

The Merrimack Valley Voice

Serving Boscawen, Penacook, Salisbury and Webster

February 1, 2010

Complimentary

Volume 2 Issue 2

Ready To Lend A Helping Hand

"There is a wonderful, mythical law of nature that the three things we crave most in life—happiness, freedom, and peace of mind—are always attained by giving them to someone else."
(Peyton Conway March)

One of the best things about living in New Hampshire is the "what can we do to help" attitude that comes out when one of our friends or neighbors experiences a difficult time.

That attitude has been so evident during the past year of failing economy and job loss as time and again; local charities have asked for and received community support as they strive to meet an unprecedented number of requests for help. There are several local agencies that provide assistance in the form of clothing, food, personal items as well as Thanksgiving and Christmas baskets and gifts.

Estimates vary, but there are approximately 300 known homeless people in the Concord Area. There are 2 cold weather shelters in this area that can handle 50 - 60 of those that sleep outside. That number, however, does not include those individuals who live in their vehicles or "couch surfers" so the exact number is unknown. The number of those who struggle to meet the basic needs of daily life could number in the thousands. Thankfully there are a number of local and state agencies as well as other non-profit groups that reach out to help these neighbors in need.

Friends of Forgotten Children is located at 224 Bog Road, Concord. This local community

organization, whose motto is "Where we remember everyone is someone's child", operates the largest food pantry in Concord, maintains a clothing room, provides Thanksgiving boxes, Christmas gifts and back to school supplies to needy families. The group provided gifts to 450 kids and 70 seniors last year alone.

The registration process, which takes approximately 30 minutes to complete, does have qualification guidelines similar to those of state agencies. Applicants must provide proof of income as well as a social security card for each person residing in the home. Upon acceptance into the program, recipients are given a week's supply of food for everyone in the family. The clothing room is also available providing gently used clothing and shoes.

The organization provides a community meal every other Saturday from 12-1 pm. This regular event (which started January 23rd) provides an opportunity for families and individuals to share in a "home cooked" meal in addition to providing a time of fellowship with members of the community. There is no charge for the meal and is open to everyone in need.

Donations of food, new or gently used clothing and shoes as well as back to school supplies are always needed as are cash donations. Cash helps to offset the overhead costs like electricity, water and heat. The group is non-profit so all donations are

Continued on Page 2

Congratulations Mr. Jette N.H. Secondary Principal of the Year!



Principal Michael Jette accepts his award for Principal of the Year from Governor John Lynch. Starting directly out of college in 1991 Mr. Jette taught Chemistry and Physics for ten years before taking over as Vice Principal for the next three. Now in his sixth year as Principal we look forward to him leading the school into the next decade.

Visit Our New Web Site
www.merrimackvalleyvoice.com

Continued from Page 1

tax deductible. Volunteers are also vital in their efforts to continue providing this outreach to the community.

Reach 4 Hope, a local organization formed in 2005, ministers to the homeless as well as those in need on the streets of Concord. The group also works with other agencies including Friends of Forgotten Children, Care Net Pregnancy, McKenna House and the Friendly Kitchen. The group operates an outreach van (which was donated) on Saturday mornings from 8:30 - 9:30 a.m. next to the Friendly Kitchen. Each week, there is a short devotional and prayer meeting followed by the group distributing bags containing basic personal hygiene items (things you would need upon waking) as well as underwear, blankets and socks. Breakfast is served at the Friendly Kitchen. There is some concern about whether the van will pass

inspection this year and the organization is seeking donations to purchase a box truck at an approximate cost of \$8,000.00. If the group could get 800 people to donate \$10.00 the cost would be covered. The group is non-profit so all donations are tax deductible. Corporate sponsors are truly welcomed to help provide the breakfasts at a cost of \$100.00 per month. Other donations needed are underwear, socks, blankets, tents, toothpaste, toothbrushes, soap, shaving cream, etc. Please see their website, www.reach4hope.org for a complete list of needed items or to find out more information about how to help. Due to a lack of storage space, the group is unable to accept clothing donations but Rise Again Outreach, a ministry of New Beginnings Nazarene Church in Loudon, meets with Reach 4 Hope on the fourth Saturday of each month to hand out clothes, non-perishable food items,

Bibles and shoes. They will accept donations of gently used clothing and shoes and may be reached at 800-266-5017 for more information or visit their website at www.riseagainoutreach.org.

Following is a non-inclusive list of local places where various forms of help is available to those in need.

Church Food Pantries:

United Church of Penacook
East St. & Community Dr.
Tuesday mornings 9:30-11:30

West Congregational Church
499 North State Street
Concord
Friday morning - 11-1
2nd & 4th Thursday 5-7

Immaculate Conception
9 Bonney Street
Penacook
Tuesday/Wednesday
Evenings 6-7
Thursday/Saturday
Mornings 9-10
Anytime by appointment

Soup Kitchens:

United Church of Penacook
Monday, Wednesday and Friday
4:30-5:30 p.m.

