

A FREE PUBLICATION

# TRENDY



Next Issue: Tuesday, January 10  
Deadline: Thursday, January 5

# TIMES

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DECEMBER 23, 2022 VOLUME 14, NUMBER 6

## Wells River's Berry Memorial Field Improvements Planned

In 1989 Dr. Elisabeth Berry, a partner in Dr. Rowe's Family Medical Practice donated a piece of land south of the "downtown" Wells River on Route 5, in memory of her husband Kenneth, to the Village of Wells River with the hope it would become a playground for kids. On June 26, 1994, the Rev. Kenneth W. Berry Memorial Field was dedicated with Dr. Berry speaking to 50 residents that turned out for the dedication.

For 29 years the park has served Wells River and area residents well, providing a small playground for younger kids, a tennis court and basketball hoops for older kids and a space for the annual community picnic since 2014.

After all these years of use, it is time to replace some components of the playground equipment and also provide ADA accessible elements to the playground.

During 2022 the Wells River Action Program formed a Project Committee to look at big and small improvements that could make differences in community life in Wells River. The committee looked at many projects and the playground equipment rose to the top.

The Wells River Village Trustees granted \$15,000 from the village's American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding toward purchase of new playground equipment.

Committee member

Rev. James Merriam made inquiries at nearby schools and other playground owners while members Lyndia Melchin and Lauren Nelson researched equipment and found a VT supplier with a package priced at \$14,999. This did not include the \$4,000 estimated installation cost. The playground unit would be for children ages 2 to 12 and be able to be used by most physical abilities.

To expand the use and access to the Berry Memorial Field, WRAP envisions, a winter ice skating rink and making a parking area, adding electricity and maybe even an EV charging unit.

The first stage of the improvements will begin in the spring of 2023 with the



new playground equipment.

WRAP is asking community members to help raise the needed \$4,000 for installation of the equipment. Donations may be sent to WRAP at Post Office Box 538, Wells River, Vermont 05081 or online at [www.paypal.com/us/fund-raiser/charity/1450599](http://www.paypal.com/us/fund-raiser/charity/1450599).

Any excess money raised will be used for other improvements at the Berry Field. WRAP is a 501c3 organization. Donations may be tax deductible. Please make checks payable to WRAP. Please include playground on the memo line.

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# TRENDY Dining Guide

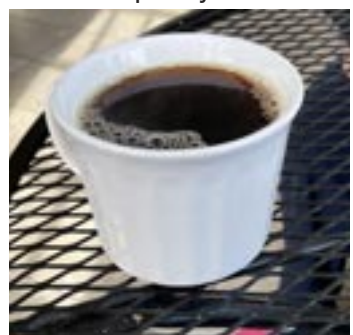
## Holiday Season Eating

by Gary Scruton

We are now in the middle of what many people refer to as "The Holiday Season". If I try to name all the holidays during this time of year I am sure to miss some. For that I will apologize in advance. It is not a slight, but rather a matter of lack of knowledge.

The holidays I think of during this "season" are Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's. Hanukkah is the other that quickly comes to mind, but there certainly are more.

The point I want to make in this column is that most of these holidays have a great focus on food. Thanksgiving is a great feast with roots coming from right here in New England. In my own personal history, I grew up with Thanksgiving being a big family gathering (20 or so at one or more tables) along with a traditional deer hunt before the meal, and football (either playing or watching) and/or card playing after the meal. Somehow there always seemed to be some venison on the table along with the traditional turkey, most every vegetable and of course plenty of deserts



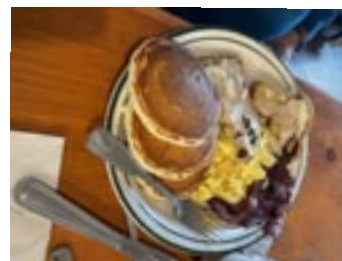
from pies to fudge.

This year our Thanksgiving dinner was much more intimate. There were seven of us seated around the table. But there was still plenty of turkey, stuffing, mashed potatoes, boiled onions and of course apple pie and cheddar cheese. With all those choices, how can you possibly go wrong.

Next up, for me at least, is Christmas. Now this may not be as well known for a big meal, but certainly a time for gathering of family, friends, co-workers or perhaps even fellow committee or organization members. No matter the gathering, there is bound to be plenty of food served. The other aspect of Christmas celebrations is that there almost always tends to be

more than just one.

Next on the list will be New Years. Whether it is ringing in the new year with others and staying up until midnight, or perhaps getting together on the first day of the new year, again there is bound to be some food. But almost as importantly for this holiday are the promises that we make, either out loud, written, or just simply promises to ourselves. When done at this time of year they are referred to as "resolutions". And as we all know these "resolutions" may or may not last



much beyond the time the last of the leftovers get eaten.

With all this said I can really only say that 2022 has been a fun year with plenty of great foods eaten, plenty of interesting and sometimes unique eateries visited, and plenty of great service given to Janice and myself as we have explored the great advertisers who are part of our Trendy Dining Guide. In 2023 we will continue to visit these, and hopefully many other fine establishments.

I will end this edition of the Trendy Dining Guide wishing all the best of

Holiday Seasons, Merry Christmas, Happy New Year, Happy Hanukkah, or whatever greeting you would prefer. May 2023 be a great year that smiles on us all.



Following are just a few of the pictures taken of foods enjoyed during 2022. We hope to you at one of these fine establishments in the months to come.



Volume 14 Number 6

December 23, 2022

Not all Times are Trendy, but there will always be Trendy Times

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# Kick Off 2023 With New Year's Day Hike

Concord, NH – For outdoor enthusiasts, there's no better way to kick off the new year than with a brisk hike. New Hampshire State Parks will once again host the First Day Hikes, the increasingly popular New Year's Day hiking event at select State Parks.

This year, hikers can traverse seven State Park locations hosting First Day Hikes: Greenfield State Park, White Lake State Park, Milan Hill State Park, Pisgah State Park, Monadnock State Park, Odiorne Point State Park, and new to the lineup, Frost Farm Historic Site.

Participants can embark on self-guided tours through historic sites, spot and identify native wildlife, or discover and experience nature. Hot cocoa and snacks will be served

at the end of each hike. Pets are welcomed at most locations but must be leashed at all times (see registration page for pet-friendly locations).

