



The Cub Scouts of Pack 489 went caroling at Woodcrest Village in New London on December 18. This is the second year that the boys visited the residents of Woodcrest and entertained them with Christmas carols. Coming up is the boys' annual Pinewood Derby race during their pack meeting. They will also be receiving prizes for their popcorn sales, which is the fundraiser to support the pack.  
Photo: Leighton Terwilliger

## Boy Scouts Troop 489

By Jeff Bates

### Boy Scouts Troop 489

In Boy Scouts, we have been learning about maps, and we walked around with a compass and found the North Star. We have a lot of fun being outside and are looking forward to having a sledding party.

Recent advancements are:

- Seth Newton to Scout
- Jeff Bates, Tucker Peters, Sam Bentley, and Robert Smith to Tenderfoot
- Derrick Nowell, Cameron Wood, Brendan Coll, and Kyle Wiley to First Class
- Joey Rego to Second Class

We are getting ready for the Klondike district-wide winter activity with other area scout troops on Saturday,

January 12.

Scout Leader Kathy Bennett adds:

The Klondike winter activities are basically a day that the boys do activities outside in the snow and cold and is a fun way to test their winter skills. The boys push around a Klondike sled – a large wooden sled with skis on the bottom – with their gear, lunch, wood, etc. They stop at six stations. The stations consist of first aid, fire building, lashing, and other activities which vary from year to year. The patrol also has to cook lunch over a wood fire that they build.

Troop 489 will compete with other patrols from around the area such as Claremont, Newport, Lebanon, Enfield, Hanover, and New London. The event is held at Mascoma High School from 9 AM to 3 PM.



**Brian J. Prescott, V.M.D.**  
**Kristi Gaff, D.V.M.**

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Logan Smith shares his Christmas wish with Santa while his classmates wait their turns.  
Photo: Doreen Perreault

## East Andover Village Preschool

By Doreen Perreault

### East Andover Village Preschool

The wind is howling outside, icicles have formed around our windows, and the temperature outside reminds us what winters are like in New England.

Inside the little building on the hill, the preschool awakes. The heat hums to life, the lights go on, and the wood floor creaks and moans with every step.

It's Zach and Zoe who enter the building first. Usually the first to arrive, the twins wander in with their two big brothers faithfully behind them. They enter with bright eyes and anxious feet. Mom tries to help them out of their winter gear as Zach races to the sand table and Zoe to the markers on the table. Older brother Max reminds me that he is no longer in preschool and is now in the big school.

The bell on the doorknob gives a jiggle as Laryssa enters with a smile larger than life. She heads towards the table to greet her friends. She stops to give her little sister a hug.

Mikayla is not far behind. She proudly puts her snack box in its place and races to the window to wave goodbye to her Mom and older brother. It's not long before she heads to the table to join the others already creating their own masterpieces. She gives me the warmest hugs!

The scent of dry erase markers fills the room, and our senses are beginning to awake.

Owen charges in ready for the day ahead. He puts his name into the box before heading towards the block area. His little brother is not far behind. Mom gets a final kiss before heading out with her youngest, who fights and kicks, wishing he could stay to play.

Logan arrives with excitement in his voice and energy in his eyes. "What are we doing today?" he asks, still with his coat and boots on. "What can I do?" He finds his friend Owen busy building in the block area and with a quick kiss to his Mom, he is off creating his own construction site.

Cassidy quietly enters the classroom. She places her name in the bin, hangs up her coat, and shares a hug with Nana. "What are you doing?" is usually her first question of the day. She is always ready to hear what our day's adventures will be, details and all. She smiles with delight before heading to the kitchen area.

Kieran arrives with a smile. He checks out the classroom before jumping right in. It doesn't take long before his construction hat is on and his tool belt is strapped tightly around his waist. He is ready to build!

As 9 AM approaches, we begin to sing our clean-up song. The sound of little voices singing in the morning is quite amazing. When each toy has found its home, we head to our magic mats for Morning Circle.

Today it is Logan's turn to be our Lucky Duck this week. He beams with pride. It's his turn to be our line leader, our classroom helper, our story time leader. It's his chance to be this week's star.

Adam is the last to join our group. The sound of our singing brings him racing in to preschool worried he has missed out on something special. Adam loves music and is a great addition to our morning songs.

We stretch our bodies, shake our hands, and giggle with delight. And to think, it's just the beginning of another great day in Preschool I.

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