

An Array of Holiday Greenery Sparkles at 6th Festival of Trees



St. Patrick's School organization, Tu Tu, decorated its tree with a Disney theme.



Nearly 60 decorated Christmas trees filled Sherburne Hall during Pelham Community Spirit's Festival of Trees.

by Doug Robinson

What a sparkling affair as the Pelham Community Spirit recently hosted southern New Hampshire's largest display of Christmas trees. And don't forget the many beautiful wreaths, tabletop trees, and gingerbread houses there as well.

The Southern New Hampshire Festival of Trees is a community event at Sherburne Hall enjoyed by thousands of area families. Local organizations, businesses, community groups and individual contributors decorated almost five dozen trees this year for all to enjoy.

"We are very excited to be able to have this event grow more every year," said Brenda Eaves, president of Pelham Community Spirit, Inc.

The Pelham Community Spirit organization is a group of people "who work tirelessly for free throughout the year to make their community a place where everyone would want to live" continued Eaves.

This year, 59 decorated Christmas trees were donated

to Pelham Community Spirit. Some of the organizations who donated their time and talents to the Southern New Hampshire Festival of Trees include the following: Pelham's First Congregational Church, Keystone Girl Scouts of Pelham and Hudson, Pelham Garden Group, Pelham Public Library, Pelham Razorbacks Football and Cheer, Salem Co-Operative Bank, St. Patrick Catholic School Grade 2, Cub Scouts Pack 610, VFW John H. Hargreaves Memorial Post 10722, and Greater Salem Chamber of Commerce.

During the event, raffle tickets were sold and those visiting the festival who purchased the raffle tickets dropped their tickets into the appropriate receptacle for the tree, wreath, or gingerbread house they wished to win. Winning tickets were drawn on Saturday, Dec. 6 and the winners were called.

Festival events included scavenger hunts, bake sales, Pelham's Congregational Church English Handbell Choir, Irish dancers, visit with Santa, Windham Community Band, Pelham High School Band, as well as other community civic organizations who wished to meet and greet the community.

The Pelham Community Spirit organization not only offers scholarships to college students, it has also provided grants for the purchase of the flag pole at the Pelham High School, sponsored Pelham's Concerts on the Green series during the summer, Independence Day celebrations, Beach Day, and continues to work with Pelham's Parks and Recreation Department for the betterment of the community. Last year, Pelham Community Spirit gave back to the Pelham Community more than \$20,000 in financial support.

Cub Scout Pack 610's entry of "Superheroes" was full of adventure, excitement and colors.

Staff photos by Doug Robinson



The Greater Salem Chamber of Commerce captured the first-place award for the best wreath at the Festival of Trees in Pelham.

