

# IN New Hampshire DECEMBER 2017

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## Holiday pet family photo sessions at Monadnock Humane Society

Start the holidays off with a fun photo session, and a keepsake photo that captures the love you feel for your pet.

Swanzey, NH --- Monadnock Humane Society will once again offer Holiday Pet Family Photo sessions to the community. On Saturday, Dec. 2nd at the MHS Guinane Training Center from 10 am – 3 pm, professional local photographers Beth Pelton of Eight Cattails Imagery and Chloe Giarraputo will be available to take a holiday portrait of your family (or, if you prefer, just your pet(s)). On Sunday, Dec. 3rd, a smaller session will be held at the MHS facility at the Offices in Depot Square for those who live in the Peterborough area, or who can't make it to Swanzey.

For a \$10 suggested donation you will receive the professional photo shoot, a 4x6" glossy matted print out of your favorite photo (at least 8 photos will be taken during your photo session) and access to electronic downloadable versions that you can use for your holiday cards or reprints, to imprint on a gift item such as a coffee mug or a tee shirt, or to post on

social media! Beautiful holiday-themed design sets will be the perfect backdrop for your family's portrait. Volunteers who are experienced in handling pets will spend time with you and your family to capture the best moment. And, 100% of the proceeds go to the animals being cared for by MHS.

This year, waiting will be indoors in our spacious, comfortable Training Center (or in the lobby area of our Depot Square facility). Refreshments will be provided, and we'll have a "Pet Gift Table" you can peruse for gifts and stocking stuffers! 2018 MHS "Home at Last" calendars will also be available.

### INFORMATION:

**Sat., Dec. 2nd**

10:00 am – 3:00 pm

MHS Training Center in Swanzey

**Sun., Dec. 3rd**

11:00 am – 1:00 pm

MHS at the Offices in Depot Square  
Peterborough

\* Please make sure dogs are leashed and cats, rabbits, and other small pets are secured in carriers.



Left to right: Lizzy, Daisy the dog, Isabel, and Kerri Cuevas. Photo courtesy of Heather Samperisi.

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## Peterborough Players announce 2nd Annual Winter Season

Following a successful inaugural winter season, the Peterborough Players are offering a line-up of plays that will illuminate the festive spirit of the winter season. First is a classic holiday tale told from a new perspective, followed in February by a touching look at all the things worth holding onto in life, and closing out the season with the New Hampshire Premiere of Pulitzer Prize-winning playwright David Lindsay-Abaire's new comedy.

The season opens with Jacob Marley's Christmas Carol, a comedy/drama by Tom Mula, playing December 7-17. "Marley was dead, to begin with . . ."—and what happens to Ebenezer Scrooge's mean, sour, pruney old business partner after that? Chained and shackled, Marley is condemned to a hellish eternity. He's even given his own private tormentor: a malicious little hell-sprite who thoroughly enjoys his work. Desperate, Marley accepts his one chance to free himself: to escape his own chains, he must first redeem Scrooge. So begins a journey of laughter and terror, redemption and renewal, during which Scrooge's heart, indeed, is opened; but not before Marley—in this irreverent, funny, and deeply moving story—discovers his own. ". . . Nothing less than an anthem to human nature, to imagination, and to the



*Photo courtesy of Will Howell*

wonder of a compelling story told by a wondrous storyteller. . . . an inspired and moving story that makes all that old stuff about ghosts and graves seem both immediate and revelatory. . . . a splendid and invigorating evening" says the Chicago Tribune. Jacob Marley's Christmas Carol features Bridget Beirne, Tom

Frey, Kraig Swartz and Jared Starkey. Directed by Charles Morey. Rated PG.

Following a break for the New Year, the stage lights up again in February with Every Brilliant Thing, a comedy/drama by Duncan Macmillan, with Jonny Donahoe, playing February 1-11. When a boy's

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mother loses faith in the world, he starts a list of everything that's brilliant in the world to convince her to stay: things with stripes, ice cream, Christopher Walken's hair. Joel Ripka leads this engaging journey of a son's gift to his mother, to himself, and to the audience. A theatre experience—a life experience—to never forget. The New Hampshire premiere of the show that "...highlights the irrepressible resilience of the human spirit and the capacity to find delight in the everyday."—Time Out (London) Every Brilliant Thing stars Joel Ripka (The Last Train to Nibroc). Directed by Daniel Elihu Kramer. Rated PG-13.

