. Participants can bring a current sewing or needlework project and work alongside others in the Nelson Room.

Most programs have limited space and require registration. For details or to reserve a spot, visit plaistowlibrary.com or call 603-382-6011.

Kimball Library Announces December Programs

Kathy Watson, interim director

ATKINSON — Kimball Library has a full schedule of activities and programs planned for December, including film screenings, children's activities, a holiday concert, an estate planning presentation and seasonal crafts.

Weekly programs

Film Enthusiast Club: Tuesdays at 1 p.m. Watch award-winning films, documentaries, foreign films and modern classics, followed by a group discussion and informal review. Upcoming films include "Coyote vs. Acme" on Dec. 8; the Dec. 22 selection is to be announced.

Genius Junction: Thursdays at 3:30 p.m. This STEAM program for children in grades 2-6 features hands-on activities in science, technology, engineering, art and math.

Giggle & Groove: Fridays at 10:15 a.m. Children can enjoy songs, music and movement games. No registration is required.

People Helping People Genealogy Meetup: Fridays at 10 a.m. Genealogy enthusiasts of all experience levels are invited to share research tips, exchange information and get help with family history questions. Participants may attend as often as they wish.

Special programs

Bite Club — Mozzarella Sticks: Tuesday, Dec. 8, at 4 p.m. Young chefs will learn basic kitchen skills, food safety and nutrition while preparing mozzarella sticks.

After School Arcade: Wednesday, Dec. 9, at 3:30 p.m. Children can play games on the Nintendo Switch 2, including multiplayer and competitive games.

The Last Duo: Thursday, Dec. 10. Musicians Greg and Dan will perform holiday favorites on guitars, mandolin and keyboards, with vocal harmonies. The concert will be held indoors.

Estate Planning Program: Tuesday, Dec. 15, at 1 p.m. Local attorney Gerald Shyavitz will discuss estate planning topics, including living trusts, pour-over wills and durable powers of attorney for financial and health care decisions.

Create a Boxwood Tree: Thursday, Dec. 17, at 6 p.m. Participants will make a holiday decoration using fresh boxwood, velvet ribbon, gold balls, berries and baby's breath. The $55 materials fee is nonrefundable and must be paid in cash or by check at in-person registration.



Participants will create holiday boxwood trees at 6 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 17, at Kimball Library in Atkinson. The trees feature fresh boxwood, velvet ribbon, gold ornaments, berries and baby's breath, making them festive decorations or gifts that can last for months. The $55 materials fee is nonrefundable and payable by cash or check to Felicia Motherway at registration.

Morning Book Club: Friday, Dec. 18, at 10:15 a.m. The group will discuss "The Wives of Hawthorne Lane" by Stephanie DeCarolis.

Registration is required for many programs. Visit kimballlibrary.com to view the online calendar and register, or call 603-362-5234 for more information.

Sandown Library Offers Programs and Activities for all Ages

Brittney Bergholm, director

SANDOWN — The Sandown Public Library has scheduled a variety of programs and activities for all ages.

Registration may be required for some programs. Visit www.sandownlibrary.us to check the calendar for locations, times and registration information.

Weekly Programs

The library offers several recurring programs, including **Story Time** for children ages 3 and older on Tuesdays from 10 to 11 a.m.; **cribbage** on Wednesdays from 10 to 11 a.m.; and **mahjong** on Thursdays from 10 a.m. to noon. **Toddler Tales** is held Thursdays from 10 to 10:45 a.m. when no music program is scheduled.

Monthly and Regular Programs

Upcoming activities include a **movie matinee** and **Friends of the Sandown Public Library** meeting Wednesday, Dec. 2; and **Cookie Bites & Canvas** Saturday, Dec. 5, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Monday, Dec. 7, features **Monday Morning Mystery Book Club** at 10:30 a.m., **Fiber Fest** at 2:30 p.m., **Lego League** at 4:30 p.m. and **Monday Movies** at 5:30 p.m.

Additional programs include **Messy Monday** on Dec. 14 at 10 a.m. and **Food for Thought** at 6 p.m. On Wednesday, Dec. 16, **Kids Kraft** will be offered from 1 to 2 p.m. and 4:30 to 5:30 p.m., followed by **Books & Bites Book Discussion** from 4:30 to 6 p.m.

Special Programs

Two sessions of the **Make and Take Craft Fair for Kids** are scheduled Wednesday, Dec. 9, from 3 to 5 p.m. and 6 to 8 p.m.

A **Boxwood Tree Centerpiece Workshop** will be held Saturday, Dec. 12, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

For program details, registration and schedule updates, visit www.sandownlibrary.us.

Community Events at East Kingston Public Library

Sherry Castle, assistant director

EAST KINGSTON — The East Kingston Public Library will host two community events in December.

Connect with Your Town Office will take place Tuesday, Dec. 15, from 6 to 7 p.m. Grace Ruelle and Dawn Mierswa of the Town Administration Office will lead this new monthly series, offering residents an opportunity to ask questions, share feedback and discuss local issues, updates and upcoming projects.

Wreaths Across America will be observed Saturday, Dec. 19, at noon with a recognition ceremony honoring veterans and remembering those who made the ultimate sacrifice. Refreshments will be provided by the East Kingston Community United Methodist Church and the library.

Those unable to attend can sponsor a wreath at wreathsacrossamerica.org.

For details on these events and other library programs, visit eastkingstonlibrary.org.

East Kingston Workshop Welcomes Five New Stitchers

EAST KINGSTON — Five participants learned the art of embroidery during a workshop held Oct. 10, 17 and 21 at the East Kingston Public Library.

Participants created personalized Floral Dogs designs using six different embroidery stitches.

The free workshop was offered by the Southern Maine (SOME) Chapter of the national Embroiderers' Guild of America (EGA).

Interested in stitching?

The Embroiderers' Guild of America offers several free resources for beginners and experienced stitchers:

Free projects: Download embroidery patterns at egausa.org/free-projects.

Stitch instructions: Find diagrams and instructional videos at the Royal School of Needlework's Stitch Bank, rsnstitchbank.org.

Monthly newsletter: Sign up for embroidery tips, classes, patterns and EGA updates at egausa.org/newsletter-signup.

Monthly projects: Participate in the EGA Stitch-A-Long, featuring a new project each month, at egausa.org/ega-stitch-a-long.

For more information about the Southern Maine Chapter, visit someega.org.

Upcoming Events and Holiday Happenings at Colby Library

Tom Billbrough, acting director, and Carolyn Killian, acting assistant director

DANVILLE — Brr! The weather may be chilly, but Colby Memorial Library is a cozy place to gather, learn and have fun this holiday season.

The library offers weekly programs for all ages and experience levels, with no registration required. Join the fun on Mondays at 4 p.m. for **Forty-fives** card games, Tuesdays at 6 p.m. for **knitting and crafting** or **Mahjong**, and Wednesdays at 4 p.m. for **Chess Club**.