Sovereign Grace
235 High Street, Boscawen
Every third Saturday at 4:30 p.m.

Other agencies that provide help include Community Action Program Belknap-Merrimack Counties, Inc. which provides services that include helping with local, county and state agencies as well as other social services. They strive to bring as many resources as possible to provide comprehensive services to the communities. Energy/Utility, Housing and Homelessness, Children and Families, Nutrition/Hunger Prevention/Health, Transportation, Information and Referral Services, the list goes on. For more information call 225-6800 or visit their web site www.bm-cap.org for a complete list

The common thread that runs through all of these organizations is they are judgment free and want people to know that there is no embarrassment in asking for help. For a more comprehensive list of places providing help to those who need a helping hand, go to our website, www.merrimackvalleyvoice.com. If we missed your organization or you know of one that needs to be added please contact us here at the Voice and we will add it to our soon to be growing list.

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Albert Einstein

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**E-Mail: infotheloganboys@comcast.net
www.theloganboys.com**

Salisbury Police Blotter

From The Desk Of Chief Frank Jones

Salisbury Resident Arrested for Prowling

A joint investigation by the Salisbury and Concord Police Departments has resulted in the arrest of Lisa J. Brown, age 34, of 296 Old Turnpike Road, 2nd floor, Salisbury, NH. Based upon a warrant issued by the Concord District Court, Brown was arrested on January 28th for a complaint alleging that she "knowingly appeared at a time and place under circumstances that warranted concern for the safety of persons or property in the vicinity, in that the defendant (Brown) was trying to open locked car doors and was looking into vehicles with no legitimate purpose".

Chief Frank E. Jones of the Salisbury Police Department pointed to concerns by the public relative to personal possessions being stolen from vehicles throughout southern New Hampshire. There have also been many recent thefts of vehicle catalytic converters, although not in Salisbury. Chief Jones has asked that "Salisbury residents be extra vigilant and to lock their vehicles when not in them to avoid becoming a victim of a crime". Town residents are reminded that given the state of the poor economy, theft of property is a popular means of income for certain offenders. Residents are also urged to contact the police for any suspicious activity, and that the Concord Regional Crimeline Program, of which the Town of Salisbury is a participating agency, can be reached by calling 226-3100. The allegations against Brown were for activity discovered by the Concord Police Department. Brown was processed and subsequently released on bail pending a violation hearing in District Court.

December Statistics

Abandoned 911:	0
Alarms:	1
Animal Involved Incidents:	3
Arrests:	1
Assaults:	0
Assist Fire/Rescue/EMS:	1
Assist Other Agency:	2
Bad Checks:	1
Burglary:	1
Civil Matter:	1

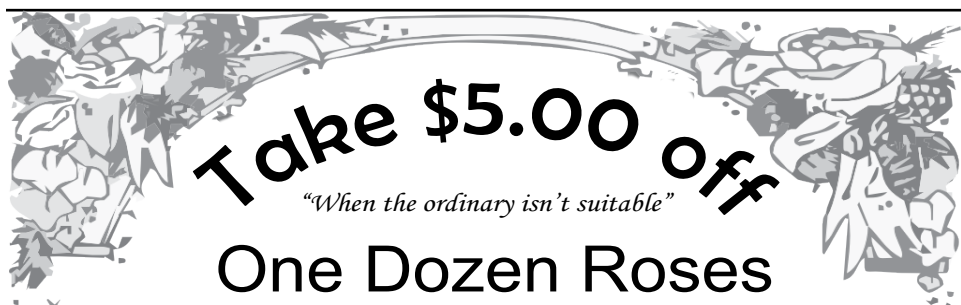
Civil Stand-By:	0
Criminal Mischief:	0
Criminal Trespass:	0
Domestic Disturbances:	0
Fingerprinting:	0
Harassing Telephone Calls:	1
Illegal Dumping/Littering:	0
Juvenile Complaints:	0
Lost/Stolen/Recovered Property:	0
Motor Vehicle Accidents (with or without injury):	1
Motor Vehicle Complaints:	2
Motor Vehicle Warnings/Summons':	14
Other/Miscellaneous:	4
OHRV Complaints:	0
Pistol Permits Issued:	3
Paperwork Service:	1
Restraining Orders/DVO	0
Sex Offender Registrations:	1
Suspicious Persons/Vehicles:	0
Theft(s):	2
Untimely/Unattended Death(s):	0
VIN Verifications:	0
Welfare Check:	2

MVHS Fans & Alumni One Night Only Event!

Friday Night, February 14th at
Merrimack Valley High School.

Come see the teams of two
former Indian players meet. For
the first time in 20 years since
they played together Coach
Matt Alosa brings
Pembroke Academy's Spartans
to play the MV Indians (Pride)
led by Assistant Coach Scott
Drapeau.

Doors open at 6:00 P.M.
Game starts at 6:30 P.M.



