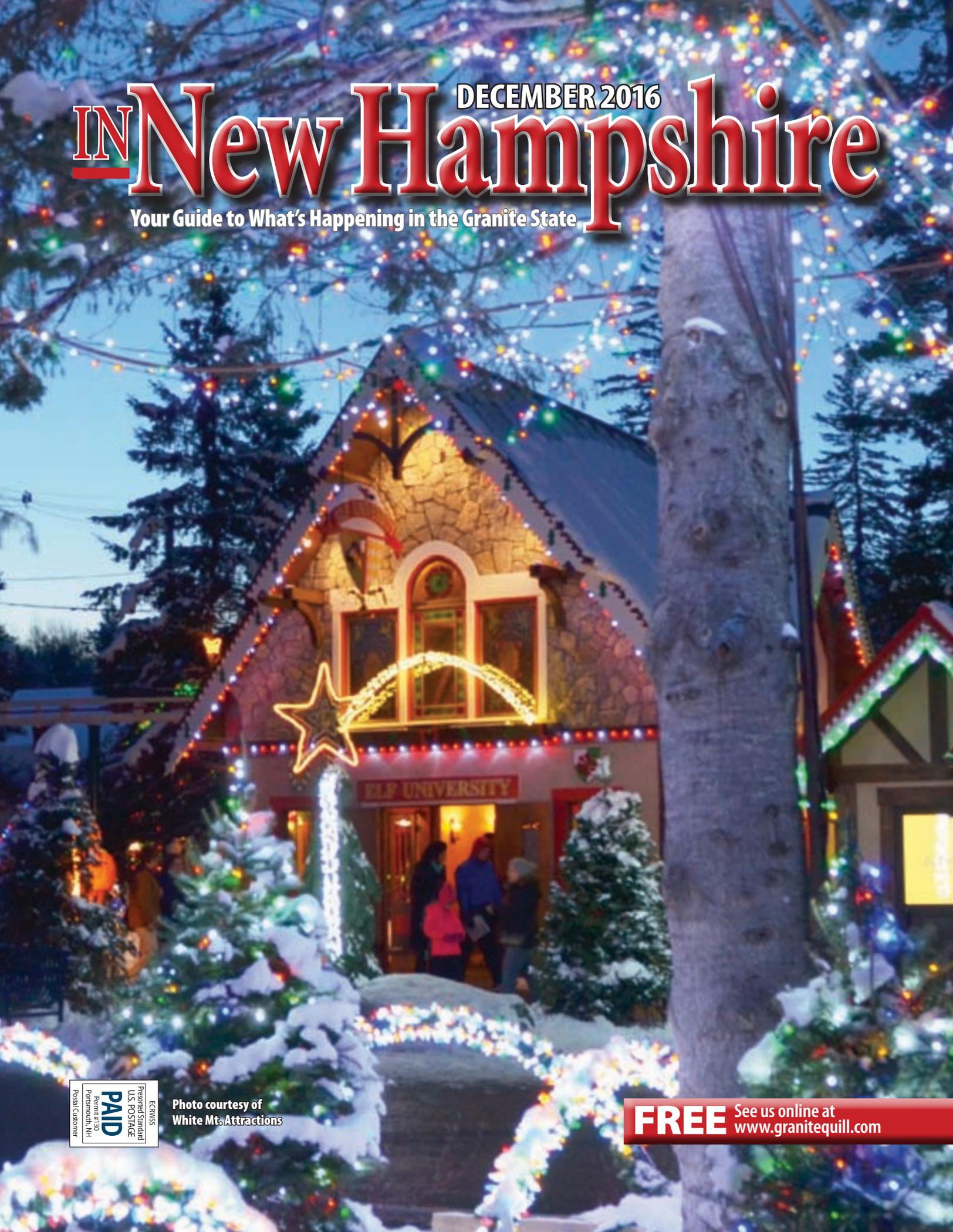


IN New Hampshire

DECEMBER 2016

Your Guide to What's Happening in the Granite State



ECWISS
Presorted Standard
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Permit #130
Portsmouth, NH
Retail Customer

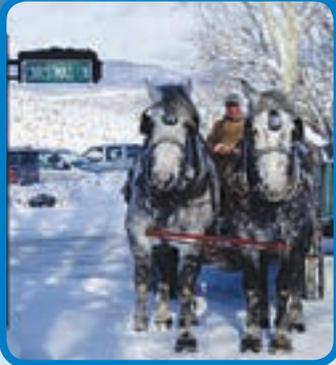
Photo courtesy of
White Mt. Attractions

FREE See us online at
www.granitequill.com



The Rocks Estate

4 Christmas Lane,
Bethlehem, NH 03574
Please call 603-444-6228
www.therocks.org



Holiday magic returns to The Rocks Estate this season

**Farm opens for shopping November 7,
for Christmas trees November 19**



BETHLEHEM, N.H. - There's no better place to get into the holiday spirit than Christmas Lane, address of The Rocks Estate. With row upon row of perfect Christmas trees, a fire pit for munching s'mores and sipping cocoa, two shops filled with gifts and decorations, horse-drawn wagon rides and its very own Green Father Christmas, The Rocks is brimming with holiday magic.

