

12/11/25

To:

Town of New London Selectmen

From:

Putnam Kidder

Recreation Director

Request to be Added to the Agenda for Thursday, Dec. 18th Meeting

Regarding:

Winter Carnival event Adult Spelling Bee, Saturday, Feb. 7, 7-9 PM in Whipple Hall (see additional details on the second page).

Asking for approval from the Selectmen for special permission to allow alcohol (beer and wine) to be served at this event. The Recreation Department and the New London Rotary have contracted Flat Iron Catering Company to cover this event. The Recreation Director will work with this group to ensure all the necessary licenses, inspections, and insurance coverages are in place (many are already completed since we used the same provider last year for the event). All the appropriate paperwork will be provided to the Selectmen as soon as possible. The event is a collaborative fundraiser for the Recreation Department and New London Rotary and is an exciting and engaging addition to the Winter Carnival. Having food and drink options at the event increases its appeal to participants and sponsors.

Event Description:

We are very excited to be co-hosting with the New London Recreation Department the 3rd annual Adult Spelling Bee as part of the New London Winter Carnival on Saturday, February 7, 2026. This event will take place at the Whipple Town Hall at 7pm.

If you have never participated in an adult spelling bee, it is an evening full of fun, laughter, and excitement! Each spelling team consists of 4 members who all collaborate to find the best spelling for each word presented. Top spelling teams will receive trophies but there are also fun awards for Best Theme, Most Enthusiastic, and other non-spelling categories.

What's also great about this event is that the proceeds go to the New London Recreation Department and the Rotary Club of New London. The New London Recreation Department will use the funds to continue their great work providing services and events that bring the New London community together. The Recreation Department is a critical component that helps make New London the outstanding community that it is.

The Rotary Club of New London will use the funds to conduct many service projects in New London and surrounding communities. The New London Rotarians give back to our community by delivering literacy programs for kids, building window inserts to keep those in need warm, serving blueberry pancakes during Hospital Days, providing scholarships to kids, donating food, donating Christmas gifts, providing monetary gifts for those in need, and many, many more! We are a group of people focused on building a stronger community through service.

Expected turnout: 100+