Registration is required, but same-day registration is not allowed. For more information about each park and registration links, visit <https://www.nhstateparks.org/news-events/first-day-hike>

"We are thrilled to be part of this national celebration of state parks and getting people outdoors," said Brian Wilson, Director of New Hampshire Division of Parks & Recreation. "While any day is a good day to take a hike at a New Hampshire State Park, starting out the new year with the collective energy of First Day hikers is really special."

This is the 12th year

New Hampshire and State Parks have participated in the First Day Hikes program. The program is part of a nationwide initiative led by America's State Parks to encourage people to get outdoors.

Here are a few helpful tips to keep in mind for participants:

All hikes will be rain, snow or shine.

Please remember to check the weather prior to the event.

Please dress in layers appropriate for the winter weather and wear appropriate footwear. For more information regarding recommended clothing and gear, visit [HikeSafe.com](http://HikeSafe.com).

Traction devices such as micro spikes or Yaktrax are highly recommended (trails may be icy and slippery).

Be sure to pack water and a snack for during the hike. The Park will provide a warm drink and healthy snack at the completion of the hike.

# January Menu at Horse Meadow Senior Center

Horse Meadow is fully open, Monday-Friday, 8:00-3:00

Grab & Go continues M-F 11:00-11:30, Congregate (inside) Dining- Monday-Friday 11:30-12:30

1/2 CLOSED

1/3 Breakfast @ 8:30 Pancakes & Bacon/Lunch @11:30 BBQ Chicken Tenders, Tater Tots, Broccoli

1/4 Tuna Pea Wiggle over Potato, Beets, Roll, Fruit Cup

1/5 Turkey/Chicken Leg, Stuffing, Roasted Carrots & Beets, Fruit Cup

1/6 Beef & Bean Burritos, Brown Rice, Cauliflower

1/9 Lemon Pepper Fish, Sweet Potato FF, Brussel Sprouts, Apple-sauce

1/10 Breakfast: Scrambled Eggs, Home Fries Lunch: Smothered Pork Chops, Couscous, Garlic Green Beans

1/11 Pot Roast, Mashed Potato, Carrots,

Spinach & Mandarin Orange Salad

1/12 Spaghetti w/Sauce, Garlic Bread, Peas, Tossed Salad

1/13 Sausage, Pepper & Onion Quiche, Blueberry Muffin, Fruit Cup

1/16 CLOSED Civil Rights Day

1/17 Breakfast: French Toast Lunch: Beef Stroganoff over egg noodles, Spinach

1/18 Egg Salad Sandwich, lettuce, tomato, Cottage Cheese, Cucumber Salad

1/19 Roasted Chicken, Black Beans & Rice, Mixed Vegetables, Corn Chutney Salas

1/20 Homemade Mac & Cheese, Maple Glazed Carrots, Sweet Pea & Dill Salad

1/23 Chinese New Year: Sweet & Sour Chicken, Fried Rice, Egg Roll, Oriental Vegetables

1/24 Breakfast: Assorted Quiche, Lunch: Hotdogs & Beans, Carrots, Cole Slaw, Corn Bread

1/25 Ranch Chicken, Baked Potato, Broccoli, Mandarin Oranges

1/26 BBQ Pulled Pork Sandwich, Roasted Potato w/onion & pepper, Roasted Corn & Tomato

1/27 Chef Salad, Cottage Cheese w/fruit, Banana Bread

1/30 Tuna Salad Sandwich, Chips, Tossed Salad, Cup of Soup

1/31 Breakfast: Baked Blueberry Oatmeal, Lunch: Chipped Beef & Gravy, Potato, Mixed Vegetables, Orzo Salad

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December 23, 2022  
Volume 14 Number 6

A Rep's Repartee  
by Jerry Stringham

## Learning from Past Success



In a recent NY Times article (Nov. 21, 2022), the authors explained the largely nationwide legalization of online sports gambling, which was triggered by a Supreme Court decision. This legalization occurs at the state level.

Having been part of crafting the bipartisan legislation in the 2018-2020 term, I am pleased to see how it turned out for NH.

A key element of this legislation was allowing the governor's administration to negotiate the best online sports betting contract for the state. Ultimately, New Hampshire awarded Draft Kings an exclusive contract to offer these services in the state.

It turns out that New Hampshire has one of the most favorable contracts for its citizens. By entrusting Charlie McIntyre, Executive Director of the NH Lottery, and his department to determine what would work best, we obtained a far better arrangement than other states.

As the NY Times article stated: "The gambling industry pressed states to keep tax rates low on sports betting, warning that if the states pushed rates too high, sports fans would turn to the black market to place bets on unregulated sites. Those warnings were misplaced. Some states, including New York and New Hamp-

shire, ignored the industry's advice and installed the highest tax rates on betting. They have seen bets placed at a higher rate per capita than many low-tax states."

Our structure is not an imposed tax. It is a negotiated fee that we collect and use to pay for essential services or to reduce other taxes.

As the NH House Ways and Means Committee considers revenue streams in the era of a possible 2023 economic downturn and abatement of federal support linked to the pandemic, modification of some of the fees associated with tobacco, vaping, and gambling could be considered.

A bill I submitted for the upcoming term requires review of the use of tobacco settlement funds. These funds are supposed to be used for public education and nicotine abatement programs. This bill also authorizes the state to determine the most appropriate fees for nicotine-related products without requiring the legislature to micromanage the process.

Our work in 2018-2020 shows that this is a better way. Let's hope we can learn from our past success.

Jerry M. Stringham  
Representative-Elect  
Lincoln, Woodstock and Easton  
jerry@jerrystringham.com

## Bouquets of Beauty In Northeast Kingdom Artisans Guild Back Room Gallery

Winter Blossoms and Floral Art by Benjamin Barnes, Sachiko Yashida Zahler and Robert Chapla. Plus Sunflowers for Ukraine by Benjamin Barnes. The show will run January 12th through February 24, 2023

A reception for the artists is tentatively scheduled for Saturday the 14th of January from 4 to 6.

Please check on social media (Facebook and Instagram) or on our website, [www.nekartisans-guild.com](http://www.nekartisans-guild.com) in case of weather conditions. Or call us, during open hours at 802-748-0158

In order to chase away the winter blues and look forward to the advent of Spring, Northeast Kingdom Artisans Guild presents a "Greenhouse" of paintings by three members of the Guild.