The newest addition is **Afternoon Tea**, held Thursdays at 3 p.m. The program is geared toward seniors, but everyone is welcome to enjoy tea and conversation.

Holiday happenings

Teen and Tween Game Night: Monday, Nov. 30, at 6 p.m. Games and snacks will be provided.

Holiday Card Making: Wednesday, Dec. 9, at 2 p.m. Stop by the library throughout the week to make holiday cards or join the special card-making session Wednesday. All materials will be provided, and all ages are welcome.

Magic Fred returns: Saturday, Dec. 12, at 2 p.m. Magic Fred will present a holiday show featuring tricks, including a floating Christmas tree. No registration is required, and all ages are welcome.

School vacation week: Looking for activities during the school break? Colby Memorial Library has several programs planned:

- Monday, Dec. 28: **Paint and Sip**
- Tuesday, Dec. 29: **Cookies and Craft**
- Wednesday, Dec. 30: **Lego Club**
- Thursday, Dec. 31: **Craft to Go**. The library will close at 2 p.m.

There is something for everyone at Colby Memorial Library. Stop by, join a program and celebrate the season with your community!



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Service to Prepare for Christmas

KINGSTON — Trinity Church, 80 Route 125, will host its annual Advent Lessons and Carols service Sunday, Dec. 6, from 4 to 5 p.m.

The non-denominational service offers an opportunity to pause amid the busy holiday season and prepare spiritually for Christmas.

The tradition began in England as a pre-Christmas service in cathedrals and collegiate chapels at Oxford and Cambridge universities before spreading worldwide.

The one-hour service features biblical readings from the prophets foretelling the coming of the Messiah, accompanied by appropriate music. Participants in leading the service will represent several area churches.

Past attendees have said the service helps them remain focused on the meaning of Christmas amid the holiday shopping and festivities.

Although the church will not provide its usual child care, children are welcome. Families will receive activity packets for children who remain with their parents. A quiet room for nursing mothers, with access to the music and readings, and a changing table also will be available.

An offering will be collected to support New Creation Healing Center, led by Dr. Mary Pearson. The center combines family practice medicine, professional counseling, massage therapy and patient and community wellness education. Financial assistance is available for individuals with limited incomes. Donations from the service will support the center's programs and services.

Light refreshments will be served following the service.

For more information, call 603-571-0205. If no one answers, leave a message.

Etz Hayim Announces Holiday Events and Family Programs

DERRY — Etz Hayim Synagogue, 1-1/2 Hood Road, invites the community to attend its December programs, including a Hanukkah celebration, an adult learning session and a family camp.

Family Pizza Shabbat and Hanukkah menorah lighting: The synagogue will celebrate the first night of Hanukkah at 6 p.m. Friday, Dec. 4, with the lighting of its giant menorah. A free pizza dinner will follow, along with an intergenerational service, children's activities and storytime with Book Bubbe Leslie Kirshman. Guests are invited to bring a dish to share for a potluck oneg. To attend the pizza dinner, RSVP by Dec. 3 to office@etzhayim.org.



A giant outdoor menorah will be lit Friday, Dec. 4, at Etz Hayim Synagogue in celebration of the first night of Hanukkah. A free pizza dinner and family activities will follow.

Adult learning — How to Pray With Your Whole Body: Arielle Welch, owner and lead instructor of Nahar Yoga and an Etz Hayim Hebrew school teacher, will lead this experiential program from 7 to 8 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 10. The session will explore ways to connect spiritually beyond traditional prayer through meditation, movement, breathwork, simple yoga postures and nature. Participants also will have an opportunity to share personal experiences of connecting with the divine. For more information and a complete listing of adult learning programs, visit etzhayim.org/learn/adult-learning.

Sunday Family Camp: The free monthly program for children ages 4 to 6 will meet from 10 a.m. to noon Sunday, Dec. 13. The session will focus on Hanukkah, with activities introducing the holiday and opportunities for children to create themed artwork and play dreidel. Families should preregister by Dec. 11 by emailing hsadmin@etzhayim.org so organizers can prepare enough art supplies. More information is available at etzhayim.org/learn/grades-0-1.

For additional information, visit etzhayim.org.



Salem Women's Club Gives Back to Community



From left, SAWC members Jaimie Baker and Dianne Chapdelaine hard at work making sandwiches at Centerpoint Community Church.



SAWC member Loren Faber (left) and SAWC President Mary Finocchario (middle) donate over $500 worth of much-needed groceries to Deserae Stasio (right), Director of Salem Family Resources center.

SALEM — While the holiday season is a time for feasting and celebration, the Salem Area Women's Club-GFWC reminds residents that helping those in need is important throughout the year.

The Salem Area Women's Club (SAWC) has supported communities in Salem, Pelham, Derry and Hampstead through ongoing donations, volunteer efforts and service projects.

From maintaining local gardens and providing snack baskets for first responders and poll workers to donating money and volunteer hours to community organizations and local libraries, club members support their communities in numerous ways.

Feeding the hungry

SAWC supports efforts to ensure no Granite Stater goes hungry. The club regularly contributes to End 68 Hours of Hunger, local food pantries, Isaiah 58 NH, Salem Family Resources and veterans organizations.

Members also gather monthly to prepare more than 40 bagged lunches for distribution to local homeless outreach groups.

Club members support animal rescue fundraiser

SAWC members showed their support for animal welfare by donating to and participating in the Salem Animal Rescue League's first annual Howl'ween 5K fundraiser on Oct. 31.

Club member Loren Faber earned a first-place trophy in her age group.

Club sponsors local author event

On Oct. 21, SAWC sponsored another local author event at the Salem Boys & Girls Club to encourage a love of reading. The club provided free books and snacks for attendees.

Local author John Wolforth read his latest children's book, "The Witch's Revenge," to an appreciative audience.

Club welcomes new members

SAWC recently welcomed 10 new members: Lucia Williams, Wendy Davis, Claire Donohue, Patricia O'Neill, Linda Piergeorge, Fran Tilley, Hilary Hackbart, Donna Morris, Melanie Kempton and Karen Bonnin.



More than 30 children listen as local author John Wolforth reads his book, "The Witch's Revenge."

The club continues to grow as women throughout the area discover opportunities for friendship, leadership, volunteer service and community involvement.

Founded in 1926, the Salem Area Women's Club-GFWC provides fellowship and philanthropic opportunities for local women. The organization now has 126 members.

Last year, the club donated more than $50,000 to nearly 90 organizations and causes at the local, state, national and international levels.

For more information about the club or membership opportunities, call 508-641-0489, visit www.salemareawomensclub.org or find the Salem Area Women's Club on Facebook. Email inquiries can be sent to salemareawomensclub@gmail.com.