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Horsing Around by Tina Derby

Corissa Fortune, of Webster, is a longtime horse rider, having started on horses at her mother's Riverfare Farms, LLC, when she was just a baby. Corissa is a winning show rider, as well as an active volunteer in the equine community. Most recently, Corissa was elected to act as vice president of the NHQHYA, the NH Quarter Horse Association's Youth Association

The NHQHYA, as it is known, is a committee that operates under the guidance of the New Hampshire Quarter Horse Association. Fun and education are the two big focuses of the NHQHYA. Members of the NHQHYA can participate in a variety of activities, including paint ball day, movie day, trail rides, test rides, horse shows, ranch shows, educational clinics, and more. Some NHQHYA members have even been able to travel to Amarillo, Tex., to participate in AQHA events and seminars.

Recently Corissa sat down with me to talk about the NHQHYA, horses, and her plans for the future:

Tina: So, Corissa, first, please tell me about the NHQHYA. Who can join that group?

Corissa: Well, first of all, you don't need to own a horse to become a member. The group

is open to anyone under the age of 18 who loves horses! In 2009, there were around 80 NHQHYA members, and it is expected that this number will remain about the same or maybe even be a little higher in 2010. The current cost for joining the NHQHYA is \$15 and membership forms can be obtained from the NHQHA website at www.NHQHA.com.

Tina: Excellent. Now, what about adults? They can't join the NHQHYA, since that's for kids, but can they join the main group, the NHQHA?

Corissa: Of course adults can be part of the NHQHA. Adult membership in the NHQHA is open to anyone age 18 and over who loves horses, and offers the opportunities for adults to participate in NHQHA activities, events, and prize programs, including horse shows, trail rides, educational events, and more. So, like the NHQHYA, you don't have to own a horse to be part of the association.

Tina: The NHQHA and NHQHYA are going to exhibit at the Farm and Forest expo this February, right?

Corissa: Yes, attendees at the 2010 Farm and Forest Expo, which is in Manchester, NH, will be able to meet with representatives of both the NHQHA, as

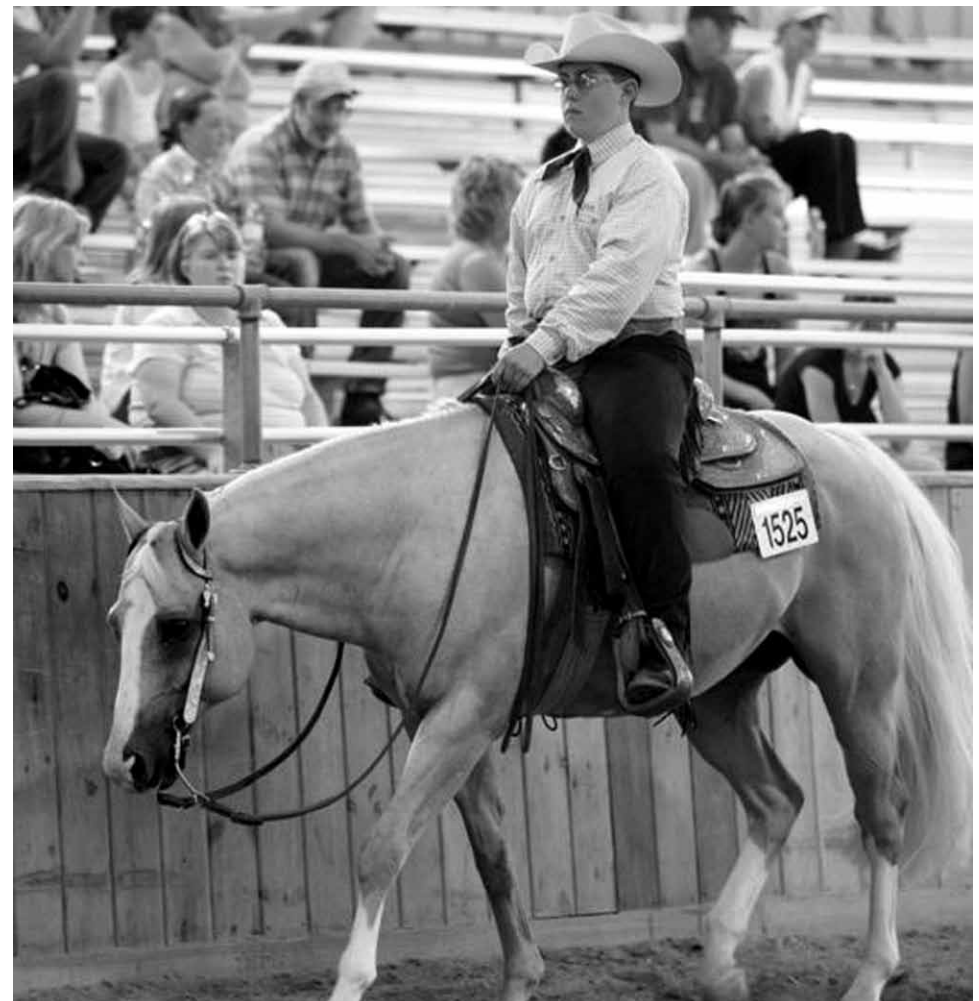
the NHQHA. There will be lots of information at the booth, as well. In fact, people can even stop by and ask basic horse questions. Everyone there is pretty friendly, so people should feel free to just stop by and say hi. Oh, and for those who don't know about the Farm and Forest expo, more information on that is at their website, www.nhfarmandforestexpo.org.