Benjamin Barnes writes of his work: Inspired by the Ashcan School and Regionalism, Barnes paints the world around him. While wary of nostalgia, he is still drawn to a narrative that reminds of us of the passage of time. Evocative light and space pull us into depictions of our past, while objects from the present keep us rooted in reality. The rural landscape is in-

formed by the powerlines sweeping into the distance. The rusting pick-up truck gives way to moss and saplings emerging from its hood. A vase of flowers is paired with a note and a pencil encouraging us to ask who they were for, who they were from.

Robert Chapla's paintings range from realistic to abstract, developed either in his studio, or en plein air to capture the living essence of growing, worked on again in the studio to rejuvenate, and freshen with the colors of memory. He finds this way adds a more fluid effect—"an attempt to achieve an interactive, rhythmic unity to the work."

Sachiko Yashida Zahler paints from life, capturing in watercolor the fluid transitory beauty of flowers. Her oriental style reflects not just her heritage, but the sensual



grace of the flora, that seem to remain alive, even behind glass, in a frame.

We are located at 430 Railroad St. NEK Artisans Guild is a cooperative art and artisan now celebrating their 27th year. Visit the Guild at [www.nekartisansguild.com](http://www.nekartisansguild.com), on Instagram and Facebook, or call during open hours at 802-748-0158.

Press release written by the artist, edited and arranged by James M. Frase-White, Curator, Back Room Gallery

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Happy Holidays

From our family to yours. The Perry, Gehrman family.

Follow us on Facebook for inventory updates and hours.

### HAVERHILL RECREATION COMMISSION EVENT CALENDAR

Schedule is Effective January 9

**Senior Stretch class** Monday -Thursday 10-11

**Preschool Playgroup** Tuesdays & Thursdays 9-10

for January & February starting January 10

**Open Gym Walking program**

Monday - Friday 11-12

**Drums Alive class** at Horse Meadow Senior

Center Monday & Wednesday 1-2

**Line Dancing** Wednesday evenings 6-7 PM

**Pickleball** ~ Tuesday & Thursdays from 6-8 &

Saturday 9-11

**Cornhole** Friday nights starting at 6:00 PM

**Monthly Paint & Sip, Teen Nights, Acoustic Music Jams, Softball clinics are going on too!**

Dates vary so check the website calendar!

[www.haverhill-nh.com](http://www.haverhill-nh.com)

Above events at the  
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# January Activities at Horse Meadow Senior Center

1/2 CLOSED  
 1/3 8:00 Nifty Needlers, 9:30 Bone Builders, 9:30 Interfaith Chat, 12:30 Craft Time, 1:00 Walk the Center, 1:00 Food Pantry, Music by Jane Wilcox  
 1/4 9:00 Walk the Center, 9:30 Chair Yoga, 10:30 Board Games, 1:00 Bingo, No Drums Alive Today  
 1/5 9:30 Bone Builders, 1:00 Walk the Center, 1:00 Food Pantry by appointment  
 1/6 9:00 Walk the Center, 10:00 Movie & Popcorn, 12:30 Mahjongg  
 1/9 9:00 Walk the Center, 10:30 Candy Bar Bingo, 1:00 Drums Alive, 1:00 Card Games  
 1/10 8:00 Nifty Needlers, 9:30 Bone Builders, 12:30 Crafting Time, 1:00 Walk the Center, 1:00 Food Pantry, Music by Jane Wilcox  
 1/11 9:00 Walk the center, 9:30 Chair Yoga, 10:00 Veterans Coffee, 10:30 Board Games, 1:00 Bingo, 1:00 Drums Alive  
 1/12 9:30 Bone builders, 10:00 Floral w/Jane, 1:00 Walk the Center, 1:00 Food Pantry  
 1/13 9:00 Walk the Center, 12:30 Herbal, 12:30 Mahjongg,  
 1/16 CLOSED  
 1/17 8:00 Nifty Needlers, 9:30 Bone Builders, 9:30 Interfaith Chat, 12:30 Crafting Time,  
 1:00 Walk the Center, 1:00 Food Pantry, Music by Jane Wilcox  
 1/18 9:00 Walk the center, 9:30 Chair Yoga, 10:00 Book Club discussion, 10:30 Board Games, 1:00 Bingo, 1:00 Drums Alive  
 1/19 9:30 Bone Builders, 1:00 Walk the Center, 1:00 Food Pantry  
 1/20 9:00 Walk the Center, 10:00 Movie & Popcorn, 12:30 Mahjongg, Foot Clinic by appt.  
 1/23 9:00 Walk the Center, 10:30 Candy Bar Bingo, 1:00 Drums Alive, 1:00 Card Games  
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 1/30 9:00 Walk the Center, 1:00 Drums Alive  
 1/31 8:00 Nifty Needlers, 9:30 Bone Builders, 12:30 Crafting Time, 1:00 Walk the center, 1:00 Food Pantry, Music by Jane



The WHS JAG Toy Drive raised over 200 toys for local children! Thanks to all the students and staff at WHS, the staff at Cottage Hospital and Haverhill NH Police Department for your generous donations! Next, members of the WHS JAG Program will help Santa and his helpers at WOODSVILLE FIRE RESCUE DEPARTMENT to distribute the toys!  
 L-R. Mary D, Ella G, Paige R and Preston D

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<p><b>KILLZ BOW SLING Black</b>  <b>\$34<sup>99</sup></b></p>	<p><b>CAMODUST NEUTRALIZING POWDER 6 oz.</b>  <b>\$11<sup>99</sup></b></p>	<p><b>BOSSMAN HANDS-FREE GRUNTER</b>  <b>\$19<sup>99</sup></b></p>
<p><b>KILLZ LIGHT GEN 3</b>  <b>\$19<sup>99</sup></b></p>	<p><b>HEATER BODY Camo Country</b>  <b>\$389<sup>99</sup></b></p>	

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# Calendar of Events

EVENTS FROM LOCAL NON-PROFITS, SCHOOLS AND TOWNS. PRESENTED FREE BY TRENDY TIMES.

## SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 26 - WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 11

CHRISTMAS LIGHTS AT THE  
JOSEPH SMITH BIRTHPLACE  
4:00 - 9:00 PM  
357 LDS Lane, South Royalton, VT

## SUNDAY-SUNDAY, DECEMBER 18 - 25

Hanukkah Candlelighting in Bethlehem  
5:00 PM (4:00 pm Dec 23)  
eileenregen@gmail.com  
Bethlehem Town Hall

## SATURDAY, DECEMBER 24

A CHRISTMAS IN SONG" CELEBRATION  
6:00 PM phone: jo anne at 603-787-6658  
Bethany Church, Route 25, Pike, NH

## SUNDAY, DECEMBER 25

CHRISTMAS DAY  
Please enjoy with family & friends

## WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 28

COHASE WINTER DECORATING CONTEST  
Last Day To Vote for 2022 Winners  
www.cohase.org

## SUNDAY, JANUARY 1

NEW YEAR'S DAY HIKE  
See Article on Page 3

## TUESDAY, JANUARY 3

HAVERHILL SELECT BOARD MEETING  
6:00 PM  
Clifford Memorial Building, Woodsville

## SUNDAY, JANUARY 8

ACOUSTIC MUSIC JAM  
12:00 - 3:00 PM  
Clifford Memorial Building, Woodsville

## WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 11

ROSS-WOOD POST #20 AMERICAN LEGION  
MONTHLY MEETING -  
6:00 PM  
4 Ammonoosuc Street, Woodsville

## SUNDAY, JANUARY 15

BENEFIT TEXAS HOLD 'EM POKER  
10:00 AM-7:00 PM Cash 1:00 PM Tournament  
Moose Lodge 1779, St. Johnsbury

## EVERY THURSDAY

WORKING ON WELLNESS  
6:00 PM  
Monroe Public Library

## EVERY FRIDAY

SHARE THE HARVEST TABLE  
NOON - 7:00 PM  
Baldwin Memorial Library, Wells River.

## EVERY SUNDAY

BETHANY CHURCH WORSHIP SERVICES  
9:00 AM "the church set apart on the hill"  
Mt. Moosilauke Highway, Pike, NH  
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## WEEKLY EVENTS AT

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ANTIQUÉ STROLLERS WALKING PROGRAM  
Monday – Friday from 11:00-12:00  
PICKLEBALL  
Tuesday & Thursday evenings at 6:00 PM  
Saturday mornings at 9:00-10:30 AM  
LINE DANCING every Wednesday evening  
6:00 - 7:00 PM

## Sally

by Elinor Mawson

When she was two years old, Sally was adopted. She talked in sentences, was potty trained, and could dress herself and tie her shoes. Her new parents were astounded. No other information was available at that time, and they wondered what kind of a life she had with all those skills.

Sally had a big brother, Ronnie. He was a nervous child compared to his new sister who was very calm and easy-going. Everyone loved her.

Glen and Ellen, her parents, were quite strict. They had a lot of ideas about bringing up children and it wasn't easy for Ronnie and Sally. Table manners were a case in point, and they were required to finish everything on their plate. If there were any leftovers, they had to sit at the table until the plate was empty. Sometimes it was hours.

There were two other little girls on the street and

Sally quickly made friends. The three of them were watched over by Ellen to make sure everyone got along and stayed out of mischief. Ellen would find fault if Sally stayed out after being called home--as well as fussing about Sally's wardrobe or her grades in school.

Sally took piano lessons. If she didn't feel like practicing, there would be consequences like being sent to her room, or going without dessert.

Life went on. When Sally graduated from high school she immediately took nurse's training and got her LNA. From there she went to Vermont to work in a hospital. We went to visit her in her apartment and she was a happy girl! We knew she wouldn't go home again.

One day, her birth family contacted her. She found out why she had been adopted and the news wasn't pleasant. I'm sure she compared her early life with her adopted life and discovered they

were basically the same. She decided not to have a relationship with her "new" relatives.

She met and married Chuck--a ne'er-do-well who had a substance-abuse problem. He also was unemployed, and it wasn't long before Sally got disgusted because he wouldn't change. It was a learning curve and they got divorced.

Eventually she met Robert, a farmer a lot older than she. He owned a huge farm on the side of a mountain. It also had a ramshackle house, and after getting married, Sally tried to make it liveable and pretty, which was a challenge. They had 3 children and again, Sally was a happy girl.

As the children grew

older, they were able to help on the farm, doing chores and working the sugarbush. Sally and Robert were proud of their kids.

Robert's health was failing. Money was tight and Sally went to work driving a school bus up and down the mountains in her area. She also took some elder care jobs. Somehow, Sally was able to make an apartment in the upstairs and the extra money was welcome.

For some reason, Sally decided to turn over the property to her sons. Despite advice to the contrary, she persevered and papers were passed. She felt "out from under".

The boys grew older and graduated from high school. Robert passed

away. The kids got jobs and girlfriends, and left home. Sally continued working the two jobs. In time, one of her sons decided to rent the upstairs and moved his family in. The girlfriend and Sally took a dislike to each other which made life a little uneasy all the way around.

Several years later, the family upstairs decided they needed more room and told Sally to leave. Since she didn't own the place anymore she had no choice. She moved in with her other son many miles away. Her Christmas card this year just said "It was a hard year". I can't help but think but this hard year was one of many.

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# Governor Sununu Announces \$4.3 Million in Grants

NH's Land and Community Heritage Investment Program (LCHIP) Awards 34 Grants to Communities and Non-Profit Organizations Across the State

Concord, NH: Governor Sununu recently announced \$4.3 million in matching grants to support thirty-four land conservation and historic preservation projects across the state by the New Hampshire Land and Community Heritage Investment Program (LCHIP). The grants will assist municipalities, non-profit organizations and community groups in rehabilitating 17 historic structures and permanently conserving more than 2,700 acres of farm, timber, and ecologically significant land in all ten counties of the state.

"It's just fantastic that the state, through LCHIP, is able to award \$4.3 million to these locally-driven conservation and rehabilitation projects," said Governor Chris Sununu. "Our state is rich in cultural and natural heritage. Preserving that heritage is a tribute to the past and a gift to the future."

"I have seen firsthand how LCHIP directly supports local historic preservation and land conservation projects – projects that support local jobs,

preserve traditional craftsmanship, enhance our local tax base, promote tourism, and improve the quality of life for folks who live here," said Governor Sununu. "LCHIP protects New Hampshire's very identity, and I couldn't be happier to be here celebrating that today."

LCHIP Board Chair Ben Wilcox (President and General Manager of Cranmore Mountain Resort), remarked, "It's such a pleasure to once again gather in person here in Concord to support the efforts of these organizations to preserve our state's heritage. The grants announced today and the projects they support, represent the heart of the Granite State. They mean the preservation of our history, our culture, and our stories for generations to come."