Holiday Pops Returns to Portsmouth with Special Guests

PORTSMOUTH — The Portsmouth Symphony Orchestra's annual Family Holiday Pops! concert returns Sunday, Dec. 20, with performances at 3 and 6 p.m. at Portsmouth High School, 50 Andrew Jarvis Drive.

This year's concerts will feature special guests Randy Armstrong and WorldBeat Marimba, narrator Monte Bohanan and the full Portsmouth High School Band.

Armstrong and WorldBeat Marimba will perform music inspired by traditions from around the world, using South African marimbas, Trinidadian steel pans, percussion and vocals. The program also includes "The Night Before Christmas," narrated by Bohanan, and "Sleigh Ride," featuring the high school band. The orchestra will lead an audience sing-along.

"We are pulling out all the stops for this year's Family Holiday Pops! concerts," said John Page, the orchestra's music director. "It's sure to leave everyone with joy, laughter and plenty of holiday spirit."

Bohanan, the city of Portsmouth's director of communications and community engagement, has narrated several previous PSO performances and hosted TEDx Portsmouth.

Tickets are $35 for adults and $10 for students.

Now in its 29th season, the Portsmouth Symphony Orchestra includes more than 65 local professionals, educators and volunteers. Upcoming Main Stage concerts at The Music Hall include "Paint Me a Picture" on March 14, 2027, and "Love and Death" on May 23, 2027. The May concert will feature the winner of the PSO's Young Artist Competition.

For tickets and information, visit portsmouthsymphony.org.



COURTESY PHOTO

Portsmouth Symphony Orchestra musicians take a bow following a performance, celebrating another season of bringing live music to the community.

Tip of the Month: Plan for Home, Prepare for a Change

Cheryl Field
MSN, RN



Preparing for an outpatient procedure or day surgery? Choose your "same day advocate"—someone to accompany you, help ask questions, and understand the plan for going home. Agree beforehand on how you want them to help. Even when you expect to be home by dinner, an urgent finding or unexpected recovery needs may mean an overnight hospital stay. Preparation helps you both respond if plans change.

This month, practice becoming your own B.I.T.C.H., the memory tool I use to teach self-advocacy. You and your advocate do not need to manage the medical team. You need to understand the plan and expected outcomes.

• **B—Be prepared.** Update your "go bag": medications, allergies, medical history, advance directives, insurance, contacts, and your usual abilities and needs. Bring glasses, hearing aids, needed equipment, and a phone charger. Confirm fasting and medication instructions with your care team. Never guess or change medicines independently.

• **I—Gather Information.** Ask: What will this test answer? What happens during the appointment? What preparation is needed? Who explains results, and when? Will the surgeon call your advocate when you are in recovery? How many hours do they expect they need? Getting the answers to these questions helps your advocate plan their day, and when they need to act. Your advocate provides a second set of ears and helps take notes. Tell staff when fear gets in the way of you keeping the appointment.

• **T—Take control.** If plans change, ask why hospital care is needed, what happens next, and what



specific clinical goals must be met before going home. Ask who makes discharge decisions, whether your advocate can accompany you, and who reviews current care instructions. Being an active advocate involves collecting the data so you understand what comes next.

• **C—Communicate and Collaborate.** Make sure the receiving team has your information and understands your wishes and everyday needs. Choose one family contact to update your people. Work with the nurse, procedure team, clinician, and case manager to be certain that your medications and overnight care needs are addressed.

• **H—Get Home.** Before you make the transition back home review written medication, follow-up, activity, and any wound-care instructions together. Ask about warning signs to report and get an after-hours number. Confirm transportation and realistic support at home for the next few days. Meals, hydration, pain management and who you can talk to about your emotions are all important post procedure details to consider. Repeat the plan in your own words before leaving.

Your small to-do this month: Update your go bag, choose your advocate a week or more beforehand, and write your questions together. Your "ride" may become your "ride or die" person so empower them with data. You cannot prevent every surprise, but you can prepare. I had my own colonoscopy last month and this was my personal check list. Take a breath. You've got this.



Holiday Activities and Programs at Vic Geary Senior Center

PLAISTOW — The Vic Geary Senior Drop-In Center, 18 Greenough Road, has several holiday events, activities and ongoing programs planned for December.

Fresh Christmas Wreath Workshop

A Fresh Christmas Wreath Workshop will be held Thursday, Dec. 3, from 9 to 11 a.m. The workshop is free, but registration is required. Seating is limited. To register, call 603-382-9276. The workshop is co-hosted by Plaistow Recreation and Plaistow Elder Affairs.

Annual Christmas Party

The center's annual Christmas party is scheduled for Thursday, Dec. 17, from 9 to 11 a.m. The celebration will include coffee, breakfast treats, a visit from Santa, entertainment by the Southern New Hampshire Ukulele Group, door prizes and other surprises. Reservations are required. Call 603-382-9276.

Weekly Exercise Programs

The center offers a variety of weekly exercise programs:

Tuesdays and Fridays: Bone Builders, 9-10 a.m.

Wednesdays: Line dancing, 10-11 a.m., and Gentle Movement with Music, 11 a.m. to noon.

Fridays: Chair Yoga, 11 a.m. to noon, and Tai Chi, noon to 1 p.m.

All classes are $5 per person. Registration is required only for Bone Builders.

Senior Food Pantry

The center's food pantry is open during regular business hours to seniors residing in Atkinson, Danville, Hampstead, Kingston, East Kingston, Newton, Plaistow and Sandown. No registration or special requirements are necessary. The pantry is available to help local seniors manage rising food costs. For more information, call 603-382-9276.

Christmas Craft Fair Canceled

The Christmas Craft Fair scheduled for Saturday, Dec. 5, has been canceled due to unforeseen circumstances. Organizers encourage residents to watch for next year's date.

Annual Christmas Tea

Plaistow Elder Affairs will host its annual Christmas Tea Tuesday, Dec. 8, from noon to 2 p.m. at First Baptist Church on Main Street in Plaistow.

The event will feature a light lunch, Christmas tea and desserts, a Christmas singalong and door prizes. Registration is required, and seating is limited.

To reserve a spot, email Sue Sherman at susherm@hotmail.com.

Celebrate the holidays at Stockbridge Theatre with three festive performances

DERRY — Stockbridge Theatre will celebrate the holiday season with three December performances featuring music, dance and festive entertainment.

The series opens Friday, Dec. 11, with **Rockapella**, returning for its 23rd year. The internationally acclaimed vocal group is known for its a cappella harmonies, energetic performances and creative arrangements of seasonal favorites.

On Sunday, Dec. 13, Safe Haven Ballet returns with **The Nutcracker** at 4 p.m. The production follows Clara through a magical world of dancing snowflakes, colorful characters and the Land of Sweets. The performance is part of Stockbridge Theatre's Made in New Hampshire series, highlighting the state's performing arts talent.

