



AUBURN VILLAGE CRIER

Editor: Kathleen A. Sylvia

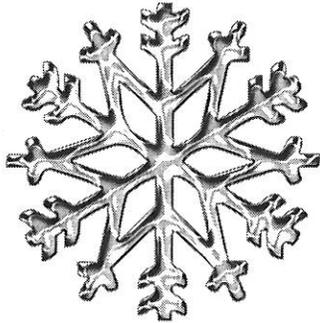
Crier e-mail: townhall@townofauburnnh.com

DECEMBER 2015

SNOWFLAKE FAIR
SATURDAY
DECEMBER 5, 2016
Longmeadow Church

The Annual Snowflake Fair will be held on the first Saturday in December - closer than we all think it is! The hours of the Ladies Circle's traditional church fair are 8:30 am to 2:00 pm. Included in the Fair are booths for plants, a cookie walk, baked goods, candy, crafts, a silent auction, and attic treasures. There will be an opportunity for pictures with Santa - ready to take home with you. Also popular is our children's shopping room - no tall people allowed! A child can purchase and then have their gift wrapped. Our snack bar will have the ladies traditional chili and corn chowder for lunch with snacks available all day.

Please come - see your friends and enjoy the fun for all! Any questions, please call the church at 483-2907 and leave a message. See you there!!!



Town Clerk and Tax Collector

Holiday CLOSINGS

December 24, 25 & 31 and January 1



Longmeadow Church Breakfast

Come and join us for breakfast in December on Dec. 19th, 6:30 - 10:00 am. In Dec. the breakfast will only be on Dec. 19th as the Snowflake Fair will be on the first Sat, Dec 5th. The following breakfasts in the New Year will be the 1st and 3rd Saturdays of each month. Where else can you meet your old friends, catch up on town gossip and enjoy an "all you can eat breakfast", of French toast, English muffins, eggs your way, pancakes, sausage, bacon, home fries, homemade beans and muffins, and beverages for a donation of \$6 for adults, \$3 for children 6-12 and under 5 free?

Breakfast with Santa

Saturday, December 12, 2015

8 to 11AM

AVS Cafeteria

\$6/Adults \$3/Children

Seasonal Music by AVS Band and Chorus

Bring your camera for pictures with Santa



Fudge is Back!

Friends of the Library are selling Van Otis Swiss Fudge and Chocolates. Order your fudge for Christmas by December 5, 2015. Stop by the library to order your fudge. Payment due with order.

News from the Auburn Town Hall



Tax Bills Bring Winter Greetings

For municipal government through New Hampshire, the fall is a busy time of year as budgeting for the next year is in full gear, while the setting of tax rates, the mailing of property tax bills and the preparation to close out financial records for the current year are also underway.

In 2015, the Town of Auburn was one of the first 50 communities in New Hampshire to have its tax rate set by the NH Department of Revenue Administration (NHDRA). With property tax bills in the mail the first week of November, it is no longer news to property owners that rates have decreased this year.

The 2015 tax rate was set at \$20.71 per thousand by NHDRA - a reduction of 60-cents. The tax rate includes four components -- \$4.25 for the town; \$12.87 for the local education; \$2.49 for the state education, and \$1.10 for the county. For comparison purposes, the 2014 total rate of \$21.31 per thousand, was inclusive of \$4.53 for the town; \$13.11 for local education; \$2.57 for state education and \$1.10 for the county.

Various budgets and warrant articles approved by local voters last March approved totaled appropriations of \$16,940,501 for the town and school district combined. And the Town's share of the Rockingham County budget adds another \$710,576. Of that total amount, \$13,330,049 needs to be raised by taxes.

In general terms, due to the reduction in the tax rate, the second issue property tax bill was less than the first bill that came out in June. And it will also generally lead to a lower bill next June than the first issue bill of this year.

Raymond Road Culvert Project Well Under Budget

In the September edition of The Crier, we had reported on a decision the Board made to move forward with a culvert improvement project on Raymond Road that was approved by voters in 2011. At that time, the Town anticipated receiving funding through the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for 75% of the anticipated project costs, which was \$58,499.