Tina: Beautiful. So, now, Corissa, tell me what you think the most fun things are about being part of the NHQHYA. Corissa: Well, I guess that one of the most fun parts of the NHQHYA is being able to meet new people. Also, I like that I get to be part of the intro-

duction of the horse world to kids that have not been able to see a horse or be able to have a horse part of their lives. Also, I like going to volunteer services projects and seeing the kids who see that someone is here to help them and someone who wants them to be part of the horse world. Everyone needs there fun why not make that with horses.

Tina: Beautifully said, Corissa! Thanks so much for taking time from your very, very busy day to work on this article with me! And, once again, folks can get more info on the NHQHYA where?

Corissa: At the NHQHA website, www.NHQHA.com.



NHQHYA member DJ Eastman showing his Quarter Horse

Public Notice

The Webster Selectmen will hold a Public Hearing at 7:00 P.M. on Tuesday, February 9, 2010 at 945 Battle St., Webster, to discuss the Town Warrant and Budget for 2010 pursuant to RSA 32:5, I and V and to receive public comments.

Event Listings

On February 1st at 7 PM the Climate Change Discussion Group is meeting.

On February 13th at 10:30 AM the Libertarian Party of NH is having an Executive Council meeting that is open to anyone.

On February 16th at 7 PM the Merrimack Valley 9/11 Truth group is meeting to screen a movie.

On February 20th at 1 PM Princess Party. Princesses ages 4-6 are invited to wear their favorite princess costume and participate in games, crafts, and story time.

On February 25th at 7 PM the Liberty Book Club is discussing "Melt-down" by Tom Woods.

All of these events are free and occur at:

Liberty Books & Comics

75 Allison

Concord 03301

603-223-0335

Join us on Wednesday 02/03/2010 at 6:30pm for Dr. Sam's annual one hour workshop on Fibromyalgia. If you or anyone you know suffers from chronic fatigue syndrome or fibromyalgia you CAN'T miss this workshop! Space is limited and the deadline to sign up is Monday 02/01/2010. Call 1-888-320-BACK or email marketing@infinitehealth.biz to sign up. As always, friends and family are welcome to attend with you. Cost of workshop and workbook is \$5.00 per person.

Contact Information: Duska Lawler

Infinite Health Family Chiropractic

1 Fisher Avenue ~ Boscawen, NH 03303

Office:603-753-4455 ext. 223

marketing@infinitehealth.biz

www.InfiniteHealth.biz

Tuesday, February 9 and February 23 - Boscawen Area Business Partners meeting at Infinite Health Care 8:30 A.M. - 10:00 A.M.

Saturday, February 13th - 9:00 A.M. Penacook Village Association Meeting - Rolfe House - www.penacook.org

Friday, February 19th - Penacook Community Center (PCC) - Dance, 5th - 8th grade - www.penacookcommunitycenter.org.

Saturday, February 20th - Day Janeiro - American Legion Post 31 - 8:00 P.M. to Midnite - \$5.00 per person, must be a member or guest



UNIVERSITY of NEW HAMPSHIRE NEWS

COOPERATIVE EXTENSION

The **4th NH Statewide Grazing Conference, "Grazing Greener Pastures"** will be held at Southern NH University- March 6, 2010 – 8 AM – 4 PM. This conference will focus on pasture management, creating a grazing plan and building soils to increase herd health.

To register on line go to:

http://www.events.unh.edu/RegistrationForm.pm?event_id=6502

or, for more information call or e mail:

Mary West, mary.west@unh.edu or Dot Perkins, Dorothy.perkins@unh.edu UNH Cooperative Extension, Merrimack County, 603-796-2151.

This event is brought to you by the Granite State Graziers, the USDA-NRCS, UNH Cooperative Extension, and the North Country RC&D Council.

UNH Cooperative Extension programs and policies are consistent with pertinent Federal and State laws and regulations on non-discrimination regarding age, color, handicap, national origin, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, or veterans status.



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Merrimack Valley High School News

Congratulations to Dr. Jette for being selected as the NH Secondary Principal of the Year!!!!

Lockdown: On (1/22/10), we hosted four K-9 units from the NH State Police for a search of our school. The dogs and officers worked with our administrators, teachers and school resource officer to check lockers and several randomly selected classrooms. Individual students, staff members, and visitors did not interact with the officers or dogs. While the K-9 units were in the halls, the school was in a modified lockdown: teachers conducted classes but nobody was allowed to leave individual rooms. We are pleased to report that we not find any illegal substances in the school. While this is not a practice we conduct lightly, it is one part of how we keep our school community safe and secure for everyone. Please note that the officers have been invited back in the future.