Christmas with the Celts returns Friday, Dec. 18, at 7 p.m., blending traditional Irish music and dance with contemporary Christmas favorites.

"There's something special about gathering together for a live performance during the holidays," said Shannon Mayers, director of Stockbridge Theatre. "Whether it's an evening of incredible music, a family outing to The Nutcracker, or the excitement of Christmas with the Celts, these performances offer three wonderful ways to celebrate the season right here in our community."



Safe Haven Ballet will perform The Nutcracker at 4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 13.

All performances will take place at Stockbridge Theatre on the Pinkerton Academy campus in Derry. Tickets are available at stockbridgetheatre.com.

Happy Thanksgiving

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Nail polish
Alcohol, free mouthwash
Men's cologne
Women's perfume
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Sudoku books

Large print playing cards
DVDs ,, westerns ,, James Bond ,,
Lap blankets
men's sport themed or women's
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DROP OFF LOCATIONS

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PLAISTOW YMCA
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Timberlane Students Selected for Youth Leadership Program

PLAISTOW — Two Timberlane Regional High School sophomores have been selected as the school's representatives for the 2027 Hugh O'Brian Youth Leadership (HOBY) Program.

Emma Popa of Plaistow and Juliana Hoellrich of Atkinson were chosen following nominations by faculty members, completion of an application and interviews with the selection committee.

As representatives, Popa and Hoellrich will attend HOBY's State Leadership Seminar in spring 2027. The program is designed to empower high school sophomores to recognize and develop their leadership abilities and become effective, ethical leaders in their homes, schools and communities.

The 2027 New Hampshire Leadership Seminar will feature hands-on leadership activities, networking opportunities with other top-performing leaders from across the state, and exploration of leadership skills. Participants will learn how to lead others and make a positive impact in their communities.

Congratulations to Emma and Juliana on this achievement.



Timberlane Regional High School sophomores Emma Popa, left, of Plaistow and Juliana Hoellrich of Atkinson have been selected as the school's representatives for the 2027 Hugh O'Brian Youth Leadership Program. They are pictured with Principal John Vaccarezza.

DEAN ZANELLO

Austin17House Expands Youth Programs, Seeks Volunteers

BRENTWOOD — Austin17House, 263 Route 125, is reflecting on a year of growth and expanding opportunities for youth and families as it looks ahead to 2027.

The center continues to serve as a full-time community resource, welcoming families from within an 85-mile radius. Staff members expressed gratitude for the volunteers and community members whose financial and in-kind donations help support its programs.

The fall Post-Secondary Exploration program engaged five young people through a series of sessions, including a guided tour of Great Bay Community College and a visit from Bring Back the Trades.

Austin17House also relaunched its Adulting 101 series, which encourages discussions about punctuality, going above and beyond basic expectations, developing strong work habits and building a positive reputation.

Families interested in future participation in the Training Academy can contact Faina Bukher at TrainingAcademy@Austin17House.org. More information is available at austin17house.org/training-academy-for-attendees.

Program schedule

Tuesdays: 3-6 p.m., drop-in fun and games.

Wednesdays: 6-9 p.m., creative arts, sports, fitness, theater, science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) activities, and Training Academy.

Thursdays: 3-6 p.m., Club 17; 6-9 p.m., game night.

Fridays: 6-9 p.m., creative arts, sports, fitness, theater and STEM activities.

The center will be closed Dec. 21-25 for Christmas week.



ALLIE BURKE

Austin17House hosted a Masquerade Ball on Oct. 23, bringing guests together for an elegant evening of mystery and music to benefit the center.

Volunteer opportunities

Austin17House is seeking volunteers interested in helping young people develop life skills and positive habits. The center has particular needs for volunteers with experience or skills in music, sewing, tutoring, weightlifting, event planning, fundraising and cooking.

Those interested can visit the center's website and complete a volunteer application.

For more information, visit www.austin17house.org, call 603-770-6374 or email austin17house@gmail.com. Austin17House is also on Facebook and Instagram.

Wreath-laying Ceremony in Atkinson

ATKINSON — Community members are invited to gather Saturday, Dec. 19, at noon for a wreath-laying ceremony honoring veterans at Atkinson Cemetery, adjacent to the fire station at 1 Academy Ave.

The ceremony will recognize veterans who answered the call to serve, including those who returned home carrying physical and unseen scars.

Local residents, Scouts and volunteers will place 400 wreaths, one on each veteran's grave. Participants will be encouraged to say each veteran's name aloud as a way to honor their service and sacrifice.

The ceremony will reflect the message: "Remember the fallen, honor those who serve, and teach the next generation the value of freedom."

Community members of all ages are welcome to participate in this opportunity to remember and honor Atkinson's veterans.





Youth Making a Difference Take Center Stage

SoRock recognizes leadership at first annual Prevention Showcase

PLAISTOW — Young people making a difference in their schools and communities took center stage Wednesday night as the Southern Rockingham Coalition for Healthy Youth held its first annual Prevention Showcase at the Plaistow Community YMCA.

About 150 people attended the Oct. 28 event, which celebrated youth leadership, wellness and community involvement.

Among them were 65 young people representing 12 youth groups who shared projects and programs aimed at preventing substance misuse, promoting mental health and making their communities healthier places to live.

The showcase brought together students, families, elected officials, civic organizations, businesses and community partners to recognize the work being done by young people throughout southern New Hampshire.

The event grew out of SoRock's Youth in Action initiative, which encourages students to take leadership roles in addressing challenges facing their peers and communities. Its guiding message is that young people's efforts are seen, their voices are heard and their contributions matter.



The Y booth was a popular destination.



COURTESY PHOTOS

The audience heard about SoRock's presentation to lawmakers.

U.S. Sen. Maggie Hassan offered her support in a letter read during the program, praising the students for their efforts to prevent addiction and strengthen their communities.

"The young people here today are paving the way for a better and healthier future for our state," Hassan wrote.

She also expressed appreciation for the "lifesaving work" being done by young people across New Hampshire.

A highlight of the evening was the presentation of the inaugural Anne Marie Zanfagna Memorial Art of Prevention Award, honoring a young person and an adult whose efforts have raised awareness, inspired hope and brought positive change to their communities.

Emma Young of Ellis School Youth in Action received the youth award, while Maggie Martin of Isaiah 58 was recognized in the adult category.



New Hampshire Teen Institute's Leaders in Prevention promoted its weekend retreats and camps at its busy booth.

Members of the Zanfagna family, representing Angels of Addictions, attended to share Anne Marie's story and help present the awards in her memory.

In addition to the youth presentations and awards, the showcase featured a community resource fair, giving families an opportunity to learn about free and reduced-cost services available in the area.