Earlier this year when it became clear the Town was not going to receive grant funding approval in time for the wetlands permit approval received for this project, the Board made the determination to forgo the FEMA funding and perform the work fully by the Town.

Road Agent Mike Dross and his crew performed the work in October. While the construction estimate was for \$58,499, the construction costs ultimately came to a total of \$22,922.10. There was some early engineering costs of \$1,590.50, bringing the total project in at \$24,512.60. This was not that much more than the anticipated 25% Town share of the original budget.

Kudos to the Road Agent and his crew for their stellar efforts with this project.

Police K-9 Unit

In late October, we were pleased to be able to accept the gift of a canine and K-9 equipment to enable the Auburn Police Department to re-establish the K-9 Unit it had previously maintained. The gift of the canine and equipment was valued at \$7,500. We are confident you will be learning more of this addition to our community in the months ahead.

Library Trustees

Last month, we were also pleased to be able to appoint Joseph Forest to serve as the third alternate member of the Board of Library Trustees. Mr. Forest was recommended for this position by Library Trustees Nancy Mayland, Jean Worster and Lorraine Senechal, and joins Sharon Bluhm and Elizabeth Michaud as an alternate trustee. Thank you for volunteering Joe.

Happy Holidays

As this is the last edition of The Auburn Village Crier for 2015, we want to take this opportunity to wish all Auburn residents and their families and friends a happy and joyous holiday season. Be careful out there in the winter weather.

James Headd

Richard Eaton

Dale Phillips

Auburn Board of Selectmen

Auburn Historical Association

by Susan Jenkins

Auburn Historical Association

www.auburnhistorical.org

Business Meeting—December 9, 2015

6:30 pm—Light Refreshments

Everyone welcome! Visit the Museum! Enjoy coffee and snacks!

Join us for our meeting and help plan 2016 events.

Events, Historical Chatter, Old Photos, Duck Race 2016

Check out the website— be sure to “Like us” on Facebook!

Open House—3rd Saturday of each month 1pm—4 pm

The association is now paperless.

Do you want to know what is happening at the Auburn Historical Association?

Please sign up for our email notices on our website.

2016 BOAT REGISTRATION RENEWALS



Remember—You can renew your boats with us right here at the Auburn Town Clerk’s office starting January 4th with your renewal notice.

Auburn Police Department

By Captain Gary F. Bartis

I can't believe December is here so quickly. You all know I love summer, and how disappointed I am about the speed it went by. Now, we have Christmas and snow fall to look forward to, and let's not forget New Years. Really, this is discouraging. Well, at least it's football season, and watching the Patriots.

Well, with Christmas and snow fall in mind, it's only natural for the cop in me to discuss driving in the snow. It's pretty simple - SLOW DOWN! Slowing down is the main technique to stay safe in the snow, but there are other issues to consider. First, make sure you have good tires for whatever condition may present itself. Make sure your defroster is in good working order and the wipers are in great shape. Visibility is the key to see where you're going, where you've been and seeing all the other vehicles on the road in your area. Also, clean off all the snow from your vehicle before you venture out. This is a law, and it is crucial because snow coming off the roof can cause a disastrous crash.

All of that is really common sense, but we tend to forget the smart things when we are in a hurry. Wherever you're going, take a little extra time to get there safely, it will make your family happy to have you safe, and it will make law enforcement extremely pleased not to have to stand out in a snow storm taking an accident report.

Oh, with all the holiday parties, please remember not to drink and drive. I'm sure everyone knows at least one person attending the holiday parties that is a non-drinker. Please use a designated driver to avoid a disaster.

In light of Christmas, the Auburn Safety Complex will be displaying a Christmas tree. The tree will be decorated with ornaments, and the ornaments will have names on them of someone who is need of assistance on the holiday. For those of you wishing to help make Christmas happy for someone in need, please stop by the Auburn Safety Complex and take one of the ornaments off the tree. Then go out and purchase the gift indicated on the ornament. Return the gift and the ornament to the Auburn Safety Complex by December 14th. Please make sure the gift is unwrapped, and the Complex will insure the gift gets wrapped and delivered to the needy person. If you don't have time to shop, you can make cash donations at the Safety Complex. The staff will then purchase a gift and wrap it. Also, the staff will accept any donations of wrapping paper, tape, ribbons, and bows for wrapping the gifts.