The season closes with the New Hampshire Premiere of Ripcord, a comedy by David Lindsay-Abaire, February 15-25. A sunny room on an upper floor is prime real estate in the Bristol Place Senior Living Facility, so when the cantankerous Abby is forced to share her quarters with new-arrival Marilyn, she has no choice but to get rid of the infuriatingly chipper woman by any means necessary. A seemingly harmless bet between the women quickly escalates into a dangerous game of one-upmanship that reveals not just the tenacity of these worthy opponents, but also deeper truths that each would rather remain hidden. As heartfelt as it is deliciously inappropriate, the Players is thrilled to present the New Hampshire premiere of this hilarious play. "A show to treasure. David Lindsay-Abaire's ripping RIPCORD is a deeply satisfying and vastly entertaining story of two women thrown together by a comic cosmic force possessed of a wicked sense of humor..." Deadline. Ripcord is Directed by Artistic Director Gus Kaikkonen. Rated PG.

To celebrate the return of their winter season, the Players are offering a 3-Play subscription package that secures your seat for the entire winter season, offers great flexibility, and gives the largest discount available. Subscriptions, 6-Ticket Barn Door Passes and Single Tickets are on sale now. For tickets and info on their Winter Season and the ongoing ARTS ON SCREEN Season, visit [www.peterboroughplayers.org](http://www.peterboroughplayers.org) or call 603-924-7585. The Peterborough Players is located at 55 Hadley Rd in Peterborough, NH.

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# The Nutcracker Ballet returns to Berlin Junior High School

On Saturday, December 2nd beginning at 6:00 pm, St. Kieran Community Center for the Arts will be hosting the Robinson Ballet production of the Nutcracker. Thanks to our show sponsors, the Madelaine G. von Weber Trust, Service Credit Union, Mt. Washington Auto Road Company and StoryLand, this timeless classic will be held at the Berlin Junior High School Auditorium. Join us for this tale of Christmas dreams come to life with Clara and her beloved toy, the Nutcracker. As the clock strikes midnight strange things begin to happen! You will be enchanted by fairies, dolls, soldiers, a Snow Queen and of course a Rat King and Uncle Drosselmeyer; all

brought to magical life by the extraordinary dancers of the Robinson Ballet. This is truly the family holiday



event of the season!

Tickets for this event will be sold in advance by calling

or visiting the arts center office at 155 Emery Street, Berlin, NH 603.752.1028. Pricing is determined by seating: Premium Seats on main and balcony levels,

\$25, General Seating on Main and Balcony levels, \$20 and Discount Seating in side balconies, \$15. All available seats purchased on the evening of the performance will be \$25.00.

Over 100 years old, The Nutcracker Ballet was first presented at the Mariinsky Theater in St. Petersburg, Russia on December 17, 1892. Peter Tchaikovsky, the famous Russian composer, was commissioned to compose the ballet score based on Alexander Dumas' adaptation of E.T.A. Hoffmann's tale, "The Nutcracker and the Mouse King." The first performance of the Nutcracker Ballet in the United States was by the San Francisco Opera Ballet in 1944!

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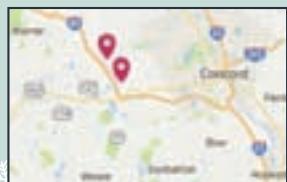
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## Mt Washington Valley, Nh Inn to Inn Cookie and Candy Tour features Sweet Treats & Sweet Dreams

In Mt Washington Valley, NH "C" is for Christmas and also for cookies, candy, collectors' ornaments, cookbooks and keepsake recipes as the Country Inns in the White Mountains celebrate the 21st year for their annual Inn to Inn Cookie and Candy Tour on December 9-10, 2017. An event that draws cookie and holiday revelers from around the country, this ultimate cookie walk will combine overnight stays at beautiful inns in the White Mountains of New Hampshire with a scrumptious inn to inn tour of 12 B&Bs and inns decked out in all their holiday finery, plus homemade cookies and candies and recipes. Two new inns will join the tour this year, and in addition, many of the inns on the tour will feature a special demonstration, artist or display of crafts for your holiday shopping.