Attendees also enjoyed a free family dinner sponsored by the Plaistow Lions Club, with additional food provided by Papa Gino's, Atkinson House of Pizza and Kingston House of Pizza.

The Plaistow Community YMCA and New Hampshire Charitable Foundation were the event's primary sponsors.

Volunteers from the YMCA, South Central New Hampshire Medical Reserve Corps, New Hampshire National Guard Counterdrug Program and Atkinson Police Department helped organize and support the evening.

Atkinson Police Chief Tim Crowley served as master of ceremonies.

SoRock serves eight communities — Atkinson, Danville, Fremont, Hampstead, Kingston, Newton, Plaistow and Sandown — with a mission of preventing substance misuse while promoting mental health and resilience among children, teens and families.

The coalition's inaugural showcase was intended not only to recognize the students' accomplishments but also to encourage more young people to become involved in efforts to improve their communities.

For more information about SoRock and its youth programs, visit www.sorocknh.org.

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One Tank Road Trips

» Looking for something to do outside the immediate area? Check out the following upcoming events.

PORTSMOUTH: 'A Christmas Carol'
» Nov. 28 – Dec. 27
» In classic Dickensian fashion, word of Scrooge's extraordinary story has reached the ears of a ragtag band of London street dwellers, who set out to bring it to life in their own inventive way.
» Performances on Thursdays, Fridays, Saturdays and select Sundays at 7 p.m.; Saturdays and Sundays at 2 p.m.
» @ The Players' Ring, 105 Marcy Street
» Cost: $36 general admission, $34 for seniors, students, veterans, first responders, $25 for children (under age 12)
» Info/tickets: 603-436-8123 / www.playersring.org

MANCHESTER: A Charlie Brown Jazz Christmas
» Thursday, Dec. 3
» The music from 'A Charlie Brown Christmas' made famous by The Vince Guaraldi is brought to life with a live Jazz Quartet and interactive digital display sure to get you in the holiday spirit.
» 7:30-9:30 p.m., Rex Theatre, 23 Amherst Street
» Cost: $34-$40
» Info/tickets: 603-668-5588 / www.palacetheatre.org

NASHUA: Vienna Boys Choir: Christmas in Vienna
» Friday, Dec. 4
» The illustrious group of child musicians has been delighting music lovers across the globe for six centuries with their purity of tone, distinctive charm and popular repertoire.
» 7:30 p.m., Nashua Center for the Arts, 201 Main Street
» Cost: $57/$79/$90/$112
» Info/tickets: 800-657-8774 / www.nashuacenterforthearts.com

PORTSMOUTH: Candlelight Stroll
» Dec. 4-6, 11-13 & 18-20

Did You Know?

To go directly to the calendar of local events online, go to the top of our website (-eagletribune.com-) and choose "local calendar" in the navigation bar.-

» The museum's historic Puddle Dock neighborhood is lit with candle boxes and string lights, and the old houses are decorated and opened for the season.
» Times vary, Strawbery Banke Museum, 14 Hancock Street
» Cost: $32–$38 for adults, $16-19 for ages 3-17, depending on the day and when you buy; under age 3 free, but still needs a ticket
» Info/tickets: 603-433-1100 / www.strawberybanke.org

DEERFIELD: Christmas Market
» Saturday, Dec. 5
» Features local farmers, artisans, handcrafted gifts, specialty foods, and locally made products. Visitors can enjoy live music, food trucks, a bonfire, hot cocoa, and cafe style seating while taking in the warmth and charm of the Christmas season. More than 30 local farmers and artisans are expected to offer unique gifts, holiday decor, and seasonal treats.
» 4-7 p.m., 2 locations: 9 & 10 Church Street
» Info: www.sweetriverfarm.net

NASHUA: 52nd Annual Holly Day Fair
» Saturday, Dec. 5
» Browse more than 80 craft vendors, try your luck at the basket raffles and penny table, enjoy festive holiday music and much more
» 8 a.m. – 2 p.m., Bishop Guertin High School, 194 Lund Road
» Info: https://shorturl.at/qLpRL

LACONIA: The Machine Performs Pink Floyd
» Sunday, Dec. 6
» The Machine has forged a nearly 40-year reputation of extending the musical legacy of Pink Floyd. The New York-based quartet performs a diverse mix of The Floyd's extensive 15-album repertoire, complete with faithful renditions of popular hits as well as obscure gems.
» 7 p.m., Colonial Theatre of Laconia, 609 Main Street
» Cost: $79 / $68 / $57 / $46
» Info/tickets: 800-657-8774 / www.coloniallaconia.com

LACONIA: A Christmas Carol – The Musical Ghost Story
» Thursday, Dec. 10 – Sunday, Dec. 13
» This original adaptation by NH native Joel Mercier features a bright score, some twists and turns in the plot, stunning costumes, special effects, and some frightful ghosts, all while staying true to Dickens' original novella.
» @ Colonial Theatre of Laconia, 609 Main Street
» Cost: $24-$28.50
» Info/tickets: www.colonial-laconia.com

CONCORD: NH Audubon Holiday Craft Fair
» Dec. 11-13
» Join to celebrate the season, support local artisans, and contribute to NH Audubon's important work.
» 10 a.m. – 3 p.m., NH Audubon's McLane Center, 84 Silk Farm Road
» Info: 603-224-9909 / www.nhaudubon.org

ROCHESTER: 'A Christmas Carol'
» Dec. 11-23
» Ghosts of Christmas Past welcome. Bah humbugs tolerated.
» Show times vary
» @ Rochester Opera House, 31 Wakefield Street
» Cost: $36-$42
» Info/tickets: 603-335-1992 / www.rochesteroperahouse.org

NASHUA: MDES PTO Annual Holiday Fair
» Saturday, Dec. 12
» Features local crafters, baked goods, silent auctions, free children's activities, and a free photo opportunity with Santa
» 10 a.m. – 3 p.m., Main Dunstable Elementary School, 20 Whitford Road
» Info: https://shorturl.at/3YQ36

PORTSMOUTH: Play Readings for Grown-Ups Presents: Miracle on 34th Street
» Dec. 12 & Dec. 13
» In this heartwarming holiday classic, Kris Kringle, an old man in a retirement home, gets a job working as Santa for Macy's. Kris insists that he really is Santa Claus.
» Saturday at 4 p.m., Sunday at 2:30 and 4:30 p.m.
» @ New Hampshire Theatre Project, 100 First Street #3
» Cost: $17.90 per person
» Info/tickets: www.portsmouthnhtickets.com

LACONIA: Squirrel Nut Zippers Christmas Caravan
» Thursday, Dec. 17
» The Squirrel Nut Zippers return with a festive blend of vintage jazz, New Orleans swing, folk traditions, and holiday spirit to audiences nationwide.
» 7:30 p.m., Colonial Theatre of Laconia, 609 Main Street
» Cost: $55-$90
» Info/tickets: www.coloniallaconia.com



A costumed interpreter prepares a candlelit colonial-era dining room at Strawbery Banke Museum during its annual Candlelight Stroll, Dec. 4-20, in Portsmouth.