One last item. The heroin and opioid epidemic throughout the State has caused an incredible increase in all types of crimes. Auburn neighbors Manchester, which creates the same issues here in Auburn. Our Town has seen an increase in criminal activity and over doses due to the epidemic. To fight this scourge the Auburn Neighborhood Watch is hosting an event at the Auburn Village School on December 1st at 7:00 p.m. Chris Hickey, the Director of Emergency Services of Manchester will bring his presentation to AVS to help educate people on what is happening in Manchester and the surrounding towns. It's a powerful message, and illustrates the staggering statistics. The graphic images will open your eyes to the problem and hopefully prevent some people from becoming part of the epidemic. Please join the Auburn Neighborhood Watch for an evening of education.

Have a safe and prosperous winter and Christmas season.

Auburn Lions News

By Dave Rogers

The 2016 Community Birthday Calendars have been sent to the printer and should be delivered to every house-hold by the end of November.

We want to thank the current advertisers for their continued support and welcome the new ones.

If you did not receive one please let me know, I might have a few left over.

Also, as a reminder, we have handicapped equipment for use at no charge; we offer eyeglasses to those in need; any used eyeglasses may be dropped off at the library or town hall down stairs.

We are always looking for new members to join us to help with any projects that we come up with. You may contact me at 627-1036 for any concern.

Happy Holidays to all.

Griffin Free Public Library

by Nancy Mayland

Many of you are anxious to hear about our search for a new Library Director. As of the writing, we are very close to hiring someone and by the time you read this, we hope to have finalized the process so that the new person will start in December. Come on in and meet her!

For our younger patrons, Miss Mary has started placing Lexile numbers inside the covers of our Junior and Young Adult fiction books. This will help mid-schoolers find their reading level.

Look for our book series displays for reading on long winter evenings.

We now have board games available for checkout! Because our collection is still small, we are currently limiting them to one game at a time per person. But, as we build our collection, that may change. As you are cleaning out and upgrading your games at Christmas, please consider donating the older ones to the library.

DECEMBER EVENTS:

- Tues. Dec. 1, 11 am: Infant/toddler story time
 Sat, Dec. 5, 11 am: Christmas Gingerbread House story time. Supplied provided
 Mon, Dec 7, 7 pm: Friends of the Library Meeting
 Thurs, Dec 10, 6 pm: One-Stroke Brush Painting
 Sat, Dec 12, 8 am: Breakfast with Santa; sponsored by the Friends of the library (at AVS)
 Mon. Dec 14, 7 pm: Library Board of Trustee meeting
 Tues. Dec. 15, 11 am: Infant/toddler story time
 Wed. Dec 16, 6:30 pm: Visit with St. Nick story time

**JANUARY EVENTS:**

- Mon. Jan 4, 7 pm: Friends of the Library Meeting
 Thurs. Jan 7, 6:30 pm: UNH speaker Robert Henry, PhD; Transitioning from high school to college
 Mon. Jan 11, 7 pm: Library Board of Trustee Meeting

For the Holidays, the Library will be closed on Thursday, Dec. 24 & Friday, Dec. 25 and Thursday, Dec 31 & Friday, Jan 1. Have a very Merry Christmas & Happy & Healthy New Year.



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LONGMEADOW SERVES!

by Rev. Ruth Gallot

And this special time of waiting for the Messiah brings special opportunities to serve. **Longmeadow Congregational Church, United Church of Christ at 4 Wilson's Crossing Road** in Auburn invites you join us as together we worship the God who is Still Speaking. We come together for worship on Sunday mornings at 9:30 with Sunday School and Christian Education for children and child care available at the same time.



We are so grateful to all of the local people who joined us in collecting non-perishable food and gift cards for our local neighbors in our **Thanksgiving Basket** outreach. If you as an individual or as part of a group would like to participate with donations of store gift cards, to assist local families in need to purchase Christmas gifts, please contact Pastor Ruth at the church, 483-2907.