Attendance News: If your student is going to be absent from, or tardy to, school please call the main office (753-4311) by 8:30AM and let us know. If you want to dismiss your student from school you can either send him/her to school with a note, fax a note (753-6423) or come in and sign him/her out. If you want your student to take a different bus home from school it is mandatory that we have a note saying you give your permission for him/her to take the different bus. Please indicate on the note the destination your student can go to.

Ninth Grade Academy News: Ray Bailey and Sandy Constant, ninth grade teachers at MVHS, will be available three nights in February for meetings at three different district locations. Parents who would like information, or have concerns about the transition into the ninth grade or about their student(s) currently in the ninth grade should attend one of these meetings.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Time</u>
Feb. 2	Salisbury Elem.	5:30-7:00
Feb. 9	Penacook Elem.	5:30-7:00
Feb. 16	Loudon Elem.	5:30-7:00

Music Department News: ~ Submitted by Mr. Burns, Music Teacher

1. February 4-6: NH Jazz All-State Music Festival. Congratulations to Zach Blanchard for participating!
2. Thursday March 11th: Grades 6-12 Choral Concert, 7:00 p.m. in the MVHS Auditorium
3. Thursday March 18th: Grades 6-12 Instrumental Concert, 7:00 p.m. in the MVHS Auditorium
4. April 8-10: NH All-State Music Festival, Congratulations to our MV participants: Brett Branscombe, Sam Magee, Abigail Blake, Becca Hashem and Merike Youngs!

Students of the Month: Congratulations to the December/January students of the month; Emily Reagan and Amanda Baird. Congratulations to all students who were nominated; Matt Davies, Kevin Latham, Elizabeth Daneault, Jessica Clifford, Maggie Plante, Zach Bouffard, Bryan Briggs, Tess Presby, Curtis Blodgett, Stephanie Walsh, Michael Leite, Faith Bouchard, Cara Pratt, Shelby Hamel, Jordan Fillion, Molly Mullen, David Petrangelo, Dustin Brett, David West, MacKenzie Duquette, Jessica Clifford, Mariah Lansdown, Jake Kimball, Dan Nieman, Logan Osgood, Sadie Blouin, Tim Grover, Hannah Dziezanowski, Matt Remillard, Angela Fedion, Haley Wilson, Nate Charity, Emily Laro, Anna Swenson, Bridget Tevnan. ~ Submitted by Ms. Corrow (NHS advisor)

Math Team News: The MV Math Team at December's home meet did quite well (placing 4th out of 10 schools in the Senior Division: Large School) in spite of the most rigorous problems they had yet to tackle. Perfect scores were attained by Peter Bultman and Amanda Bullock. Also, Brett Branscombe along with Morgan Matthews not only earned perfect scores, but they also shared the team high scoring honors. Nice job team, MV takes pride in your many accomplishments! ~ Submitted by Mr. Hallahan (Math Team advisor) Greetings from MVHS Guidance! We are excited to begin a new semester and all the possibilities and opportunities that a new semester provides for our students.

- Seniors- Reminder to check college application deadlines as well as financial aid deadlines. If you have not done so, you need to file your FAFSA to be eligible for student financial aid. Go to www.fafsa.ed.gov! Also- Don't forget to periodically check the school website for scholarship opportunities! Also check out fastweb.com, schoolsoup.com, and nh93.com.
- Juniors- You are advised to think ahead about your plans for after high school. You should arrive at the start of your senior year with an idea of what you want to study in college and some preliminary schools where you might apply. You should

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also plan your senior courses based on the type of school and program you wish to pursue after high school. Remember most four year colleges want to see B's or better in college preparatory classes, 2-3 years of foreign language, 3 or more years of lab science, Algebra II or higher in math. See your guidance counselor to discuss your plans and get some guidance! If you have struggled to earn good grades or you have not taken college preparatory classes, please remember, there is a path for each student to further his or her education after high school. There is no one road for all students. Whether it's a four or two-year program, certificate program, apprenticeship, etc, there are opportunities for all!

- Also a reminder for juniors that the ASVAB will be given soon. You will have an overview of the program and an opportunity to sign up if interested. ASVAB stands for Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery and is a career exploration test with a career guidance follow up activity that will help you gain insight into which careers you are likely to enjoy and be successful in.

Upcoming Events:

February 19: Mid-Term Term 3

February 22-26: Winter Vacation

March 4: Annual School District meeting, MVHS - 7:00 PM

March 5: Red Cross Blood Drive (N.B. Changed date from 3/19!)

March 15-19: Winter Carnival Week Activities

March 20: Winter Carnival Dance (Semi Formal) - 7:00 – 10:00 PM

March 29: Senior Project Community Evening - 5:30 - 8:30 PM
(This is a required night for all seniors...Request it off from work!)