ROCHESTER: Bob Marley
» Dec. 29 & 31
» Maine's favorite comedian (and one of America's most uniquely sharp stand-up performers) is ringing in the New Year at the Rochester Opera House with not one but two nights of high-energy, laugh-out-loud comedy.
» Performance times: Tuesday at 5 p.m. and 8 p.m. and Thursday at 8 p.m.
» @ Rochester Opera House, 31 Wakefield Street
» Cost: $42.50 per person
» Info/tickets: rochesteroperahouse.com

MANCHESTER: Recycled Percussion
» Dec. 30 – Jan. 10
» The legendary New England drumming group will perform shows packed full of surprises and crowd favorites in an incredible turbo-charged performance.
» Performances on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays
» @ The Palace Theatre, 80 Hanover Street
» Cost: $44-$54 per person
» Info/tickets: 603-668-5588 / www.palacetheatre.org

PORTSMOUTH: The Ballad of Bob Dylan: The Lives and Music of America's Greatest Troubadour
» Friday, Jan. 15
» The singer-songwriter and his band perform Bob Dylan's songbook with deep musical insight.
» 8 p.m., Music Hall Lounge, 131 Congress Street
» Cost: $20-$30
» Info/tickets: 603-436-2400 / www.themusichall.org

MANCHESTER: 1964: The Tribute
» Sunday, Jan. 24
» This isn't just a concert; it's a cultural celebration that promises to resonate with both die-hard Beatles fans and curious newcomers alike.
» 7 p.m., Dana Center, Saint Anselm College, 100 Saint Anselm Drive
» Cost: $39.50 per person
» Info/tickets: 603-641-7700 / https://tickets.anselm.edu

PORTSMOUTH: An Evening with Henry Winkler & Marlee Matlin
» Friday, March 12
» Henry Winkler (The Fonz) and Marlee Matlin (CODA) explore overcoming adversity and believing in oneself.
» 7:30 p.m., The Music Hall, 28 Chestnut Street
» Cost: $69-$175
» Info/tickets: 603-436-2400 / www.themusichall.org

Register now for Snowmobile and OHRV Safety Classes

CONCORD — Winter is on its way, and free in-person Snowmobile Safety Education Classes are now being scheduled in the Granite State. To operate a snowmobile or off-highway recreational vehicle (OHRV) in New Hampshire, any person age 12 or older must have either a valid motor vehicle driver's license or have successfully completed an approved OHRV/Snowmobile Safety Education class. These classes are taught by instructors and staff trained by the New Hampshire Fish and Game Department. To learn more or to sign up for a class, visit www.wildlife.nh.gov/highway-recreational-vehicles-ohrv-and-snowmobiles/ohrv-and-snowmobile-safety-education. Please note, if you are planning on venturing over the border into Vermont and were born after July 1, 1983, you must complete a Snowmobile Safety Education Class before hitting the trails in our neighboring state.

OHRV/Snowmobile Safety Education classes can also be conveniently taken online. With recent changes to state laws, all online classes will include a combination of practical OHRV and snowmobile safety, and the rules that apply to all trail riders. The cost for the virtual class is $34.95.

"The online safety courses provide a convenient option for students to obtain their New Hampshire Rider Certificate, at their own pace, while learning key safety information important for riding both OHRVs and snowmobiles," said Captain Michael Eastman, OHRV/Snowmobile Education and Law Enforcement Coordinator for the New Hampshire Fish and Game Department. "The entire course can be taken on a smartphone, tablet, or computer and offers



a fun approach to learning by using live-action video and interactive learning modules."

To register for an online safety class, visit https://shorturl.at/oJfMs.

Even after course completion, all youth riders under the age of 14 must be accompanied by a licensed adult over the age of 18 when operating a snowmobile or OHRV, including on property belonging to their parents, grandparents, or guardians.

To further one's safety and rider etiquette knowledge, operators of all ages are invited to join one of the over 100 snowmobile and 26 OHRV clubs in New Hampshire. "Joining a club is a great way to learn about safe riding, help support local landowners, and help maintain trails for your own and others' enjoyment," Eastman said. For more information on how to become involved with a snowmobile club, visit www.nhsa.com. For OHRV club information, visit www.nhohva.org.

In addition to safety education, NH Fish and Game Conservation Officers will be out on the trails this winter conducting patrols to detect and apprehend impaired snowmobile operators, enforce speed limits, deter unlawful off-trail riding, and detect machines with modified exhausts. These ongoing initiatives will help to keep the state's snowmobile trails open and safe for all outdoor enthusiasts during the upcoming seasons.

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- Coffee
- Tea
- Juice
- Snack items
- Ramen noodles
- Cans of corn
- Cake Mixes
- Brownie Mix
- Tuna Fish
- Chicken in the can
- Rice
- Syrup
- Saltine crackers

*** They only can goods they need is corn, they have plenty of all other vegetables & soups

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1 Longview Dr Unit 106: Lewis Builders Dev Inc to Julie V. Turcketta, $625,066

1 Longview Dr Unit 3106: Lewis Builders Dev Inc to Julie V. Turcketta, $625,066

16 Sunset Dr: Amy Ziminski to Catherine and Edmund Sherman, $625,000

1 Guernsey Dr Unit 1: Michael A. and Diane M. Lambert to Cullen 2013 Ft and William J. Cullen, $725,000

4 Lonhvire Dr Unit 2401: Lewis Builders Dev Inc to Peter F. and Ann Lally, $1,146,333

4 Lonhvire Dr Unit 404: Lewis Builders Dev Inc to Peter F. and Ann Lally, $1,146,333

1 Meadow Ln: Ryan P. and Elizabeth C. Burke to Jenna Doucette and Nicholas Oliveira, $600,000

8 Scottsdale Rd: Christopher Jane F Est and James Blackadar to Brendan A. and Courtney P. Philippon, $535,000

1 Stonewall Ter: Jean C. Sanders to Elizabeth and Ryan P. Burke, $400,000

3 Crystal Hall Rd: Robin Lemire to Michele Christian, $600,000

26 Hawthorne Dr: Jeffrey Bee to Brenda and Pamela J. Rosa-Brooks, $675,000

1 Longview Dr Unit 205: Lewis Builders Dev Inc to Susan Hennessey-Power, $723,000

1 Longview Dr Unit 3205: Lewis Builders Dev Inc to Susan Hennessey-Power, $723,000

14 Pine Knoll Dr: Pine Knoll Rt and John H. Bradshaw to Tami J. Recesso and Michael E. Coviello, $585,000

Rock Dr: Peggy L Whitney Ret and Peggy L. Whitney to Francis J Hyatt Lt and Francis J. Hyatt, $1,308,200