The Rocks Marketplace and the Gift Shop open for early shoppers Nov. 7 and will be open 10 a.m.-4 p.m. daily through Christmas Eve. Christmas tree shoppers may select a tree from the farm's retail lot or wander the fields to Cut-Your-Own Christmas tree beginning Nov. 19. The Rocks will be closed Thanksgiving Day, but otherwise open daily through Dec. 24.

"Each year we welcome new customers and visitors who return every Christmas, year after year, to find their tree at The Rocks," said Rocks Estate Manager Nigel Manley. "We love being part of the holiday traditions of so many families. It's impossible not to get swept up into the joy and magic of the season when you're here."

In addition to Christmas trees, The Rocks also offers an array of classic and whimsically decorated handmade wreaths, garland, ornaments, and Christmas tree accessories. The farm boasts two shops, brimming with unique gift items and holiday décor.

"There really is something for everyone in our shops, and we try to balance proven favorites and exciting new items when we stock the shelves each year" said shop manager Carleen Quinn. "We're proud to offer a high percentage of locally and regionally made items, including many from area crafters and artisans, as well as American-made goods from a bit further afield."

The Marketplace is filled with an array of U.S.A.-made and locally-crafted items, from home goods and holiday decorations to jewelry and hand-made soaps, including hundreds of new Christmas ornaments. Marketplace favorites include the selection of Ginger Cottages, handcrafted in Virginia and complete with display lights, as well as a line of wine and cocktail glasses etched with moose images, and designer bottles of maple syrup.

New this year are beautiful Advent calendars depicting classic New England scenes, whose artful appeal will extend beyond the holiday season. Offerings by local crafters and artisans extend from New

Hampshire-themed chocolates and unique preserves to handmade soaps and pottery.

The Gift Shop shelves are filled with Rocks maple syrup, as well as ornaments, decorations, and tee-shirts. Both shops are open daily (closed Thanksgiving Day) beginning Nov. 7, from 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

The Rocks opens for the Christmas tree season Nov. 19. Weekend visitors will find a variety of festive activities, from horse-drawn wagon rides through the beautiful historic Estate to roasting marshmallows around the fire pit and visiting with The Rocks' own Green Father Christmas.

Wagon rides will be offered Nov. 19, Nov. 25-27, Dec. 3, 4, 10, 11, and Dec. 17. Father Christmas will be at the farm visiting with shoppers and presenting fir tree seedlings to children Saturdays from 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

The Rocks will again be supporting the Trees For Troops program and its national campaign to deliver 16,000 farm-grown Christmas trees to members of the United States military and their families at home and abroad this holiday season.

Can't make a trip to The Rocks this season? Don't fret; the shopper-friendly Rocks Estate online store offers a variety of Christmas trees and holiday wreaths, along with ornaments, garland, and tree accessories, as well as The Rocks' own maple syrup. All items include free shipping, and customers may create a holiday wish list and ship to multiple addresses with one order. Mail order shopping is open through Dec. 13.

The Rocks Estate has been featured in media outlets from the Boston Globe and Martha Stewart's Living to WMUR's Chronicle, Good Morning America and Yankee Magazine.

The Rocks is the North Country Conservation and Education Center of the Society for the Protection of New Hampshire Forests (HYPERLINK "<http://www.forestsociety.org/>" www.forestsociety.org). The Forest Society is a non-profit membership organization founded in 1901 to protect the state's most important landscapes and promote wise use of its natural resources.

The landmark 1,400-acre Rocks Estate includes numerous buildings listed on the National Register of Historic Places and offers Agri- and Eco-tourism opportunities throughout the year. For more information please visit HYPERLINK "<http://www.therocks.org/>" www.therocks.org For reservations and other inquiries e-mail HYPERLINK "<mailto:info@therocks.org>" info@therocks.org or call 603-444-6228.