Cookie Tour tickets are available now by reserving a lodging package from participating inns, and this is the best way to secure a ticket for a weekend of cookies and candy. Those not wishing to reserve an overnight package may purchase tickets starting November 15, 2017 for \$30 per person by calling 800-338-1356 or 603-356-2642. Tickets reserved by phone will be available for pick-up at designated locations. Tickets are limited and all tickets must be reserved in advance. There will be no ticket sales on the day of the event as tickets generally sell out, so make plans early to attend the tour. New last year, once again several inns will feature a special holiday shopping opportunity including artisans, authors and chefs demonstrating and displaying wonderful homemade items. Save your holiday shopping for the Inn to Inn Cookie and Candy Tour, as you'll not only collect sweet treats and recipes, but you can also bring home a special gift for those on your list.

Each of the 12 inns on the 21st Annual Inn to Inn Cookie & Candy Tour will feature original holiday cookies and candies, along with exquisite decorations offering tour goers the bonus of taking home holiday decorating ideas as well as scrumptious cookie and candy recipes for themselves. The participating inns have developed original recipes for everything from sweet to savory holiday treats. And once again this year, to celebrate the 21st anniversary of this event, tourgoers will receive a cookbook featuring recipes for sweet treats from each in a keepsake cookbook.

The Inn to Inn Cookie and Candy Tour stretches from Jackson to Eaton, NH and Fryeburg, Maine, with 12 inns opening their doors to those in search of fabulous holiday

treats, recipes, gifts, and decorating ideas. No inn is more than fifteen minutes from the next, with many much closer. The inns participating in the 2017 tour include the Darby Field Inn in Albany; Inn at Crystal Lake and Pub in Eaton; Glen Oaks Inn in Intervale; Inn at Ellis River in Jackson; 1785 Inn in Intervale, Eastman Inn, Old Red Inn & Cottages in North Conway, Snowvillage Inn in Snowville, and Admiral Peary Inn Bed & Breakfast in nearby Fryeburg, Maine, and the Cranmore Inn in North Conway. Plus, new this year, the White Birch Inn and the Samuel O'Reilly House in North Conway will join the tour for a total of 12 participating inns.

**Each participating inn will offer a Cookie Tour package. Packages will include:**

Two nights accommodations, Breakfast each morning, Two Cookie & Candy Tour tickets and map (a \$60 value), Keepsake cookbook, A custom-made ceramic Cookie & Candy Tour ornament, A chance to win a drawing for a \$250 Country Inns in the White Mountains gift certificate

Some inns have added dinners, extra nights, sleigh rides and additional gifts to their packages. Two-night packages start at \$198 per couple, and vary depending upon the inn chosen. Additionally, some inns offer a one-night package too.

A portion of the sales from the Mt Washington Valley Inn to Inn Cookie and Candy Tour are donated each year to a local non-profit. This year, the recipient of the Country Inns in the White Mountain's donation will be the Kennett High School Key Club.

Those interested in booking the Inn to Inn Holiday Cookie & Candy Tour package may make reservations directly at the inn of their choice any time. To learn more about the tour and the inns' lodging packages, call 800-338-1356 or 603-356-2642 or visit [www.countryinnsinthewhitemountains.com](http://www.countryinnsinthewhitemountains.com).

**Jingle Bell Express takes families on magical ride**

The third annual Jingle Bell Express will take families on a magical, wintery ride on a C&J Buslines double-decker bus from the Children's Museum of NH, to the Cochecho Country Club to hear a reading of the classic children's holiday story, *The Polar Express* by Chris Van Allsburg (copyright 1985). Families will enjoy refreshments, receive a keepsake gift and a visit from a very special guest. Included



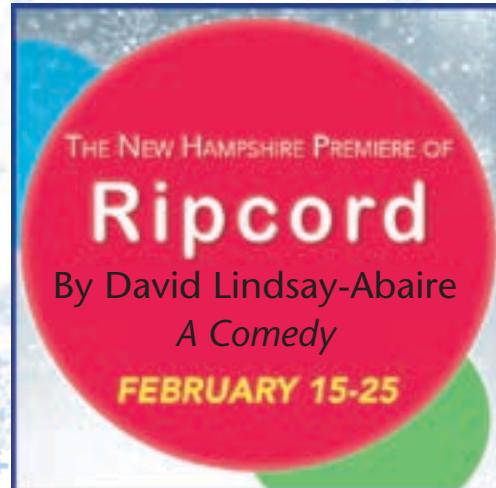
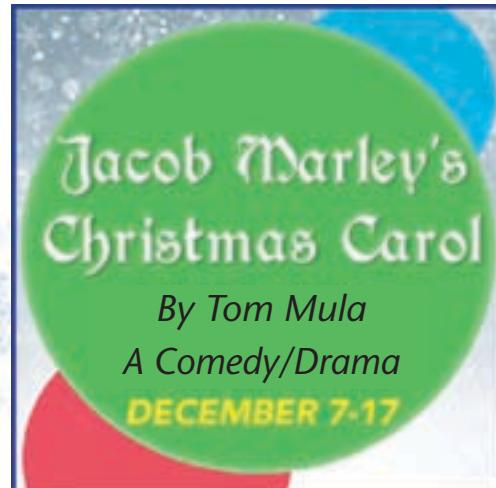
in the ticket price for this holiday event is a keepsake family photo, time to explore the Children's Museum of New Hampshire and a make-and-take holiday craft.