March 31: Senior Project Daytime Presentation - Blocks 1 & 2
(No Voc this day for Juniors & Seniors)

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Merrimack Valley Middle School News

Sent in by Marla Miller

On December 16th, 7th grader Scott Schoffield was the winner of the MVMS Geography Bee second place went to 6th grader Harrison Worster. Congratulations to the winners and all the final round contestants.

6th graders are going to Squam Lakes Science Center for a Winter Exploration and Animals in Winter Program. Students are inside for a portion of the day and outside on snowshoes for the other portion.

Johnathin Bailey has been accepted into the Middle Level Honors Band. This is an auditioned ensemble made up of 7th & 8th grade students from across the state of New Hampshire. Johnathin receive the third highest clarinet score out of all of the clarinet players who auditioned. He will play in the Honors Band in a concert on March 19th at the Manchester Memorial High School.

PTO has been working with MVMS on the Safe Routes to School Initiative to help improve the student's safety while walking to school, as well as helping to improve their overall health by promoting walking instead of being driven to and from school or taking the bus. PTO will be coordinating events to help promote community and family awareness. Contact Pat Severance for meeting dates and times.

MVMS students collected 591 pounds in food for the NH Food Bank. That will feed 449 people. In addition to the can food drive we have raised almost \$60 for the NH Food Bank from the Pie a Principal contest.

Library: Mrs. Sprague is piloting a new program at the MVMS Library called Book Buddies: A Reading Club for Kids and Adults for students in grades six and seven. This program is designed to get children and adults reading and talking about books. Book Buddies will begin in January with an informational meeting followed by three monthly evening meetings in February, March and April. For information and the sign-up form please check the library website, stop by the library or contact Mrs. Sprague.

The following students will be inducted into the National Junior Honor Society in January, Sydney Rollins, Logan Kenney, Cassidy Huckins, Danny Dockham, Alexandra Singh, Charlie Wright, Andrew Smith, Emily Masse Christian Chandler, Haley Puntin These new members will be joining current members Meghan Booker, Sarah Cowen, Lily Davis, Megan Elkins, Brittany Fisher, Mikayla Godfrey, Autumn Hoyt, Hannah John, Brooks Kimball, Haley Parent, Andrew Peick and Olivia Thurber.

Team 8A held their first town meeting of the year, the moderators were Brendan Polichronopoulos and Meghan Booker. Both did an outstanding job, and should be commended for their leadership and public speaking. At the town meeting each teacher honored one student as their "Student of the Quarter". Recipients of this distinction include Meghan Booker, Brooks Kimball, Cassie Owens, Morgan Kenney, Riley Linehan and Jordyn Brown.

Team 8A said, "Goodbye" in December to Ms. Lacey Byron, our PSU student teacher, who had been working in Social Studies. We appreciated all of her hard work and wish her the best in future endeavors

753-9100 30 Borough Road Penacook, NH



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 Thur - Sat: 11AM - 9PM
 Sun: 4 - 8:30PM

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Magenta
Yellow
Black

Time To Register For Baseball/Softball

The 2010 season for Merrimack Valley Little League and Babe Ruth baseball and softball has kicked off and signs up both online and at PCC are this month.

February 13th at PCC from 9:00 A.M. to Noon
February 17th at PCC from 5:30 P.M. to 7:00 P.M.

On-Line: www.eteamz.com/merrimackvalleyll

For more information about the league call Jennifer Gelinas at 753-4379 or e-mail skidew@myfairpoint.net.

Fee's are: Single player - \$65.00 / Family \$130.00
Boys - 5-12 as of 4/30/10 Girls 5-16 as of 12/31/09

ALL PLAYERS MUST fill out a new registration form BEFORE registration closes.

These are the only registration dates other than online - \$25 will be added for Late Signups.

Board Meetings are open to the public and are held the 3rd Sunday of every month at 6:00 P.M. at the PCC.

TRYOUTS

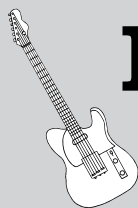
Baseball: Saturday, March 6th - Merrimack Valley Middle School
11 - 12 year olds.....8:30 A.M. - 10:30 A.M.
10 year olds.....10:30 A.M. - 12:30 P.M.
9 year olds.....12:30 P.M. - 2:00 P.M.

Softball: Sunday March 7th - Merrimack Valley Middle School
13-16 year olds..... 10:30 A.M. - 12:00 P.M.
9,10,11 year olds....12:00 P.M. - 2:00 P.M.

NO REGISTRATIONS WILL BE TAKEN AT TRYOUTS

Please have the kids wear tennis shoes and bring a mitt.