Pitter Patter; League of NH Craftsmen's 2016 Annual Ornament

A great year-round gift and collectible item is the League of NH Craftsmen's Annual Ornament. This year's ornament is Pitter Patter, a whimsical Rhodium-plated metal elf boot with etched and silkscreened details. Sussy-Rose Shields, juried in metal by the League in 1988, created this ornament to represent the elfin people that make and deliver gifts, create mischief, and bring joy. Pitter Patter ornaments are sold exclusively by the League of NH Craftsmen Fine Craft Galleries (see locations at end of release), the League's online store (www.nhcrafts.org), at the League headquarters on 49 South Main Street in Concord, and at the Annual League of NH Craftsmen's Fair, August 6-14, 2016. Each ornament is numbered as one of a limited edition and is signed by the artist. The ornament comes beautifully gift-boxed and sells for \$25. Pitter Patter is the League's 29th Annual Ornament.

About the Maker: Sussy-Rose Shields

Sussy-Rose Shields creates metal art from her studio in Wilton. "Metal is my obsession. I relish the challenge of applying pattern and form to sheet and wire to create jewelry that speaks to the heart and soul of an individual," says Sussy. "Often the resulting finished piece is quite different than the idea I begin with, as the metal and the spirit guide the process."

While she received a Bachelor of Science degree in Housing and Interior Design from Oklahoma State

University, it was metals and jewelry making that fascinated her. She taught herself how to make jewelry, and has been doing just that since 1975. In 1987, Sussy moved to New Hampshire, and taught jewelry making for a high school career program in Wilton and at the Sharon Arts Center. In 2000, she earned a Master's Degree in Environmental Education from Antioch New England Graduate School in Keene, focusing on sustainable environmental education and



Native American studies, which added inspiration to her craft. Sussy became a juried member of the League in 1988, and was involved in organizing the original CraftWear exhibition and The Shop At the Fair at the Annual Craftsmen's Fair. She continues to teach jewelry making to teens and adults, and provides mentoring to other craftspeople.

About the Annual Ornament

The League's annual ornament is selected by the managers of the League of New Hampshire Craftsmen Fine Craft Galleries, located in Center Sandwich, Concord, Hanover, Hooksett, Littleton, Meredith, Nashua, and North Conway. Major credit cards are accepted for ordering the ornament by telephone from any gallery.

League of NH Craftsmen

Fine Craft Galleries:

- Center Sandwich, 32 Main St., 603-284-6831
- Concord, 36 North Main St., 603-228-8171
- Hanover, 13 Lebanon St., 603-643-5050
- Hooksett, I-93 Northbound Rest Area, 530 West River Rd., 603-210-5181
- Littleton, 81 Main Street, 603-444-1099
- Meredith, 279 Daniel Webster Hwy., Rte. 3, 603-279-7920
- Nashua, 98 Main St., 603-595-8233
- North Conway, 2526 White Mountain Hwy., Rte. 16/302, 603-356-2441

The Villages of Contoocook & Hopkinton

are proud to host the
13th Annual

Starry, Starry Weekend

❄️

Fri. 12/2

10-8

❄️

Sat. 12/3

10-6

❄️

Sun. 12/4

10-4

Christmas at the Depot Artisans' Show
Preview Night | Thursday, December 1st 5-7pm

Visit Our 2016 Starry, Starry Weekend Local Sponsors:

- 3 on Main Mercantile
- The Calico Hen
- Christmas at the Depot
- Contoocook Artisans Fair
- Contoocook Methodist Church
- Country Fare Diner
- Covered Bridge Frame Shop & Gallery
- Covered Bridge Restaurant
- Cranberry Barn Flower Shop
- Creative Angels Cookie Walk
- Der Markt at Marklin
- Dimitri's Pizza · Everyday Cafe
- Gould Hill Farm
- Greenblott & O'Rourke Law Firm
- Hashtag Art Studio
- Hopkinton Historical Society
- Indigo Blues & Co
- Karpets by Kerry
- Ohana Yoga Studio
- Rusty's General Store for Animals
- Sage & Twine Cottage Shop
- Sorella Flower Company

Local Shopping & Dining Located Minutes Off Exit 6 On I-89

Scan the QR code to visit our Starry, Starry Weekend 2016 page for updates!

www.explorecontoocook.com

IN New Hampshire

Your Guide to what's happening in the Granite State!