LCHIP Executive Director Paula Bellemore observed, "LCHIP is one of the most competitive grant programs in the state. This year we received 55 applications requesting \$7.8 million in grant funding, with only \$4.3 million available. I am grateful for the 17 conservation and preservation experts who each volunteered over 100 hours reading proposals and crisscrossing the state visiting project sites, and for



Governor Sununu, LCHIP Board Chair Ben Wilcox, and Executive Director Paula Bellemore congratulating Joe Kirkpatrick, Haverhill Library President on receipt of \$75,000 grant to rehabilitate Library slate roof, external masonry, and woodwork.

LCHIP's Board of Directors who carefully considered each proposal before making the difficult funding decisions." LCHIP grant recipients are required to match each dollar contributed by LCHIP with a minimum of one additional dollar, and to complete the funded projects according to the program's rigorous stan-

dards. This year's awards of \$4.3 million will be matched by more than \$23 million from other public and private sources, infusing a total of more than \$27 million into the state's economy in direct project activity. Recipients will be expected to complete the funded work within two years. A list of previously com-

pleted LCHIP-funded projects can be found at [www.LCHIP.org](http://www.LCHIP.org).

## IN THIS SEASON LET'S CELEBRATE LIFE

### Both Born & Unborn

**"God created Man in His own Image.."**

Each w/his own DNA so YOU are **UNIQUE**

**"..fearfully & wonderfully made.."**

"In your Book were written all the days that were ordained for **ME..**" Psalms 139:13-16

**LIFE is the MOST SACRED GIFT from GOD**

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**WE might have ETERNAL LIFE**

John 3:16



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We will be closing the first week of January.  
We will open back up in May!  
We want thank all our family, friends and neighbors for making this a great season!  
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Thank you, Don & Shelly Drew

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Volume 14 Number 6  
December 23, 2022  
Not all Times are Trendy, but there will always be Trendy Times



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Personal: For Sale, Wanted, Lost, Found: Up to 30 words FREE for 2 issues. (\$10,000 value limit)  
 Business: Help Wanted, For Rent, etc. \$10/2 issues, \$20/5 issues, \$50/15 issues. Limit of 30 words.  
 Classifieds that exceed word count may be subject to an additional charge.

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Volume 14 Number 6

December 23, 2022

Not all Times are Trendy, but there will always be Trendy Times



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**BUSINESS:** Help Wanted, For Rent, etc. \$10/2 issues,

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**Classifieds that exceed word count may be subject to an additional charge.**

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### Letter to the Editor: Correction

To the Editor,

I would like to thank Marianne L. Kelly for her wonderful article and kind words about me in the December 13th issue of the Trendy Times. However, I would like to correct a few things that somehow must have been changed in error by the editing process.

First of all, I did not suffer brain injury from a "kick fight". Kick boxing is the furthest thing from most women's minds, as it was for me. While the idea of me getting serious brain injury from something as exotic as kick boxing gave me a chuckle, I actually received it from a tick bite in 2005 that put me in a coma for 5 days with Rocky Mountain Spotted Fever. I almost died from it and had to learn to walk and talk again. I am still working through the limitations it left me with to this day.

Another thing that I believe is simply a misunder-

standing of terminology was that I did not "transgender" to be a woman. Transgender is not a verb but an adjective. Although I can be described as a transgender woman, I do not identify as such. I am no less a woman that any other who has had a total hysterectomy. I transitioned in 1991 from my fake male self to become my true female self.

One last little thing is that I did not move to New Hampshire after graduating high school in 1969. I joined the Navy and served until 1977, living in Virginia, then southern New Jersey until finally moving to New Hampshire in 2006.

Again, I sincerely appreciate the article, especially the talk about my books – in particular my new time-travel novel, "Time Slip – When Yesterday Ends". If you like science fiction, I think you'll really enjoy this.

Rachael Evelyn Booth  
Landaff, NH

Rachael,

*My sincere apologies for the errors in Marianne's article in our previous issue. Errors can happen for a vast array of reasons, and we all make them from time to time. Of course we all do our best, especially when it is in written words, to be accurate and true. But obviously we missed on a few points. We wish you the best with your new book, and continued succes with your career and your life.*

Gary Scruton, Editor

### What's Your Opinion?

Let others know with a Letter to the Editor. Just be prepared for a response.



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### Letter to the Editor: No Need for Cowardly Attacks on One's Freedom of Speech

To the Editor,

It is amazing how small some people can be. A friend of mine writes frequently into the editorial section of the local papers. He has a strong conservative point of view. He is very knowledgeable and articulate and speaks in detail about the current issues that are taking place in our country. Unfortunately there is a person (not sure whether it is a male or female) who sends nasty hateful letters to him, calling him names using vulgar language because he/she disagrees with what my friend writes. Additionally this person will NEVER sign his/her name or address. He/she stays completely anonymous. How COW-

ARDLY is this?! This person verbally assaults/harasses but does not have the guts to sign his/her name. I have advice for this person. First, why don't you write your own letters into the papers expressing your points of view intelligently. Secondly, if you are so adamantly against what my friend is saying, why don't you offer an articulate rebuttal going point for point discussing intelligently why you think he is wrong, etc. This is what the editorial pages are all about. They offer everyone an opportunity to express opinions and state facts about events that can impact our country, cities and towns. The freedom of speech can

create awareness, educate, inform and raise questions which in turn can draw attention to key issues, cause change and hold legislators accountable. This is what makes our country great. Lastly, I'm sure, like all of us who write in, that you will have people who agree with you or disagree. But I'm willing to bet that no one will send hate mail to you like you are doing to my friend. It's sad that people have to viciously attack others that they disagree with in such a cowardly way. At the end of the day, however, this person has to look at him/herself in the mirror. I wonder if they will like what they see.

Alex Foryan  
Landaff, NH

Alex,

*Obviously I do not know who either of these letter writers you are referring to are. I can say, that like most other publications, we do not publish letters that are not signed. Besides that I must agree with what you have written in your letter. An exchange of ideas, points of view, or even ways of expressing one's thoughts can bring changes to the way things are done, handled or planned for in the future. If we all were will-*

*ing to look at other's ideas in a positive light rather than ignoring or discounting them out of hand, then many projects and programs could move forward much more quickly and with much more ease and probably in a much more economical manner as well.*

*So please keep the letters coming. I will continue to give you space, and offer my own two cents worth.*

Gary Scruton, Editor

### Letter to the Editor:

Well, not really. The following Letter was forwarded to Trendy Times by the writer, Tom Thomson of Orford. This letter and three others from other members of the Orford Budget Committee were sent to the Orford Selectboard. It is reprinted here with his permission

Orford Selectboard  
2529 Gov. Meldrim Thomson Scenic Highway  
Orford, NH 03777

December 19, 2022

Dear Selectboard Members,

This letter is to inform you that as of today, I will be resigning from the Orford Budget Advisory Committee, which I have served on for the past 12 years.