1 Longview Dr Unit 106: Lewis Builders Dev Inc to Julie V. Turcketta, $625,066

1 Longview Dr Unit 3106: Lewis Builders Dev Inc to Julie V. Turcketta, $625,066

16 Sunset Dr: Amy Ziminski to Catherine and Edmund Sherman, $625,000

4 Longview Dr Unit 2404: Lewis Builders Dev Inc to Mcclelland Ft and Roger Clark Mcclelland, $1,131,400

Big Island Pond: Brian Orlando to James Drennan and Catherine A. Lowell, $575,000

18 Westside Dr: Curtis O. and Paula Zagorski to Justin Thomas Orzeck, $650,000

1 Longview Dr Unit 103: Lewis Builders Dev Inc to Carri Ann Cole Lt and Carrie Ann Cole, $616,000

34 Steeple View Dr Unit 34: Teri Deyoung and Steven L. Malloy to Roberta Sullivan and Francesca Rouff, $794,000

DANVILLE

15 Emerald Dr: Paul E. and Cheryl B. De Shaw to Andrew Arizzi and Willa Rosenburgh, $810,000

Hampstead Rd: Emmc Rt and Bradford H. Clough to Carmelina and Christian Lauri Huvila, $617,000

72 Cheney Ln Unit B: Marsha Lynn Pursch to Eileen Hutchinson, $439,933

Danville Unit C: Freeman Joseph Est and Kathryn Huey to Greg Mcphee, $405,000

EAST KINGSTON

29 Cove Rd: Carolan Harley Est and Todd W. Stevens to Blake Bennett and Riley Newell, $370,000

Greystone Rd: Scrafford Ft and Jennifer Scrafford to Estey Ft and Stuart W. Estey, $575,000

N/A: Edward R. Stempien and Tanya Smerdon to Lamoly Ret and Anthony Lamoly, $450,000

HAMPSTEAD

40 Geisser Rd: Howard Jeffrey Lythe Ret and Marilyn Lyhte to Justin Burnham and Charles George, $460,000

7 Beach Rd: Clifford Ramunto to John F. and Donna Jean Koskela, $765,000

E Main St: Thomas E. Kloack to Michelli F. and Daniel Getchell, $599,000

46 Harper Ridge Rd: Robert F. and Regina Brady to Michael R. Bortone, $595,000

210 Kent Farm Rd: Murat and Zakia Arabaci to Paige and Timothy Johnston, $515,000

3 Labrador Ln: Vandette Ft and Joseph M. Vandette to Wendy L. Lobel and Stephen Bonsignore-Berry, $1,050,000

24 Linden Dr: Roy and Diana C. Wimbish to Joanne Louise Burton, $560,000

87 Pillgrim Cir: Wayne Daniel Brooks and Michael Wayne Mandell to Steven and Jessica Petruzello, $790,000

Randall Ln: Bortone Joint Ret and Denise J. Bortone to Carl F. and Cornelia A. Townsend, $920,000

Route Unit 121A: Thomas E. Kloack to Michelli F. and Daniel Getchell, $599,000

37 Indian Ridge Rd: Morris Ft and David Morris to John R. and Katherine Zolubos, $640,000

40 Geisser Rd: Howard Jeffrey Lythe Ret and Marilyn Lyhte to Justin Burnham and Charles George, $460,000

135 Main St: Dirt Rds Lead To Fun Ret and Miles Hayes Waniga to Timothy D. and Corie A. Thistle, $765,000

40 Starwood Dr: J & Barbara Fernandez Ret and Barbara J. Fernandez to Matthew Garrett Wood and Thais Fabrini-Wood, $550,000

50 Munroe Dr: Sheila K Nolan Ret and Sheila K. Nolan to Adriana M. and Alan Nicholas Painten, $738,000

11 Tabor Rd: Robert William and Jenna Ballou to Patrick and Bridget Mcquown, $594,933

7 Cameron Ct Unit 3B: Depot Rd Development LLC to Michael and Elizabeth E. Schedler, $555,000

55 Mills Shore Rd: Eli & Bessie Cohen Fndtn Cam to David Reynolds, $250,000

KINGSTON

17 North Rd: Eulalie Allen Ret and Lorraine Lee Allen to Adrienne and Michael Scott Smith, $532,000

41 Newton Junction Rd: Jennifer T. Paradis to Devin and Marina Houde, $600,000

Nh Route 111: Judith Afinerty Ret and Gary T. Finerty to Jessica and Robert Del Rosso, $740,000

9 Bluebird Ln: Kent Irt and Frank G. Manor to Whitney and Kyle Menter, $520,000

36 Exeter Rd: Jason Bastien to Nh Home Buyers LLC, $419,800

Granite Flds Unit C: Glenn C. and Sharon A. Boutchie to Matthew and Christine Dagostino, $656,000

Route 125: Joseph Wilson to C & H Properties LLC, $145,000

17 North Rd: Eulalie Allen Ret and Lorraine Lee Allen to Adrienne and Michael Scott Smith, $532,000

73 Danville Rd: Kelli Twiss to Iam Torres and Shannon Torres Ortiz, $430,000

Bernaby Ave: Pothier Robert Est and Zachary Goumas to Roberta Lynn Blackler, $150,000

5 Pillsbury Pasture Rd: Edward E. Krukonis to Kevin E. and Ryan Keith Danahy, $660,000

NEWTON

2 Hadley Rd: Giberson Marguerite A Est and Donald J. Giberson to James and Diane Brindle, $340,000

134 S Main St: James E. and Laurel A. Castille to Justin Andrew Backe, $483,500

N/A: Therese S. Jervey to Beth A. and Darryl E. Washington, $850,000

40 Bear Hill Rd: Craven Greta Pauline Est and Jennifer L. Soule to Robert B. and Heidi Baldini, $680,000

33 White Cedar Way: Lemon Kestrel LLC to Matthew D. and Amanda Archambault, $1,177,933

11 Jacobs Way Unit 11: Patricia N Mcgiance Ret and Patricia Mcguane to John A. and Theresa B. Hodge, $450,000

8 Kenwood Dr: Michael and Melanie L. Richardson to Timothy L. and Julie Early, $640,000

71 Pond St: Daryl L. and Grace Ruelle to Maxwell S. Goudreau and Kristen Nowick, $700,000

N/A: Paula Rogers Belknap to John and Michelle Regan, $511,733

PLAISTOW

28 Chandler Ave Unit 1: Krista Kane to Marcus Cutrona, $299,000

15 Culvin St: Anne E. Thibodeau to Anthony Forgione and Victoria Fagundes, $375,733

Old Danville Rd Unit 11: Williamson & Schumaci Ret and Donald Williamson to Blake Anthony Z. Harvey, $267,533