"In the past," explained CMNH President Jane Bard "We had scheduled this program mainly in the afternoon and early evening, which was a little hard on the younger kids. So this year we've scheduled eight trips on two consecutive Saturdays spread out throughout the day with some as early as 10:30am and the latest returning to the museum at 4pm."

New this year is the destination venue. After leaving the museum, the double-decker bus, decked out with decorations and a jovial driver singing carols, will take a leisurely ride to the Cochecho Country Club in Dover. "We are delighted to partner with the Cochecho Country Club and we think families, after taking a fun ride on the bus in their holiday pajamas, will really enjoy the warmth of the working fireplace and all the special decorations when they arrive," said Paula Rais, CMNH Vice President of Development and Community Engagement.

This program is scheduled for Saturdays, December 2 and 9, at 10:30am-11:30am, 12-1pm, 1:30-2:30pm or 3-4pm each day. "Some dates and times have already sold out, so we're encouraging everyone to pick a date and time and get their tickets soon," said Rais. The cost per person is \$25 and children ages two and under are free (but they must sit on a parents' lap during the journey). Jingle Bell Express is generously sponsored by Federal Savings Bank. To learn more or to purchase tickets, visit [www.childrensmuseum.org](http://www.childrensmuseum.org).

# 2017 - 2018 WINTER SEASON



## Top tips for Christmas Tree decorating

So where to begin? First, you need the right tree. A smart first step is making sure the branches on your tree are strong enough to support the weight of your decorations. While shopping for the tree, be sure to study product descriptions so you understand if a tree with delicate or soft branches will support the weight of your Christmas tree decorations.

If your family has many large ornaments, you should consider a Christmas tree that has branches separated enough to give ornaments the room they need to be properly displayed. And if you don't have many decorations and are seeking a more simple appearance, trees that appear full and have a relatively large number of tree tips will look better with fewer ornaments.

Pre-lit trees also offer consumers ease of use and could be a good choice this holiday season. What look are you going for? First, determine the overall look you're trying to achieve. If it is simplicity you're going after, stick to one or two colors and start with stringing your lights. Add on decorations and ornaments slowly and as you see fit. If your style is more dramatic and colorful, outline your plan of attack first, lay out all of

your decorations and go one step at a time. Decorating a Christmas tree is a process. Generally, follow this order to get the best overall look out of a Christmas tree.

First, start with the lights. Go from the base of the tree and wrap the lights all the way to the top. Use strands of single- or multi-colored lights, according to your personal preference. It's best to use about 100 lights for every vertical foot of tree. Next, it's time to layer on your tree garlands. Again, there are no rules on keeping all the garlands the same; uniformity is not the name of the game here. This time, start stringing from the top down, and make sure to space the garlands out evenly and hang loosely on your tree. From ribbons to beads to tinsel, use about 2 strands of garland per foot of tree length. Now it's time for the best part: the ornaments!

Start with hanging your most important ones, then go on to the largest ones and then finally fill in the gaps with small and medium size "fillers" such as icicles or shiny balls. Create depth in your tree décor by hanging your ornaments both on the branch tips and closer to the trunk.

Most importantly, have fun with the process. Gather the family, spin those CDs, sip that mulled cider and get decorating!

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## The Spirit of the Holidays celebration in Mt Washington Valley, NH

If anywhere there was a group of towns and villages that take the holidays seriously, it's here in Mt Washington Valley. Whether it's holiday shopping or Santa soirees, visitors to Mt Washington Valley will find the spirit of the holidays throughout November and December.

