Fairall *from page 1*

sion, and competes in all three events; slalom, jumping, and trick skiing wherein the skier gets 20 second passes to score the most possible points.

Although Fairall has been water skiing since his youth, he didn't start adaptive skiing until 2015, after completing rehabilitation from a spinal cord injury. Fairall was shocked and honored to be selected for TEAM USA as the Disabled Nationals was his first competition event post injury. Legendary Adaptive Water Ski Coach immediately saw Fairall's potential and encouraged him to enter the competition.

A New Hampshire native, Fairall was a two time National Ski Jumping Champion (snow) and member of the 2014 U.S. Olympic Team. He was injured Jan 5, 2015 while practicing for the Ski Jumping World Cup in Bischofshofen, Austria. Fairall wasted no time feeling sorry for himself, believing as tough as the traumatic injury was, he couldn't allow it to define him, or his future.

With the World Championship being held in April, skiers must practice throughout the winter to provide their best performance in pursuit of the 5PEAT. Like most, Fairall will need to travel to warm water areas to ski. Although the U.S. TEAM has dominated adaptive water skiing since its inception it remains little known and self-funded. Each athlete must pay for their own training camps, air travel, accommodations, uniforms, and entry fees at a cost of nearly $5,000 per athlete. Fairall is seeking assistance through the Team's Website USskiTEAM2017.com which accepts donations via PayPal and allows the public to participate in drawings to help the skiers.

The U.S. Disabled Water Ski Team will be vying for an unprecedented fifth consecutive World Championship. No other country has ever won three Championships in a row. The U.S. Team has dominated adaptive water skiing since its inception, winning eight World Championships out of 15, earning 327 Individual Medals, 148 of them Gold.

"Disabled" skiing has the same events and rules as able bodied (slalom, tricks, and jumping). Within each event athletes are grouped into the three categories of seated (paraplegics, quadriplegics and double leg amputees), standing (arm and/or leg disabilities with or without prosthesis) and vision impaired (partially or totally blind).

The thirteen athletes on the 2017 Team represent nine states, range in age from 17-59 and collectively have earned 65 Individual Gold Medals (World) and set 43 World Records. Fairall is the only TEAM member from New Hampshire.

USA TEAM Coach, Matt Oberholtz, (Oroville, California) is a four time World Record Holder and has twice been selected as USA Water Ski's Coach of the Year. TEAM Manager Geneva Brett (Los Banos, California) points out "disabled" is the world's largest minority, and the only minority anyone can join in the blink of an eye. She believes the athletes represent America's best; they've faced challenges and have adapted, adjusted, and overcome to be great role models.

The Water Skiers with Disabilities Association is one of nine sport divisions of USA Water Ski.

USA Water Ski was formed in 1939 as a non-profit organization promoting water skiing in the United States.

USA Water Ski is affiliated with the International Waterski & Wakeboard Federation (world governing body) and is recognized by the United States Olympic Committee and Pan American Sports

Organization as the national governing body of organized water skiing and wakeboarding in the United States.

What to Call Andover's Old Town Hall?

Larry Chase

What to call Andover's Old Town Hall? Suggestions are pouring in. They include:

- Everybody's Place
- Second Home
- The Hub
- Olde Towne New Town
- Halcyon House
- The 1879 House
- The Gathering
- The Welcome Inn
- Andover Space Center
- Shared Spaces

The naming is just a small part of a town wide survey now being conducted, the results of which are generating a wide range of ideas for the 1879 building's new use as a community resource. Along with suggestions submitted by Andover Elementary and Middle School students (see the February 2017 Beacon), and by a variety of local organizations that have heard presentations about the acquisition, these new ideas are helping shape community discussions about the building's future.

Some of the ideas presented so far by survey respondents: crafts and woodworking space, workout gym/fitness classes, internet access, a "fix-it" space, cribbage, game room, local bar, a kitchen that groups can use, after-school and summer programs for kids, a place for musicians to "jam," "anything fun," comedy club, movie nights, health clinics, and a whole lot more.

The current survey instrument has been distributed to a number of local organizations, and was available for pickup and drop off at several locations around town until the end of March. Andover area residents who would still like to offer their thoughts may request a copy of the survey by sending an email to AndoverCommunitySpace@gmail.com as soon as possible.

Andover Community Space, the

group that now owns the Old Town Hall, continues to look for help in identifying and prioritizing local needs and opportunities. Likewise, it is looking to locate sources of funding for potential building alterations, utility costs, and staffing needs. Got ideas? Send an email to AndoverCommunitySpace@gmail.com.

Group members include Andover residents Deb Brower, Susan and Larry Chase, Pat Cutter, Gisela and Steve Darling, and Stacey and Eric Viandier.

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For more info, call Donnette at **735-6099.**