Penacook American Legion Post 31



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February 20th

\$5⁰⁰ Cover Charge **8PM to Midnight**

Non-Smoking Event

13 Charles St. Members & Bonafide Guests 21 & Older

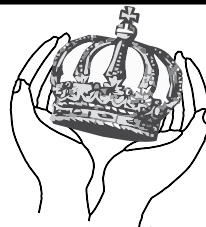
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Sleigh Ride

Come to Pustizzi Fruit Farm for a beautiful horse drawn narrated sleigh ride on February 7th from 11:00am – 3:00pm. Find out from Joe Pustizzi himself about all of the exciting past and future projects that are taking place on the farm. Bring the family to this FREE event located at 148 Corn Hill Rd. farm stand parking lot. Sleigh ride is approximately a 20 minute ride through out the lower part of the farm fields and trails.

Snow Shoe Hike

February 20th @ 1:00 pm bring your snow shoes and join us for a FREE guided adventurous snow shoe hike through the trails at Pustizzi Fruit Farm. These trails range from snowmobile packed trails to off the beaten path back-country trails. You'll see some spectacular views of Boscawen, surrounding towns and ski resorts. With a chance of seeing some awesome sights of New Hampshire wild life.

Go to www.pustizzifruitfarm.com for more information.

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Webster Selectmen's Meeting

Webster Board of Selectmen's Meeting – December 28, 2009

7:10 P.M. Present: Chairman Thomas Mullins, Selectman Klumb and Selectman George Hashem.

The Board signed the payroll and check manifests.

The Board signed the following for Administrative Assistant Judith Jones:

- Selectman Klumb made a motion to accept the Selectmen's non-public minutes of December 14, 2009 as written; seconded by Selectman Hashem and approved. Selectman Klumb made a motion to accept the Selectmen's minutes of November 14, 2009 as written; seconded by Chairman Mullins and approved. The Board reviewed and initialed the November 17, 2009 minutes of the meeting they attended with the Warner Board of Selectmen;
- A leave slip for vacation and sick leave for Mrs. Jones;
- PO #33 for the Fire Department to Zoll Medical Corporation for a refurbished defibrillator with a 6 month extended warranty in the amount of \$4,500;
- A License to Sell Pistols and Revolvers for Patrick Apanel;
- The Webster Agreement for prosecutorial services with the Merrimack County Attorney; and
- All past Conservation Commissioner Members and Alternates appointment sheets so that all will be properly on file with the Town Clerk.

Mrs. Jones provided preliminary copies of the 2010 Warrant for

the Board's review.

Chairman Mullins advised that Secretary Mary Smith, after being referred by the Local Government Center, spoke with Mark Rauth, a specialist in employment laws at Devine, Millette and Branch regarding the wording of the amendments proposed to the vacation policy and said that he found the wording acceptable as written. Chairman Mullins referred to the portion that in essence says use it or loose it regarding the vacation benefits. Lieutenant Mitchell said that he posed the question at an earlier meeting because he felt that employees were the most valuable assets and that this was a benefit. Selectman Hashem agreed, but felt that the employee has an obligation to use their vacation time, unless prohibited from taking time off due to unforeseen circumstances. Mrs. Pinkham said that FLSA states that vacation, holiday and sick time are all benefits assigned by the employer and are all deemed to be under the personnel policy as the employer sees fit. Selectman Hashem again advised that those employees with accrued time will not loose any accrued before the adoption of the proposed amendment. Lieutenant Mitchell said he was a firm believer in the use of vacation time to renew and refresh the employee.

Mrs. Pinkham requested to encumber \$590 from the Cemetery contracted services to be used under contracted services in 2010. Se-lectman Hashem made a motion to encumber the above amount, seconded

Continued Page 11

Continued from Page 10 by Selectman Klumb and approved. She also advised that the Town has an insurance claim due back to our insurance carrier which dates back a number of years ago when the Court ordered restitution for the damaged cruiser to be paid to the Town. The Town can only retain the \$1,000 deductible and the remaining collected, approximately \$5,700 to \$6,000, needs to be refunded to our insurance carrier. She is requesting that the Board consider encumbering an amount not to exceed \$6,000 from the \$13,000 plus left in the insurance lines. Selectman Hashem made a motion to encumber an amount not to exceed \$6,000 from the various insurance lines; seconded by Selectman Klumb and approved. Mr. Pinkham also provided the Board with the updated budget through 12/28/09.

Lieutenant Mitchell provided the Police Department semi-monthly report.

Fire Chief Adam Pouliot advised that total calls for the year are approximately 20 less than last year. He then asked if he could request that the \$345.70 be encumbered under the Public Safety Building propane line as the Town is under contract for this. Selectman Klumb made a motion to encumber the above request; seconded by Selectman Hashem and approved. There was discussion on the possibility of changing propane companies and associated costs with changing out the tanks. Mrs. Pinkham then recommended that \$1,704.97 be encumbered under Town Hall oil as that too is under contract with the Town. Selectman Klumb made a motion to

encumber this amount, seconded by Selectman Hashem and approved.

Road Agent Emmett Bean, because of issues from the last snow storm, requested that Dee Blake, editor of the Grapevine, put something in her paper regarding the dangers associated with following the plow trucks, noting that the trucks are not invincible and that vehicles should avoid them at all times. This is especially true when the trucks are forced to go backwards. Lt. Mitchell will look to see if there are any statutes related to this issue.