Simply, I have lost confidence in the working relationship between the Selectboard and the Budget Advisory Committee. One example is; we just recently learned that the approved 2022 Road Dept. Gravel Budget of \$30,000 was over spent by the Selectboard in the amount of \$215,685 a huge increase in the Gravel Budget alone.

But at our meeting on Nov. 15, 2022 with the Selectboard and Budget Advisory Committee, I asked the Selectboard who it was who authorized spending \$215,685 over the gravel budget and why? Was it the past Road Agent or the Selectboard who was responsible? Only after asking my question three times, the Chair of the Selectboard said it was the decision of the Selectboard but with no explanation as to why they overspent \$215,685 and where the money came from to cover this amount. At the very least the Selectboard first should have had a Public Hearing to go over this with our Taxpayers, or more appropriate, a special Town Meeting and let the voters decide before over spending the gravel budget by \$215,685.

Other budget increase concerns are: why is the budget of the Orford Planning Board doubling from \$7010, to \$14,050 and the Selectboard's answer was we should ask the Chair of the Planning Board. You also indicated you were planning to increase wages for Orford employees by 8.7% this coming year. If that were to pass, the total wage increase in the past 2 years would total 14.7% (as last year it was 6%). There doesn't seem to be any concern about the increase in Town spending, while Orford Taxpayers are suffering with inflation, which is at a 40 year high.

All of us who are elected or appointed to serve the Taxpayers of Orford need to go out of our way to be transparent to our Taxpayers but unfortunately that's not always happening.

Sincerely yours,  
Tom Thomson  
Tom Thomson

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## Passing Assets Through a Trust: What to Know

As the year winds down, your thoughts might drift to the future. And, as part of that future, you may be thinking of where your financial assets will end up. You've worked hard to accumulate them, and you'll certainly need some of them to support your retirement, but what about the rest? What's the best way to pass them on to your loved ones?

There's no single path for everyone to follow. But you might consider establishing a trust, which offers some key benefits. For example, your estate can avoid the time-consuming, and highly public, process of probate. Plus, you can be highly specific about how your assets will be distributed.

To establish a trust, you will need to work with a qualified estate-planning attorney. And while you'll discuss many issues, here are three key questions that will certainly need to be addressed:

Who will serve as trustee of the trust? As the grantor, or creator, of your trust, you will pick the trustee – the individual or corporate en-

tity that will manage the trust's assets and carry out the purpose of the trust. You could choose a trusted loved one, but this individual might not have the knowledge or experience to manage the responsibilities of a trustee. As an alternative, you could choose a corporate fiduciary, such as a bank or trust company. These entities are typically regulated by outside agencies and provide significant public matter expertise. Of course, they charge for their services and often have account minimums.

When are distributions made? As the grantor, you can choose when assets will be distributed to the beneficiaries you've named. You could decide to keep the assets in the trust until a beneficiary reaches the age of majority; note that the age of majority is not the same in all states. Or you could choose to "phase in" the distributions at particular ages – e.g., 30, 35, 40 – or after a certain number of years. You could even hold assets in the trust for the lifetimes of the beneficiaries. These types of choices will depend on several factors, such as your feelings for how responsible a beneficiary might be in managing money.

For what purposes can the trust assets be used? In addition to choosing when your

trust should make distributions, you can decide how these assets should be used. You could designate some broad categories, such as health, education, maintenance and support. A beneficiary's request for distributions in these areas is usually granted. But you could also structure the trust to provide mandatory income, perhaps once a year, or include a provision that provides incentives, such as distributing certain amounts of money once the beneficiary has achieved a milestone, such as finishing a degree or purchasing a first home.

One final note: Although you clearly have great control over what your trust can accomplish, its effectiveness will also depend, to a great extent, on its asset level. With this in mind, you'll want to pay close attention to your investment decisions throughout your life and your withdrawal strategy during retirement. The better your choices in these areas, the more options you'll have with your trust – and the greater the potential benefits for your beneficiaries.

*This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor. Edward Jones, Member SIPC*

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## WHS Student Earns Trip to DC

Woodsville High School's Vanessa Chau-sheva (Class of 2023) has been selected as a participant in the U.S. Department of State's Workshop for Youth Leaders in English Teaching. The workshop will take place in

Washington, D.C., in April 2023. Vanessa is an Exchange Student from Bulgaria and has been a great addition to Woodsville High School.

Participation in this program is funded by the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs (ECA).

The Workshop for Youth Leaders in English Teaching (WYLET) is a program of the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs for select exchange students on the FLEX and YES programs. WYLET builds on the U.S. experience through an intensive, week-long training program for aspiring English language teachers in Washington, DC. The Workshop culti-



vates skills specific to teaching English, such as student-centered methodology, effective use of technology, classroom management, organization skills, and lesson design and delivery. Participants are expected to organize or participate in teaching English upon returning to their home communities.

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# Iconic Thunder Road Earns SRX Race and Spot on ESPN Thursday Night Thunder

Barre, VT — Officials are proud to announce the Superstar Racing Experience (SRX) is coming to the iconic Thunder Road International Speedbowl on Thursday, July 20th. The SRX Series will pit the best of multiple racing disciplines against one another in identical cars on six short tracks across the country live on ESPN's reestablished Thursday Night Thunder. Thunder Road has earned the second spot in that six-race line-up and July 20th will also feature the exciting All-Star Late Model Showdown, a full field of Late Model heroes from past and present duking it out for the glory of being the Greatest of All Time.

With the SRX Series and Star-Studded Late Model Showdown taking over the Thursday, July 20th date, Times-Argus Midseason Championships have been moved to Friday, July 21st. An exciting Double Header week

on the Barre highbanks that you won't want to miss!

"The six tracks we selected came from a list of 42 fantastic venues," said SRX Chief Executive Officer Don Hawk. "When selecting the schedule, we prioritized historic tracks that have had great success hosting big-time events...SRX's first visit to Thunder Road will be awesome – the fans there are spectacular, and we're excited for race fans around the country to see how awesome that place is."