### HOLIDAY SHOPPING

**December 9-10:** Holiday Crystal Party: Join Waterford Wedgwood Royal Doulton for a Holiday Crystal Party at Settlers Green in North Conway on Saturday, December 9 from 3pm-5pm and on Sunday, December 10 from 1pm-3pm. There will be refreshments, raffles, drawings and extra savings. Plus, free samples and exclusive discounts from local retailers.



Dan Houde/Wiseguy Creative Photography

### FOR THE FAMILY

**December 7, 8, 9, 14, 15, 16, 21, 22, 23:** A Christmas Carol by M&D Productions: Enjoy this adaptation of the best known Christmas story every written, as the seemingly heartless Scrooge, haunted by his past, is given a second chance to become the type of person we all strive to be. A Christmas Carol is presented Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays, December 7-23 at Your Theatre, Willow Common, 1857 White Mountain Highway, North Conway. All performances begin at 7:30pm. To reserve seats please visit our website at [www.mdplayhouse.com](http://www.mdplayhouse.com) or call (603) 733-5275.

**December 9-10:** 21st Annual Inn to Inn Cookie and Candy Tour: From 11:00am – 4:00pm, visit 11 inns all dressed in their holiday finery; taste scrumptious holiday cookies and candy, and take home a collection of scrumptious recipes in a keepsake cookbook, and do a little holiday shopping as inns will feature artisans and vendors. In addition, demonstrations, artisan sales and gift ideas will be featured at each inn. Save your holiday shopping for some unique items on display throughout the weekend. Stay at one of the inns and receive a custom-made keepsake ornament. Two-night Cookie Tour packages including two nights' accommodations, breakfast each morning, two tour tickets, recipe collection, and a collectors' ornament. Lodging packages on sale now and the best way to assure you get tickets. Day tickets go on sale starting November 27, 2017 for \$30 each. All tickets must be reserved in advance. Call 800-338-1356 or 603-356-2642 to reserve day tickets or book a weekend stay with any participating inn. Info: [www.countryinnsinthewhitemountains.com](http://www.countryinnsinthewhitemountains.com).

**December 10:** Holiday Concert for Kids at MWV Children's Museum: Come and enjoy a special Christmas concert with Sharon Novak and Santa on Sunday, December 10th for babies and toddlers at 3:00 pm at the MWV Children's Museum. Info: .

**December 13:** Sweetback Sisters' Country Christmas Swing-Along Spectacular at Medallion Opera House: This wildly popular show delivers a veritable explosion of yuletide splendor, complete with trivia, prizes and, of course, all the holiday tunes you know and love. Year-round, the Sweetback Sisters and their band of brothers wow audiences with their precise, family-style harmonies and instrumentals. Show starts at 7:00pm. Tickets: \$20 Advance/ \$25 at door available at Gorham Town Hall, White Mountain Cafe, & online at [www.medallionoperahouse.org](http://www.medallionoperahouse.org). Info: 603-466-3322 X3.

**December 17:** Snowshoe with Santa: Come snowshoe with Santa at the Grand Summit Hotel from 10 am to noon. Take a walk with Santa while hunting for his reindeer bells. Then warm up with hot cocoa and a treat! Bring your cameras! Santa would love to take pictures with you! This event is free and is sponsored by AbilityPlus Adaptive Sports. Info: [www.abilityplus.org](http://www.abilityplus.org).

**December 26 – 31, 2017:** Conway Scenic RR Holiday Week Trains: Old-fashioned train rides will be offered twice daily December 26 through 31, to Conway: 11:30 and 1:30 (about an hour round-trip).

For more information visit [www.MtWashingtonValley.org](http://www.MtWashingtonValley.org) where you'll find all the lodging, dining and recreation options, not to mention a packed holiday and ski season kick off. To talk to a vacation concierge, call 1-800-367-3365 (800-DO-SEE-NH). To plan your New Hampshire holiday trip, go to [www.VisitNH.gov](http://www.VisitNH.gov).