We are now in the season of **Advent** when we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Savior. In addition to our regular 9:30 worship, we offer many opportunities to acknowledge the fullness of the season:

Sunday, December 6

At 7:00 in the evening, we gather for our **Blue Christmas Service** when we remember and stand with our brothers and sisters who may find this time of year to be bittersweet because of grief. We believe that Christ came to be a light in the world, to stand with us in our darker times and we wish to do the same by inviting any of our neighbors who may be struggling at this time of year to join us as we remember together.

Sunday, December 13

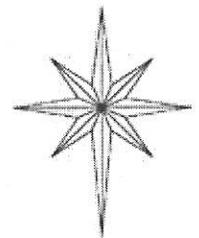
At 6:00 in the evening we invite the entire community to a special dinner theater experience **In Bethlehem Inn**. Join us for a simple supper of homemade soups and breads as we experience first-hand the story of the Nativity from the point of view of the Innkeeper. It's a busy night at the Inn, with all rooms full and lots of exciting things happening in Bethlehem... blazing stars, angels singing, a couple expecting a baby at any moment, bring the family and join us. There is no charge but a free willing offering will be accepted

Sunday December 21

Our regular gathering for worship at 9:30 will be led by our wonderful choir in our annual **Christmas Cantata**. Please join us as we hear the story of Christmas in music of joy and wonder.

Thursday, December 24

We will gather to await the coming of the Messiah in our Christmas Eve Candlelight services at 7:00 at 11:00. It is a special time for families to gather and remember the true meaning of the season together. There is a special place for you in our community, please join us.



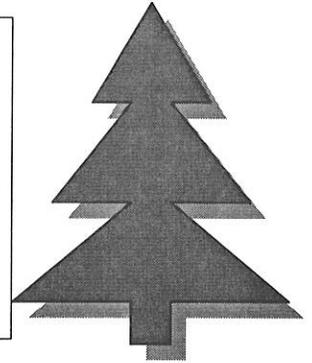
Please see the flyer about our great **Annual Snowflake Fair** on December 5 and stop by for that special Christmas gift. Because we will be joyfully celebrating the **Snowflake Fair** on that first Saturday we remind you, our friends, that we will be having just one **Community Breakfast** this month, on December 19.

In this holy season, we of the Longmeadow Congregational Church, UCC welcome all who are seeking a spiritual home. No matter where you are on your spiritual journey, no matter what your questions may be, you are welcome here. If you have any questions, please contact our Pastor, Rev. Ruth Gallot at 483-2907.

Christmas Tree Pick-Up Services



The Boy Scouts will be collecting Christmas trees on **January 16th and 23rd** after the holidays and delivering them to the Safety Complex for the bonfire. If you are interested, please email Shirley at cap-s@comcast.net or call her at 603-867-3699.



Massabesic Seniors



This year the Massabesic Seniors Club officially turned 40 years old, although it has been around for over 50. At a recent meeting a letter from former Historian George Gosselin relating some of our background was read. People who have been in town for a few years will recognize some of the names of our founders; Florence Banks, Alice Bergeron, Bertha Stritch, Doris Jackman, Olive Biron, Herbert Crombie, Amy Eaton, Olive Sargent, Elizabeth Bartholomew, and Theo Therrien, who served as President from 1981 to 2003. Thanks to all who have been involved over the 50 years.

The date for our Christmas party was decided, it will include a Yankee Swap. Any members who have not been able to attend the regular meetings please call any of the officers for details.

We want to wish a Happy Birthday to Gladys Clavette, Sherryann Manley, and Ray Brissette this month. Happy to hear Walter is out of the hospital. Our prayers go out to all who are not well.

NEWS FROM AUBURN DOLLARS FOR SCHOLARS

University of New Hampshire Speakers Bureau
Presents

Robert Henry, P.H.D.

Jan. 7th at 7:00 PM in the Griffin Free Public Library

about the

"Transition from High School to College - What are the issues?"

Parents and students are encouraged to join this informational discussion.