Mrs. Blake, School Board Representative, advised that the School budget is not proposing any increases in the next year. She also noted that the 20 million dollar bond issue will be paid off in the 2010/2011 school budget year.

Selectmen's Meeting – December 28, 2009

Page 2

Mr. Bean is requesting a capital outlay article for \$40,000 for the sealing of the roads, which will be added to the proposed 2010 Warrant. He advised that two years ago it cost \$11,000 per mile for regular sealing and \$22,000 per mile for chip sealing. He hopes to be able to do three plus miles if the article passes. It was noted that the \$100,000 is proposed for the third and last year of the Pearson Hill Road Project. There is \$16,000 left from this project from 2009. It is possible that not all the money will be used, therefore, Mr. Bean is

requesting to add to the warrant article that any unused portion of the funds be used for other road projects. This may have to be a separate warrant article. There was further discussion on what roads need sealing as not all roads resurfaced in the past were overlaid with a final coat of tar. There was general discussion on the culvert and bridge needs in various parts of the Town. Mrs. Blake suggested waiting until the School bond is paid off before taking on more road projects. Chairman Mullins said that putting off road projects is not practical as each year the costs increase dramatically.

Mrs. Blake recommended that the Board consider the Police Chief's position to be at least


30-34 hours per week, thereby still avoiding the need for benefits.

Bruce Johnson asked for clarification on the number of hours for the Chief's position being considered by the Board. Chairman Mullins said that the hours were being considered and no decisions have been made.

Mrs. Blake inquired as to what the Board was considering for the budget, i.e. level funding, etc. The Board advised that they were targeting numbers between what was proposed and what was voted in 2009.

Chief Pouliot requested approval to attend a NFPA Certified Fire Inspector 1 class in

Continued On Page 12



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Continued From Page 11
 Derry on January 30, 2010 at a cost of \$575. He indicated that he would then do the inspection needs for the Town. The Board had no objections.

Selectman Hashem made a motion to adopt the proposed vacation policy amendments to the Personnel Policy as presented to be effective on December 29, 2009; seconded by Selectman Klumb and approved.

Selectman Hashem recommended a change to the Vehicle Policy to include verbiage that the vehicles be ordered in stock or factory colors only and will not be custom painted. Chief Pouliot and Lt. Mitchell saw no issues with this proposal. This will be added to the Vehicle Policy and discussed at the January 11, 2009 meeting.

The Board reviewed the shortage in the Highway budget and decided not to access the funds available in the Expendable Trust at this time as there are enough funds within the overall operating budget at this time.

The Board was advised that Yestramski Electrical found that the governor control for the generator had been damaged and this was not covered in his original estimate to do the major maintenance. Mr. Yestramski indicated that the part alone would be approximately \$700, however he was unable to order the specific part as the suppliers were closed for the Holidays. Mrs. Jones will request an estimate for replacement and labor in anticipation of encumbering the needed funds. The Board discussed the 2010 legal budget. Chairman Mullins discussed the campground

lawsuit, giving a short history and where we are at this point noting that as of this date the case has not been closed. After much consideration the Board decided to put \$30,000 for legal, making the total legal 2010 budget \$31,150.

The Board reviewed the proposed 2010 budget and filled in many of the blank lines. There was again discussion on what cost might be incurred by changing propane companies. Resident Tom Godfrey advised that there was no cost associated with swapping tanks. Selectman Klumb requested that any lines not filled in be filled in with the 2009 budget figures and depicted as such. The Board discussed the overall road repairs needed. As Mr. Bean had already left, it was decided to discuss this further at the next meeting so that Mr. Bean can make further recommendations. The budget has not been finalized.

Mrs. Jones advised the Board that the office would be closed Tuesday afternoon because of appointments. She requested that the office be closed Thursday, December 31, 2009 for the New Year's Day Holiday, to which the Board agreed.

9:08 P.M. Selectmen Hashem made a motion to adjourn; seconded by Selectman Klumb and approved

At the time of this publishing the town selectmen had not signed of on either the January 4th or 11th minutes so they will be included in next months edition. We will try to carry the current ones as they are sent to us but have no say as when they are approved - Mike Cotton, Publisher

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We know it's after Christmas but these photos came in the day we went to print last month and we just had to include it.....Penacook's Hannah's Happy Red Hatters enjoyed their Christmas gathering at Alan's of Boscawen. In the front are Marie Tyler, Santa, Helen Buczynski and Ethel Furlong. In the back from left to right: Arlene Atkinson, Mary Wood, Judy Murphy, Ella Mae Cochrane, Mary Ann Foster, Nancy Clark, Joan Hardy, Ellie Fife, Shirley Mckerley and Betty Vezina.



Mary Wood sits on Santa's knee and enjoys a laugh as she gives her list to the jolly, old man in the red flannel suit

Merrimack Valley Voice

Published on the 1st of each month
by Mike Cotton, Penacook, NH 03303

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