5 Hilltop Rd: Russell G. and Wendy C. Cole to Yao Ma and Guang Yang, $686,666

11 Maple Ave: Donald N Senter Ret and Karen A. Blodgett to Lissa Leger, $275,000

51 Newton Rd: Lebel Trust 2021 and Ralph J. Lebel to Powerhouse Rt and Michael W. Burke, $62,533

11 Sunrise Ter: Nancy A. Sabin to Joseph Ronald Lavoie, $445,000

51 Plaistow Rd: John N Valhouli Rt and Georgia Valhouli to 51 Plaistow Rt and Padmashri Patel, $1,100,000

28 Chandler Ave Unit 1: Krista Kane to Marcus Cutrona, $299,000

15 Culvin St: Anne E. Thibodeau to Anthony Forgione and Victoria Fagundes, $375,733

Old Danville Rd Unit 11: Williamson & Schumaci Ret and Donald Williamson to Blake Anthony Z. Harvey, $267,533

138 Newton Rd: Travis Clint and Meghann Morgan to Joshua Satrape, $377,000

North Ave: Alan N. and Adriana Painten to Joyce A Daggett Ret and Joyce A. Daggett, $560,000

160 Plaistow Rd: Ppw Rt and Peter Dejager to Plaistow Commons Rlty LLC, $4,685,066

37 Sweet Hill Rd: Peter B. and Maureen A. Taylor to Jessica N. Moreto and Roberta L. Hanna, $680,000

N/A: Paradis Elwood K Jr Ret and Kathy L. Mayo to Alexander Daniel Pasquale, $430,000

13 East Rd: Kristen Nowick to Michael Chavis, $476,000

217 Oak Ridge Rd: Bess Gorman and Irene Beikoussis to Jack Spencer, $572,000

3 Stanwood Ave: Bradley Marcell and Amy Mackenzie to Kayleigh Brammer and Jared Gordon, $525,000

8 Evergreen Dr: Robert and Amy Serino to Jessica L. Giguere, $949,933

9 Horizon Way: Julio A. Martinez to John Beck Faggiano and Alissa Ellen Geyer, $795,000

SANDOWN

83 Lantern Dr: Hampshire Ventures Inc to Kristan M. and Keith A. Leggett, $726,400

7 Wingate Rd: Richard L. and Lynne A. Allen to Vincent Rusche and Bridget Shine-Rusche, $679,000

73 Driftwood Cir Unit 73: Ferguson Lane Dev LLC to Cynthia and Harold Favreau, $639,933

Lakeview Ave: Tyler and Sara Burgess to Kyle Doyon and Cody Landry, $450,000

3 Maple Grove Rd Unit 7: Autumn Hills Dev LLC to Kevin R. and Cathleen Hefferan, $674,933

97 Royal Range Rd: Michelle Vaira and Jason Loder to Jason M. Hubeny, $840,000

The Dox Unit C: Nora K. Lamson to Shawn and Claire Donovan, $660,000

26 Brian St: Alicia and Tyler ONeil to Kathryn Rose Cordner, $485,000

92 Lantern Dr: Hampshire Ventures Inc to Gabriel A. Salinas and Shannon Lynn King, $755,200

83 Lantern Dr: Hampshire Ventures Inc to Kristan M. and Keith A. Leggett, $726,400

7 Wingate Rd: Richard L. and Lynne A. Allen to Vincent Rusche and Bridget Shine-Rusche, $679,000

Birch Dr: Joshua Satrape to Stacy and Peter Bezanson, $655,000

9 Dee Dee Dr: Scott and Rachael Crandall to Garrett L. and Lauren L. Smith, $520,000

34 Hemlock Cir: Patrick Hammond to Laura Elizabeth and Christopher R. Sheehy, $397,133

ODell Rd: Brittany J. and Kevin P. Deshaw to Christopher Tucker, $592,000

Angle Pond: Andrea J. Bedard to Julie E. and Benjamin D. Fernandes, $670,000

N.H. Home Prices Rise for 81st Straight Month as Inventory Improves

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Despite signs of a moderating housing market, New Hampshire's median single-family home price has now increased on a year-over-year basis for 81 consecutive months, underscoring the state's persistent housing demand and long-standing supply challenges.

The median sales price of a single-family home reached $543,223 in October, a 1.5 percent increase from October 2025. Through the first 10 months of 2026, the median sales price was $560,000, up 3.7 percent from the same period last year.

Meanwhile, the number of single-family homes available for sale continued to improve. There were 3,035 homes on the market at the end of October, an 18.6 percent increase from a year earlier. Closed sales declined slightly, falling 1.1 percent to 1,254 transactions.

"There's typically some slowing in the housing market during the fall, and this year has been no exception," said Josh Greenwald, 2026 President of the New Hampshire Association of Realtors (NHAR). "Home prices continue to edge upward, but October also brought declines in closed sales, new listings and pending sales. One month doesn't make a trend, and we'll need to see several months of data before concluding that the market is experiencing a more sustained slowdown."

October's figures also revealed some potential signs of moderating demand. Pending single-family sales, which can serve as an early indicator of future closed sales, declined 4.2 percent from a year earlier, while new listings fell 8.6 percent. Throughout 2026, changes in pending sales have generally been followed by similar changes in closed sales in subsequent months, making the recent decline worth watching.

Across all residential property types, including single-family homes, condominiums and manufactured housing, October sales totaled approximately $1.06 billion, a 2.4 percent decline from October 2025. The decrease followed an extended period of year-over-year growth in residential sales volume.

Despite these signs of moderation, the market remains firmly tilted toward sellers. Single-family homes spent an average of 32 days on the market in October, unchanged from a year earlier. The months' supply of available homes stood at 2.8 months, up from 2.5 months last October but still well below the approximately six months generally associated with a balanced market.

"While there are some encouraging signs for buyers, we need to keep these numbers in perspective," Greenwald said. "We still have less than half the number of homes available for sale than we did a decade ago. That persistent shortage continues to put upward pressure on prices, even as inventory gradually improves."

Housing affordability remains one of New Hampshire's most significant challenges. NHAR's Housing Affordability Index for single-family homes stood at 53 in October, down from 59 a year earlier. The index measures whether a household earning the median income can qualify to purchase a median-priced home under prevailing financing conditions. An index of 100 represents the threshold at which the median household income is sufficient to qualify.

"New Hampshire's housing affordability remains near historic lows, and that has real consequences for young families, first-time homebuyers and working households," Greenwald said. "Policymakers at both the state and local levels need to continue pursuing solutions that allow more housing to be built by addressing many of the regulatory barriers that contribute to our housing shortage."





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Tom Kha Soup



Drunken Noodles with Shrimp



Green Curry with Crisp Duck



Fresh Rolls