Look for more workshops and presentations throughout the spring.
Applications for Auburn scholarships will start being accepted Feb. 1st.

auburn.dollarsforscholars.org

Thank You
Mary Hrubiec, president

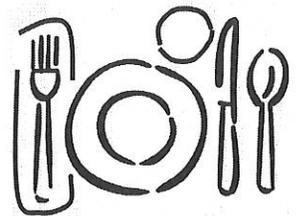
Parks & Rec

by Helen Hiltz



The 2015 concert series wrapped up with the Hippy Dippy Coffee House. What a fun time it was! Performances by Maureen Juliano, Gary Mavrogeorge, Michael Becker, Gary Hunter and Anna Harmon brought everyone back in time. All of the performers were dressed as hippies and Maureen looked great as Cher as well. Thank-you to everyone who went all out with their costumes! Special thanks go out to the Longmeadow Church members who, again, provided popcorn and to the Auburn Village School for all of their help changing the cafeteria into an old coffee house. A big "thank-you" also goes out to local businesses like Turnpike pizza who donate gift certificates to be given away as prizes for our events.

We are now looking forward to 2016. The first event will be the **Senior Dinner** that will be held on **January 30th** at the Longmeadow Church. Please contact Margie McEvoy for more details or email auburnnhrecdept@aol.com.

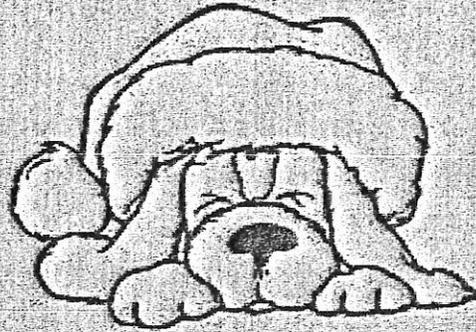


The Winter Carnival will be held at the skating rinks on February 6th. The Parks and Recreation and the Auburn Fire Department will again partner up to provide a fun filled afternoon of skating, sliding, bonfire, barbecue, etc. We hope that you will join us. Keep your eyes open for Christmas tree pick up dates that will be posted by the Scouts. They will be offering this service as a fund raiser again this year.

The Parks and Recreation Committee hopes that you enjoyed your Thanksgiving Day and that you are looking forward to the upcoming holiday season. We would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you who worked so closely with us this past year. Your efforts were very much appreciated!

You Are Invited To:

Pet And Santa Photos



Tower Hill Animal Hospital

175 Old Candia Road, Auburn

Saturday, December 12th 11-3



\$20 donation to Pope Memorial SPCA for
printed photo and digital image. (2 legged
children also welcome!)



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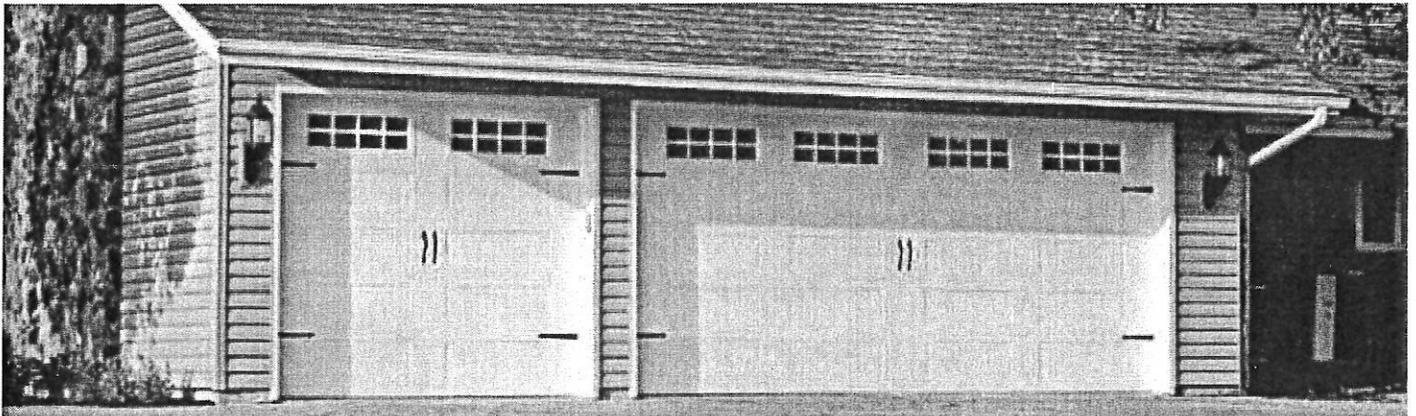
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Girl Scouts