While the 2023 SRX driver line-up has yet to be announced, over the last two seasons the best of the best have taken part in the series. NASCAR Cup Series Champions, Daytona 500 Champions, open-wheeled Indianapolis 500 Champions and road course Trans-Am Champions have all taken part in the thrilling SRX Series. NASCAR Cup Champion Driver and

Team Owner Tony Stewart will be back at Thunder Road with SRX on July 20th alongside a host of huge talent, yet to be announced, all looking for glory at the Nation's Site of Excitement.

The exciting All-Star Late Model Showdown will be a thrilling field of local and longtime Northeast talent. The special 64-lap event to commemorate Thunder Road's 64th season will include contestants made up in exciting fashion. Eligibility for the All-Star Showdown will hinge on a driver's support of ACT-sanctioned events and tracks in the upcoming season.

Immediately eligible will be all American-Canadian Tour, Thunder Road, White Mountain Motorsports Park and Serie ACT Quebec Late Model winners from the 2023 season. Alongside these 2023 winners, the top-5 in points for these same tracks and tours on the week of July 20, 2023 will

also be eligible to race. Additionally, former Thunder Road, White Mountain and ACT Late Model champions will be eligible as well as former Vermont Milk Bowl winners.

Lastly, the All-Star Showdown will pit the best of the best Northeast Late Model racers against one another for a fantastic purse and a guaranteed spot in the 61st Vermont Milk Bowl on October 1st.

The SRX event is likely to sellout. As such, Thunder Road will be pre-selling tickets to this marquee motorsports event in just a few short weeks. As a courtesy to our biggest supporters, a special Pre-Sale will be available to all 2023 Thunder Road Season Pass Holders and all 2023 ACT License Holders starting at 8:00am on Monday, January 9th. As an event added after the November schedule release, it is not included in the 2023 Seasons Pass.

All remaining tickets will be available to the general public starting at 8:00am on Tuesday, January 10th. As with all SRX events in the past, we expect these tickets will go fast to a sellout crowd. Don't get caught behind and join all the action as Thunder Road hosts the ultimate SRX Racing experience and the All-Star Late Model Showdown on Thursday, July 20, 2023!

Sponsorship opportunities are readily available for this marquee motorsports event at one of New England's most iconic short tracks. Interested parties can contact Marketing Director Marvin Galarneau at [mfg@thunderroadvt.com](mailto:mfg@thunderroadvt.com).

For more information, contact the Thunder Road offices at (802) 244-6963, [media@thunderroadvt.com](mailto:media@thunderroadvt.com), or visit [www.thunderroadvt.com](http://www.thunderroadvt.com). You can also follow us on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram at @ThunderRoadVT.

## Cats and Cold

by Maggie Anderson

I am a member of a group called Short Story here on the coast. Once a week, somebody chooses a story, then we gather on Thursdays to read it, or parts of it. We talk it over and share similar things in our own histories.

This week, the warnings of icy roads have been so severe the Short Story session, and nearly any other activity Hank and I planned to engage in has been cancelled. It is nearly 9:30 already and not a flake or the sparkle of frost on a fence post or twig. The weather guessers believe in the old motto, "better safe than sorry."

In order to keep the group connected in spite of the, promised, but not delivered ice storm, our facilitator emailed a chap-

ter from the book called Little Heathens. We have been discussing it for several weeks.

The chapter she sent is a segment about the author's memories of winters on her grandparents' Iowa farm, one of the gauges used to determine what sort of night they were in for could be judged by how many dogs or cats she and her siblings and cousins were permitted to tuck into bed with them.

The chapter reminds me of our first winter in the old farmhouse in New Hampshire when I was in the third grade. Having never been through a real winter I have to tell you, it was a drastic learning curve, one I had to grasp immediately or perhaps not live to tell about.

The house was already 123 years old when we moved in, and built before

the advent of insulation, to say that first winter was a season of enlightenment doesn't come close to its reality.

For starters, the well was situated under several layers of floorboards right in the middle of the kitchen. If, or I should say when, the pump froze mid-winter, the only way to get fresh water was to roll the linoleum back, remove all the layers of floorboards, and drop a bucket into the inky abyss.

The storms were so relentlessly long-lasting, since nobody had a prayer of shouldering their way out against the socked-in weight of a heavy snowfall, all the doors in the house were built to open inward so families had half a chance of digging out after a storm had passed.

My brothers and I used to climb out the upstairs windows and jump off the

porch roof, always in twos or threes, in case one of us missed the mark we were aiming for, buried ourselves neck deep, and had to be quickly dug out.

We never worried much over Dave missing his mark, he was angry in general so, if he missed his mark he began to get steamed so quickly, he melted everything around him and cleared a path in any direction he chose to stomp away in.

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**Adam W. Smith**

Not all Times are Trendy, but there will always be Trendy Times December 23, 2022 Volume 14 Number 6

# American Legion Post Makes Donation to WES



Ross-Wood Post 20 American Legion of Woodsville donated \$1200 to the Woodsville Elementary School recently. Nick Thompson, Post Finance Officer, presented the check to Tiffany Glynn, Caitlyn Page & Brittany Hall.

Photo courtesy of Alain Brin, Post 20 Historian

Members of Ross-Wood Post #20 American Legion in Woodsville recently voted to make a donation to Wadesville

Elementary School in the amount of \$1,200. The request was made by friends of WES in order to help fund a number of projects including Christmas gifts for some students as well as upgraded playground equipment.

The Four Pillars of the American Legion are Veterans Affairs & Rehabilitation, National Security, Americanism and Children & Youth. With these in mind the members of Ross-Wood Post #20 make various donations throughout the year to a number of other organizations to help promote and move forward those ideals.

St. Johnsbury, VT - The NEK Council on Aging held its 2022 Annual Meeting on November 17th at the East Side Restaurant in Newport, VT. The meeting was open to the public and attended by an estimated 45 people.

The meeting began with a welcome from the Council's Executive Director, Meg Burmeister and an address from Board President, Susan Gordon who thanked staff and volunteers.

"We appreciate how the leadership and staff have responded to the many challenges presented by Covid-19 these past two years," said Gordon. "They have been innovative at carrying out their responsibilities, adapting to a variety of restrictions, changes in service delivery, and new forms of technology while continuing to provide a high level of service and support to our clients. We are proud of their dedication and perseverance."

Gordon thanked the board for their continued service and offered gratitude to outgoing board members Sue Montague of St. Johnsbury and Kathy Hemmens of Hardwick.