Leigh Bosse: Publisher

Joyce Bosse: Editor

Christi Macomber:
Advertising Design

Gail Stratos: Publications
Design & Layout, Advertising
Design, Production, Website

Deborah Belanger:
Account Representative

Mary Yuryan:
Account Representative

**Also from
The Granite Quill:**

The Messenger

In New Hampshire
*A guide to what's happening
in the Granite State*

Granite Quill Publishers
246 West Main St.,
Hillsborough, NH 03244
Phone: 603-464-3388
Fax: 603-464-4106
granitequill@mcttelecom.com

**To advertise in next
month's issue:**
Call Deborah at
800-281-2859



Spectacular Holiday Fair in Rye

Are you searching for a unique gift for someone special, or perhaps just a day-long adventure to the beautiful seacoast town of Rye with friends and family? Either way, plan on visiting Webster at Rye's Holiday Fair in Rye, New Hampshire this year. The event will be held in Webster's stunning new addition, decorated especially for the occasion, on Saturday, December 3rd, from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m. The Fair will feature one-of-a-kind local craftsmen and artisans, with gifts ranging from Isles of Shoals organic body products, hand-crafted chocolates, soaps, feathered headbands, jewelry, photography and more. Twenty-five vendors will showcase unique products, many of which are hand-created.

Before or after shopping, plan on staying for lunch featuring lasagna, stew or chowder in our gracious dining café overlooking the patio and outdoor fireplace. A cookie-walk, bake table and raffle, featuring an overnight stay for two at the Wentworth by the Sea as well as many other



wonderful gifts, will make your visit a day to remember.

Webster at Rye Holiday Fair, located at 795 Washington Rd. Rye NH, is free and open to the public and offers plenty of parking. Please call (603) 964-8144 or visit www.websteratrye.com for more information.

Wake Up and Smell the Balsam, Fraser, Pine & Spruce

Open thru December 23rd

Winter Farmers Market
November 5 - March 4
1st & 3rd Saturdays • 10-2
* extra market Nov. 12

Rolling Green
Nursery



64 Breakfast Hill Rd. • Greenland, NH • 603.436.2732
RollingGreenNursery.com

IN New Hampshire

Your Guide to What's Happening in the Granite State!

**To be included in this
monthly publication
please call Debbie at
1-800-281-2859 or
visit [www.the
messengernh.com](http://www.the
messengernh.com)**

Experience delights of Christmas from a simpler era

Christmas at Canterbury December 3 and 10: Santa Claus, old-time magic, live music, crafts and more at this annual family event. Christmas at Canterbury will be held on Saturday, December 3 and 10, 2016 from 3:00-8:00pm at Canterbury Shaker Village. Tickets are \$18 for adults, \$8 for children age 6-17; children under 5 free. Member admission is half price.

Christmas at Canterbury is a chance to experience the delights of Christmas in a simpler era. Held inside the historic Shaker buildings, participants can meet Santa and costumed characters, watch an old-time 19th Century magic show, make Christmas cards for loved ones, decorate gingerbread cookies, create ornaments for your Christmas tree, admire a toy train display and listen to fiddlers. Enjoy hot cider and singing Christmas carols as we light the Village Christmas tree.

"We just love that Christmas at Canterbury is a family tradition for so many people," noted Funi Burdick, Executive Director. "There is something magical about experiencing firsthand the delights of Christmas from a simpler time like decorating cookies, making ornaments, singing Christmas carols, and new this year—meeting Santa!"

A special Christmas dinner is also available at The Shaker Table from 4:00pm – 9:00pm for \$20 per person (Children \$10). Price includes tax and



beverages. Shaker style seating with buffet and carving station. Reservations are recommended and can be made by calling (603) 708-1192. The Shaker Table is operated by the Lakes Region Community College Culinary Arts Program.

Christmas at Canterbury is sponsored by Merrimack County Savings Bank, The Rowley Agency

and Grappone Automotive Group.

The Shaker Gift Shop, which features a wide selection of simple gifts of artisan beauty and quality, will be open for holiday shopping during Christmas at Canterbury.

For more information, to become a member or to purchase tickets in advance, visit www.shakers.org.

**WHEN WINTER'S AT ITS WORST,
MAHINDRA IS AT ITS BEST.**



Shown: 1538 Heated Cab

Knoxland Equipment

25 Old Warner Lane • Warner, NH 03278
603.746.5260 • knoxland.com

Mahindra
Rise.

* With approved credit. Program restrictions may apply. See dealer for details.

Mt Washington Valley's holiday events calendar is packed

North Conway, NH – As the holidays approach, the calendar in Mt Washington Valley, NH fills with everything from shopping events to Santa sightings, skiing and the chance to ring in the new year in the White Mountains. It's a packed holiday calendar with so many reasons to visit Mt Washington Valley you'll need to plan more than one getaway. Visit one weekend for tax-free shopping and the next weekend for skiing and holiday events. It's all here in Mt Washington Valley.