by Stacey Melendy



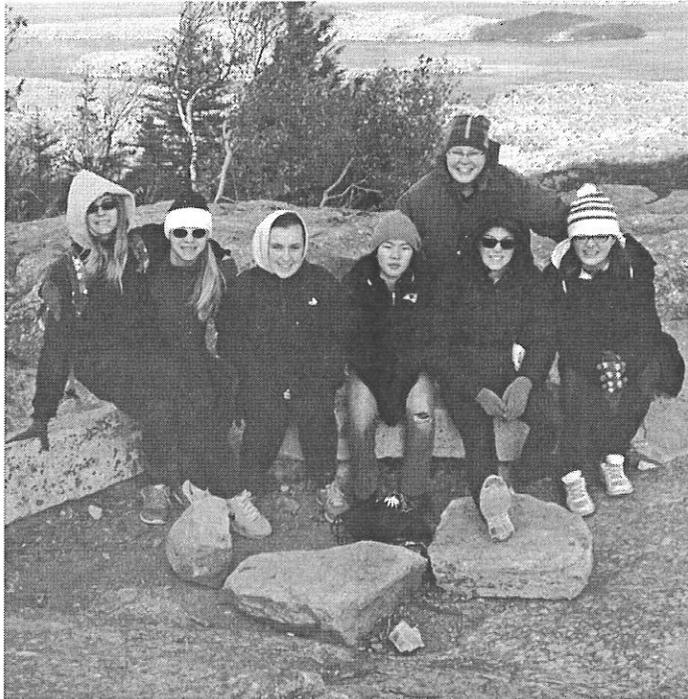
Girl Scout Troop 20001 had a wonderful autumn. The girls welcomed a new member to the troop and look forward to many adventures together in the coming months. They took some "littles" apple picking, and even in the rain had tons of fun and made some new friends. The Troops annual hat/scarf/mitten drive was a success; many thanks to all who donated to this important collection. In December they look forward to caroling and spreading holiday cheer.

Troop 10020 is giving each scout the opportunity to write about their troops activities for the crier. This will help grow their confidence in their writing. We are looking forward to reading from the "Scouts" point of view.

The Following report was written by Megan Miller:

The Senior Girl Scout Troop 10020 went on a group hike to Mount Major in Alton NH on October 18th. It took about 1-1/2 hours to climb to the top with a little snow shower on the way. Despite the biting cold we ate lunch at the peak. The hike back down was even more of a trek, it took about 2hrs, but we were treated with Taco Bell on the way home. Even though it was cold and there was some unexpected weather we were able to have a great time and became even closer. Thank you to Ron Provencal for helping us out and hiking with us!

If you or someone you know is interested in joining the Girl Scouts please contact Rebecca Roy at northboundroys@gmail.com or visit our website at girlscoutsgwm.org.



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Cub Scouts Pack 127

by Jocelyn Malenchini



Joyous greetings to all, as we navigate all the wonders and challenges the holiday season has to offer. Thanks to everyone who participated in our annual "Scouting for Food" drive. Auburn residents generously donated what amounted to many carloads of food and hygiene items for distribution to local food banks. Thank you so much for all your support.

In November, Webelos Den 7 took advantage of a school holiday and spent an especially beautiful Tuesday morning hiking out to Battery Point from the Massabesic Audubon Center. While there, the boys first ate the lunches they had prepared for themselves, then picked up an estimated three pounds of trash - mostly glass. On the hike, they learned to identify several important native plants trees. Auburn Boy Scouts Carl and Luke hiked with the Webelos, lent their leadership skills, and showed the Cubs how to identify Bittersweet, a colorful but invasive vine. The boys hope to go back to the Audubon in the future to help curb the spread of this destructive invader. Many thanks go out to Audubon Program Director Angie Krysiak for lending her time and expertise in teaching the Scouts about the many ways in which animals and humans use our native trees and plants.

