



Acaydia and Caspian Wright enjoy a visit with Santa as part of a day of family activities at the Andover Hub on December 10. Photo: Larry Chase

Santa Pays a Visit to Andover Hub

Larry Chase

About fifty local children, along with about an equal number of grown-ups (mainly parents and other relatives), got an opportunity for a close encounter with Santa Claus when the Bearded Old Gentleman in the Red Suit paid a visit to the dance studio in The Andover Hub (Andover's old town hall) on Sunday afternoon, December 10.

Local crafters were on the scene as well, offering an opportunity to purchase holiday gifts to those in attendance. Sellers included Zach Barton & Chrissy, Heidi Chapman, Heidi Clasby, Amy Duboc, Sarah Graves, Margaret Hoyle, Colleen Longo, Rosemary Mc-

Guirk, Stefania Nobile, Nancy Parker, and Holly Walton.

Under the banner "Christmas is for Kids," each non-adult (and some grown-ups as well) also got a chance to make a Christmas-tree ornament or two, show off their coloring skills, grab a few cookies and a cup of hot cider, attach paper reindeer antlers to their heads, listen to Frank Sinatra singing "Jingle Bells" on the stereo, pose with Father Christmas beside a well-decorated tree and before the family smartphone, and receive a gift from the Old Guy himself. A Fun Time was had by all, by all accounts. The elves (in real life Deb Brower and Gisela Darling) were included at no additional cost.

Franklin Drug Task Force Welcomes New Director

Press release

Franklin Mayor's Drug Task Force has tapped Kayla Bertolino to be its new coordinator. Bertolino graduated from Inter-Lakes High School in Meredith and went on to receive a master's degree in Health Communications from Southern New Hampshire University. She has worked in healthcare for over 10 years at Concord Hospital and LRG Healthcare.

Bertolino is not a stranger to Franklin having spent her early years living there. She says that she is passionate about family, community, faith, and volunteerism. She further stated: "I am excited to be a part of the monumental change and activism happening in the Franklin and Hill community and look forward to filling my schedule with positive engagements that will lead to positive prevention efforts in the area."

If you would like to get involved or would like more information about the Franklin Mayor's Drug Task Force call



Kayla Bertolino is the new Coordinator of the Franklin Mayor's Drug Task Force.

(603) 934-7446 or email to: taskforceinfo@franklinnh.org

4th of July Committee is Busy Making Plans for 2018

Will be using social media to keep everyone posted

4th of July Committee

As we put this article together, Thanksgiving is upon us. What a great time to sit back and reflect on all the things we are thankful for. First, we wouldn't be enjoying our wonderful life here in the United States without the work and sacrifices of our servicemen and women. That includes those dear to us whom we have lost.

Next, Andover as a community, is unparalleled in their volunteerism. The lion's share of that is taken care of by our non-profits and by neighbors helping neighbors. The Andover 4th of July Committee is proud to be a part of that spirit.

Let's not forget to be thankful for all those who made our 2017 Parade second to none. That includes those who spent tireless hours putting together parade floats, decorating bicycles, polishing vehicles, grooming animals and simply preparing to march in the parade.

Thank you, also, to the wonderful group of people who assemble on the Village Green with games, music, delicious food and other activities. There are a lot of behind the scenes activities which include putting up signs, assembling the reviewing stand, trash pick up, grounds cleaning, and of course

our fire and police departments who work from dawn to dusk to help make all this happen!

Some things to look forward to next year are a pre-4th of July concert, a pre-4th family movie night, the Nelson Town Band in the parade, new games on the green, a giant raffle. A special addition to the program will give folks a chance to honor a veteran and a large "point of origin" United States map with stick pins where folks can mark where they are from. And, of course, we have many other things in the works!

One of our committee members is hard at work promoting the committee's social media presence. Keep an eye on our Facebook page and our Instagram for flashback Friday photos, parade theme suggestions and our Andover Beacon articles. We love your comments and suggestions.

Don't forget to Facebook message us with your 2018 parade theme suggestions or stop into the Andover Town Office and leave your suggestion in the red box.

Our committee will be meeting every first Wednesday of the month at the Andover Fire Station at 7 P.M. beginning in January 2018. Please join us! New faces are always welcome. You don't have to be a member!

Gourmet Garden

Give the Gift of New Hampshire

We are here to make the holidays easy! We will create and ship your gifts, bags and baskets in time for Christmas!

Come in and see our new location filled With some of the best NH foods and arts.

428 Main St., New London 526-6656 • GourmetGardenOnline.com

Hours: Mon-Sat, 10 AM - 6 PM • Sat 10 AM-5PM Find us on

Nearly 400 young people under age 21 die from alcohol-related causes every month.

*SAMHSA

Franklin Mayor's DRUG TASK FORCE



Turning on the Power of Prevention in the Franklin-Hill Community

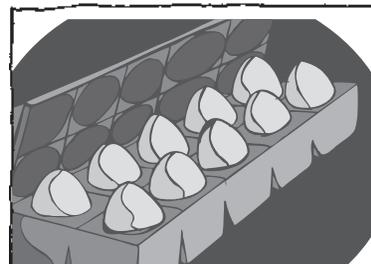
The holidays are a time for fun and celebration, but they are also a time of risk for young people.

Remember that giving teens alcohol is not only harmful to them and dangerous—it is also against the law.

For more information and free resources—check out our website:

www.franklinnh.org

Together, we CAN make a difference!



Do You Have EXTRA EGGS From Your Hens?

Donate them to the ANDOVER FOOD PANTRY