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for more info

14 Hancock Street,  
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[www.strawberrybanke.org](http://www.strawberrybanke.org)

## Calendar of Events

### ■ DECEMBER 2

#### New Castle Village Christmas Fair

Free. 301 Wentworth Rd., New Castle, NH 03854

Phone: 603-431-4456

The Ladies of the Guild have been hard at work all year creating exceptional one-of-a-kind crafts. Many of these are nautical in nature to represent the beautiful island town of New Castle. This year's crafts include some lovely cardinal ornaments, hand sewn catnip mice, framed sea glass artwork, and lighthouse lamp finials. There will also be an assortment of unique Christmas ornaments, mittens and hats, serving trays, and more! In addition, you can select from a huge variety of Wreaths and Greens. At the Bake Table will be breads, cookies, cakes, pies, and candy. You'll find Gift Baskets for everyone on your shopping list, as well as vintage Jewelry & Scarves, Red Elephants and the ever-popular Silent Auction. Morning coffee with delicious homemade baked goods will be for sale, and you won't want to miss our traditional fish chowder and lobster rolls for lunch, followed by fabulous desserts. Bring the children because we've heard that Mr. & Mrs. Santa Claus will be visiting from the North Pole! Make plans to attend, and bring family and friends to the best Christmas Fair on the Seacoast. See you at the Village Fair.

### ■ DECEMBER 2

#### Jingle Bell Chocolate Tour

\$25 Jingle Bell Chocolate Tour Sleigh Rides and \$10 for Recipe Book. Dinsmore Road, Jackson, NH 03846

Phone: 603-383-9356

Nestlenook Estate and the Jackson Area Chamber of Commerce invite you to make your reservations early for the Jingle Bell Chocolate Tour. Named one of the 5 "Tasty Tours of New England" by the Concord Insider "Engage all your senses". This Horse Drawn Austrian Sleigh Ride through the Village of Jackson is so popular that each year it sells completely out. We recommend you book early to assure your chance to attend. Just call a lodging member listed on our website www. JacksonNH.com book your stay and let them secure your seats today. Reservations are reserved for visitors staying in one of Jackson New Hampshire's premiere properties. Reservations will open to the general public October 7th. Call the Jackson Area Chamber of Commerce any time after October 7th to make your reservations before it is to late... 603-383-9356 or prior to October 7th call any of our lodging members, book your stay and let them secure your ride/s for you. Parties of 10 or more may book at any time throughout the year.

### ■ DECEMBER 8

#### Christmas with The Celts

Tickets start @ \$39. 39 South Main St

Plymouth, NH. Phone: 603-536-2551

Christmas with The Celts isn't just a concert; it is a celebration of the holiday spirit, people, community and common connections. It's about bring young and old together to celebrate this special time of year. You can't listen to Celtic flavored music and not be happy. The high-stepping spirited musical selections will have audiences clapping along from the first lively renditions of popular contemporary Christmas classics. The show presents the perfect combination of ancient Irish Carols, contemporary Christmas standards, spontaneous humor and thrilling Irish dancing giving audiences a most memorable Christmas experience.

### ■ DECEMBER 17TH

#### Christmas at Canterbury

\$18 adults, \$8 children ages 6-17, under 5 free.

Members half price. 288 Shaker Rd., Canterbury, NH

Phone: 603-783-9511

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



#### Here's One Event You Won't Want to Miss! Webster at Rye's Spectacular Holiday Fair

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## Calendar of Events

classic holiday event is a family favorite that will become a yearly tradition!

■ DECEMBER 31

### Pats Peak New Year's Eve Party Family Celebration

See [www.patspeak.com](http://www.patspeak.com) for details. 686 Flanders Rd., Henniker, NH. Phone: 6034283245

This New Year's Eve Celebration will feature skiing, snowboarding, snowtubing, 2-hour comedy show, Monte Carlo for raffles prizes, dancing to a live band, tasting stations, party favors, champagne toast and a

midnight fireworks display. The party begins at 6pm, and the slopes are open until 10pm. Guests are invited to enjoy a range of entertainment that's suitable for families. A "Party & Skiing" ticket allows access to every activity. "Party Only", "Skiing Only" and "Tubing Only" tickets are also available. For a schedule of events, check out [www.patspeak.com](http://www.patspeak.com). This is an all weather event. Tickets are non-refundable.

■ DECEMBER 31ST

### First Night Portsmouth

<https://www.proportsmouth.org/FirstNightButton>.

cfm. Portsmouth, NH. Phone: 603-433-4398

Since 1986, Portsmouth has come alive on New Year's Eve with an annual celebration – featuring music, dance, children's activities, street performers and ice sculptures – known as First Night® Portsmouth. First Night® Portsmouth affords our Community the opportunity to come together as one, reflecting on the year that has passed and looking forward with hope and great anticipation to the year ahead. Entertainment takes place in many of our historic buildings, churches and civic centers. The event is non-alcoholic, non-smoking and features activities and performances that appeal to all ages. Many area hotels offer special packages including First Night® buttons.



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