Spotlight on...

The Bears - by Ms. Kathy

Cub Scouts in the 3rd grade are working on earning their Bear Badge. This year we will be working on camping, using tools including knives, hiking, learning about plants and animals, and many other fun adventures. Activities are done inside and outside throughout the year. We are also participating in community activities like Scouting for Food and are looking forward to building our Pine Wood Derby cars and doing many more building projects.

Our Bears' favorite things are:

Matthew: "I like going to Camp Carpenter and doing archery and BB Shooting. I also like the fun games we play at the den meetings."

Dylan: "I like being with my friends and learning new things to earn badges. I really like trying knots."

Conor: "Going to summer camp and swimming at the water front"

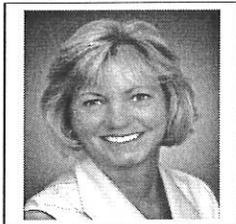
We have a very busy few months ahead of us as we work towards completing the Bear Badge requirements.

Upcoming Cub Scout events include:

December 18, Friday, 7-8 PM

Pack Meeting, AVS Gym

For more information on joining Auburn's Cub Scouts, please contact: staceymelendy@gmail.com



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Fr. Michael Gendron, Pastor

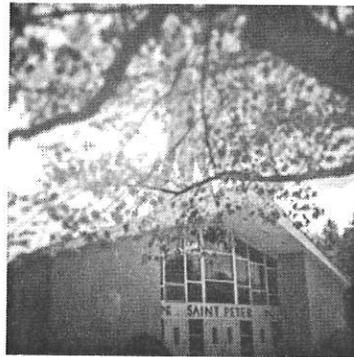
603-623-5429

Mass Schedule:

Sat - 4:00 pm

Sun - 8:00 am & 10:30 am

Mon, Tues, Wed, Fri - 7:00 am



The Season of Advent: The Advent season is a time of preparation that directs our hearts and minds to the anniversary of the Lord's birth on Christmas and also to Christ's second coming at the end of time. We invite you to participate in some of our Advent devotions, including **Lessons & Carols** on Sunday, December 13 at 6:00 pm. **Lessons & Carols** is a service of Scripture, song and prayer.

Confession: During Advent, Fr. Michael will be available to hear confessions on Saturdays from 3:00-3:30 pm and on Monday, December 21 from 6:30-8:00 pm.



Christmas Mass Schedule:

Christmas Eve, Thursday, December 24 - 4:00 pm & 6:00 pm

Christmas Day, Friday, December 25 - 10:00 am

Solemnity of Mary: Friday, January 1, 2016 is a Holy Day of Obligation, and we will celebrate Mass at 10:00 am.

Interested in learning more about the Catholic Church? The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA) is a ministry to adults who are interested in learning more about the Catholic faith, and growing in their relationship with God. If you have never been baptized, have been baptized in another Christian tradition, or were baptized Catholic but have not received the sacraments of First Eucharist and/or Confirmation, and are interested in learning more about the Catholic faith, please contact Jake Linxweiler, Director of RCIA at 483-5571, or the parish office at stpeteraub@comcast.net.

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THE AUBURN VILLAGE SCHOOL PTA

Holiday Fair

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 12, 2015 | 8AM - 2PM

AVS GYMNASIUM | 11 EATON HILL ROAD, AUBURN NH 03032

Come join us at the Holiday Fair! There will be unique items to shop for, fun crafts, games & prizes for the kids, a Sweet Stroll, and some amazing raffles prizes:

- a family four-pack of Park Hopper passes to Disneyworld
- an American Girl Doll
- sports memorabilia from the Boston Red Sox & Bruins
- an autographed, special edition of Dan Brown's *The Da Vinci Code*
- tickets to Storyland, Zoo New England
- gift cards to local restaurants & stores and much more!

Admission is free. Tickets for kids' crafts, raffles & games are \$1 each.

Vendor space is still available.

Please visit www.avsholidayfair.com for more information.

Santa's Breakfast, sponsored by The Friends of the Griffin Free Public Library, will be held in the AVS cafeteria from 8am to 11am.