A new slate of officers for the Board of Directors was nominated and approved. They are Susan Gordon, President; Anne Steinberg, Vice President; Evan Hammond, Treasurer; and Kris Lance, Secretary. New members of the Board were nominated and approved. They are Debbie Dorsett of Orleans, Michele Graves of Danville, David Perry of Craftsbury, and Robert Rivard of Newport.

"It is great to finally be together in person after

# NEK Council on Aging Hosts 2022 Annual Meeting



Photo Caption: Kathy Hemmens (right) is presented with the 2022 Humanitarian Hero award from the NEK Council on Aging by Meg Burmeister, NEKCOA Executive Director. The award honors her commitment to the mission of the NEKCOA and support of elder and disabled residents of the Northeast Kingdom.

working through the challenges of the pandemic—something we've all learned to not take for granted," said Meg Burmeister. "As we work to support people in our community, the work that Congress enacted by the Older Americans Act in 1965, we are committed to helping older Vermonters to choose where and how they live, independently and with dignity."

Burmeister described new initiatives and services presented over the year. Trualta, the 24/7 online portal for caregiver support and GetSetUp, another e-learning portal providing thousands of online classes and workshops for a myriad of interests (travel, cooking, wellness, technology and more). The volunteer services program at the Council, which includes the AmeriCorps Senior Program, has been expanded by a grant to provide staff for wellness and technology support for home bound clients, and volunteer enhancement and recruitment support directly in NEK communities.

The guest speaker, Beth Stern, Outreach Representative for U.S. Senator Bernie Sanders, spoke of the work Senator Sanders is doing in Congress to support elder and disabled Vermonters. Stern was also the former Executive Director of the Central Vermont Council on Aging where she

worked for 30 years. Members of the NEKCOA Leadership Team shared their experiences of working to support the needs of NEK elder friends and neighbors and the need to fight discrimination against the elderly.

The Council honored Kathy Hemmens with the 2022 Humanitarian Hero award to celebrate and recognize her dedication and service to the Council and its mission, to provide resources to communities to age well.

The meeting concluded with a slideshow of activity over the year and recognition of staff for years of service. Kim Rivard was honored for 10 years of service, and Dawn Mitchell for 5 years of service. Rivard and Mitchell are certified Information & Referral Specialists who manage the NEKCOA hotline (800) 642-5119. Rivard and Mitchell are certified with The Alliance of Information and Referral Systems (AIRS) is the professional membership association for community Information and Referral (I&R).

Retiring NEKCOA employees were also recognized. They are Karen Budde, former AmeriCorps Senior Program Coordinator and Patty Beckwith, former Senior Companion Program Coordinator.

A copy of the 2022 NEKCOA Annual Report is available at [www.nekcouncil.org](http://www.nekcouncil.org).

Volume 14 Number 6 December 23, 2022 Not all Times are Trendy, but there will always be Trendy Times



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Trendy Times reserves the right to accept or reject publication of any letter to the editor or submission of any nature for any reason. Of course you will need to be really out there for us to turn you down. We also reserve the right to make slight changes to submissions for readability purposes. PLEASE LIMIT SUBMISSIONS TO 600 WORDS OR LESS. Thank you for your understanding.



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by Cindy Pinheiro  
to contact Cindy (aka Cin Pin)  
write to the editor at  
gary@trendytimes.com

## Polish Dill Pickle Soup

Hello hello my fellow chefs! How is everyone doing today? I'm having a tough time because I lost my good friend and roommate Mike Whitcomb to a heart attack. He passed away on November 22 just before Thanksgiving. I feel so very lost and miss him terribly. He always critiqued my recipes. Please my friends take good care of yourselves.

Gary printed in last edition with a repeat because my kitchen including the cupboards were being painted and my ceiling was finally repaired from water damage several months ago. It looks beautiful and I love it. I've waited about 8 months for it to be done so it's nice to finally have my kitchen back. I'm still reorganizing!

Today's tasty recipe is a creamy soup. It's really different, something you would get at a fancy restaurant especially when you garnish it with fresh dill. Yummy! In Polish it's called Zupa Ogorkowa. I've never had or even heard of this soup before and excited to share it with you. If you want to make it vegetarian just use vege-

table broth instead of chicken broth. I'll take you through the steps so it'll be easy peasy and "Delizioso". So let's get started with today's recipe and how to make it.

### Ingredients

- 4 Tbsp butter (1/2 stick)
- 1 medium onion chopped small
- 4 cups (32 oz) chicken broth
- 3 medium potatoes peeled and cubed small
- 3 carrots sliced small
- 3-4 Dill pickles chopped small (1 cup)
- 1 cup pickle juice
- 3 Tbsp all purpose flour
- 1 Cup 8 oz sour cream
- 1/4 cup water
- 1/2 tsp salt
- 1/2 tsp pepper
- 1/2 tsp Old Bay seasoning
- 1/2 tsp cayenne pepper

Fresh dill for garnish  
Melt butter in soup pan and sauté onion until translucent, about 3 minutes. Add broth, potatoes, carrots, dill pickles and pickle juice. Add salt, pepper, old bay and cayenne pepper, mix and bring to a boil and cook until potatoes and carrots

are tender, about 20 minutes. Mix 3 Tbsp flour with sour cream and add 1/4 water, whisk until combined. After potatoes and carrots are tender add a



full ladle of soup water to sour cream mixture and mix well. Add sour cream mixture a little at a time and whisk constantly until finished. Heat through about 10 minutes. If there are any little balls of flour in soup keep whisking and they will melt. Garnish with fresh dill and serve.

That's it you have made your Polish soup. It's a bit tangy so if you want use less black and cayenne pepper. I liked the subtle tang. Please give this very different recipe a try you will be pleasantly surprised.

Well folks that's it for today's recipe. I wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Stay safe and enjoy! Until next time I am signing off. Sincerely, Cin Pin

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BATH, NH- Brand New Construction. Brilliant Vaulted Contemporary with spectacular lighting. This home offers so many upgrades. Kitchen with granite counter-tops, stainless steel appliances, center island, slider to spacious deck and private back yard. Radiant floor heat, 2 BR's, 2 Bathrooms, office and spacious living room. Very roomy heated two car attached garage. There are local lakes and beaches along with non motorized boating to enjoy at Mountain Lakes, approximately 35 minutes to Loon Mountain. Come take a look. \$489,500

**Call for a Free evaluation of your property.  
Inventory is low and we have anxious Buyers.**