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Norah Carlson passes the pumpkin to Miles Hurlbutt during a pass-the-pumpkin team-building game during the East Andover Village Preschool's visit to Highland Lake Apple Farm. Photo and caption: Doreen Perreault

Highland Lake Inn Hosts Writers' Retreat With Deb McKew

By Heather Makechnie
Beacon volunteer

Pecco and Gail Beaufays will be hosting a writing retreat from Friday, November 5, through Sunday, November 7, at their bed and breakfast, Highland Lake Inn. Writing coach and wordsmith Deb McKew will be leading the retreat.

"We are excited to work with Deb on these special events," says Pecco. "She has a lot of experience in presenting writing workshops and weekend programs, and we have the perfect setting for them."

Deb's business, Words in Play Writer Retreats and Travel Programs, leads workshops in places as far flung as Lago, Maggiore in Italy, or as near as Hemlock Harbor on Lake Sunapee. She lives by the tenet that writing is fun. Deb delights in the creativity she coaxes from her students, and she once taught creative writing at Andover Elementary/ Middle School.

"The holidays are a good time to reconnect with family and friends," writes Deb. "Many people choose to write a letter instead of sending impersonal Christmas or other holiday cards. In this workshop, participants will generate ideas, shape those ideas into a cohesive message, and frame that message around the holidays they celebrate. They will have a finished product to take home and be ahead of schedule in their holiday preparations."

Call 724-3609 or visit WordsInPlay.net/retreats/lake-retreats/highland-lake-inn/ to register.

New Hampshire's Best Is On Display For Open Doors Weekend

NH Open Doors press release

This fall, people of all ages are invited to experience the creativity and timeless traditions of New Hampshire during New Hampshire Open Doors, a statewide, weekend-long touring and shopping event.

During Saturday, November 6, and Sunday, November 7, more than 150 New Hampshire artists, craftspeople, cultural organizations, retail shops, wineries, restaurants, lodging establishments, and businesses will open their doors to the public, showcasing the best that New Hampshire has to offer.

To help visitors plan their self-guided tour, the New Hampshire Open Doors Web site at NHOpenDoors.com will feature an interactive map listing participants by region. Each listing will describe what each participant will be offering and a custom-designed Google map showing the location of each participant with detailed driving directions.

Participants will be hosting special events, including craft demonstrations and workshops, hayrides, food samplings, special menus featuring local foods, musical performances, special lodging packages, and more.

New Hampshire Open Doors is managed by the League of New Hampshire Craftsmen (NHCrafts.org) and New Hampshire Made (NHMade.com), with promotional assistance from numerous art, craft, and business organizations throughout the state.