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Boy Scouts Troop 127

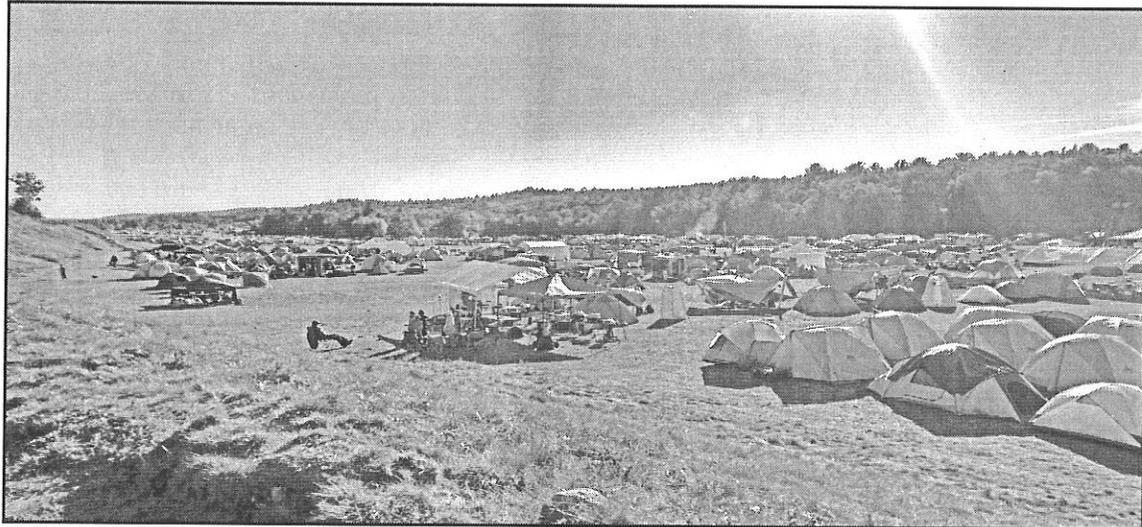
By Anne Gagnon



The Auburn Troop 127 Boy Scouts have been busy. So far this year they have been on seven various camping events. The Troop attended the NH State Jamboree at the NH Motor Speedway in Loudon in October. Several thousand Scouts from NH, ME, VT and Canada attended this event. There were all kinds of activities for the Scouts, including a talent show, watching racecars, welding, paint ball, model rockets and much more. See the photo below showing all the campsites. In other news, the Troop just enjoyed our annual Turkey Roast in November at "Camp Sanborn" in Auburn. We were lucky to be joined by Mr. Sanborn himself! See the picture below. A Troop from Deerfield was also camping. We had a Court of Honor at the Turkey Roast where Scouts were recognized for ranks and merit badges earned.

We will once again be collecting Christmas trees on January 16th and 23rd after the holidays and delivering them to the Safety Complex for the bonfire. If you are interested, please email Shirley at cap-s@comcast.net or call her at 603-867-3699.

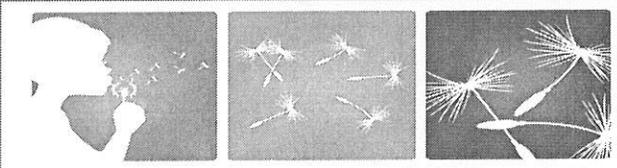
Troop 127 meets Tuesday nights at Longmeadow Church. Please visit our website if you are between the ages of 11 and 17 and interested in coming to a meeting. Boys are welcome to join our Troop at any time <http://auburn127.mytroop.us>



NH State Jamboree, Loudon NH



Turkey Roast at Camp Sanborn on November 7th



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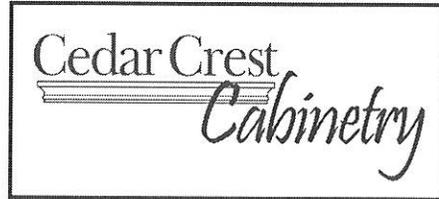
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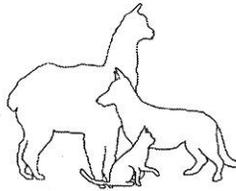
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