DEC. 3, 2016: Spirit of the Holidays - celebration in Conway Village: Start with photos with Santa at Northway Bank in Conway from 1:00-3:30. Then Santa arrives to lead the Conway Village tree lighting at Conway Village information booth at 4:15 pm. Afterward, take part in caroling with DaCapo, then Santa leads the way to Ham Arena for free cookies followed by a free "Holiday Classics on Ice" show at 5:15. Starting at 6:30pm, there's free skating for all at Ham Arena. Pizza and refreshments will be available for purchase at the Ham.

DECEMBER 3: Festival of Lights at Settlers Green: Celebrate the season and get some tax-free holiday shopping done at Settlers Green's 60 outlets. In addition, there are free horse-drawn sleigh rides, free snow tubing with Cranmore Mountain Resort, caroling and more! Info: www.settlersgreen.com/events.

DECEMBER 4, 11, 18: Breakfast with Santa at Omni Mount Washington Hotel: Each Sunday before



Christmas in December, Santa makes a special trip the Omni Mount Washington Resort to visit with the girls and boys that visit the hotel. Guests of the hotel and outside guest are invited to experience Breakfast with Santa in the Main Dining Room. A magical morning filled with terrific food and Mr. Claus himself will make a wonderful memory for kids of all ages. Santa visits complimentary with purchase of the Breakfast buffet.

DECEMBER 10-11: 20th Annual Inn to Inn Cookie Tour: Ten beautifully decorated inns from Fryeburg to



Jackson will present the 20th Annual Inn to Inn Cookie and Candy Tour featuring original holiday cookies and candies. Take home holiday decorating ideas as well as scrumptious cookies and candies in what is considered the sweetest day of the year among the Country Inns in the White Mountains. Tour goers will take home recipes for the treats featured on the tour in a Holiday Recipe Cookbook providing a keepsake collection of tested holiday cookies and candy recipes to use at home. In addition, crafters and area artisans will be on hand at each inn offering the chance for a little holiday shopping along the way. Tour tickets are available in advance by reserving a lodging package from participating inns and this is the best way to secure a ticket for a weekend of cookie, candy & holiday fun. ►

COUNTRY *Bridals* AND FORMAL WEAR "Affordable Elegance"

ALLURE TRUNK SHOW

December 9-17, 2016

*Call and Book your
Appointment to try
these new styles!*



*We pride ourselves on
personal service in a
relaxed atmosphere.*



17 Main Street • Jaffrey, NH • 603-532-7641 • www.countrybridals.com



Those not wishing to reserve an overnight package may purchase tickets December 1-7, 2016 for \$30 per person by calling the Old Red Inn at 800-338-1356 or 603-356-2642. Tickets reserved by phone will be available for pick up at designated pick up locations.



DECEMBER 16-24: Military Appreciation Days at King Pine: Active and retired United States Military personnel and their dependents can ski or ride for free until Dec. 24th. Military I.D. card must be presented.

DECEMBER 17-18: Santa Days at King Pine: I spy the red-coat guy! Be on the lookout for skiing Santa handing out candy canes on the trails at King Pine Ski Area. Mail your letters to Santa in the mailbox at the summit.

DECEMBER 17: Ski with Santa a Shawnee Peak: Hey Kids! Santa is also coming to Shawnee Peak! Come find the Jolly Red Guy in the base lodge at 1:00pm.



Then take a few runs with him before he goes back to the North Pole.

DECEMBER 17: Breakfast with Santa at Cranmore: Grab breakfast with Santa and C-More before a day on the slopes at Cranmore.

There's plenty of tax-free shopping opportunities and skiing to pair up with Mt Washington Valley's family festivals throughout the holiday season. To plan the perfect holiday getaway, visit www.MtWashingtonValley.org for lodging and dining ideas, and www.ShopMWV.com for a complete list of shops, outlets and boutiques in Mt Washington Valley. Then go to www.SkiMWV.com for an update on skiing conditions in Mt Washington Valley. To plan your New Hampshire holiday getaway, go to www.VisitNH.gov for complete vacation ideas and resources.

SANTA IS COMING TO TOWN!

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 4TH
9:00^{AM} - 1:00^{PM}

WEARE DUNKIN DONUTS
427 S. STARK HWY. (LANCOT'S PLAZA) WEARE, NH

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11TH
9:00^{AM} - 1:00^{PM}

HILLSBORO DUNKIN DONUTS
258 W. MAIN STREET, HILLSBORO, NH



Come get your picture taken with Santa!
He'll be in the store, deciding if you've been naughty or nice this year.
Bring your camera!