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Teen to help in sub event

Photo 1 of 3 | [Zoom Photo +](#)

Talor Forbes (left) and a girl from the Hong Kong Sea Cadet Corps in Holland on an International Sea Cadet Exchange in July.

Courtesy photo

By **Dave Choate**

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GREENLAND — When the submarine New Hampshire is commissioned Saturday, Talor Forbes will be one of thousands witnessing and taking part in the celebration. But she'll be a lot closer to the action than most.

A chief petty officer in the U.S. Naval Sea Cadets, a ski instructor and employee at The Balsams Grand Hotel and Resort, and a senior at Portsmouth High School, Forbes keeps plenty busy. Her career in the Navy youth group will culminate with the commissioning, where she and more than 20 fellow cadets from the Portland, Maine, CG Group Portland Division chapter will usher dignitaries, pass out programs and generally help out during the celebration.

As CPO, Talor will also be the highest ranking cadet present. When asked how she attained the rank, the slight, blond teenager reflected on once-a-month weekends spent in South Portland and trips from California to the Netherlands before answering.

"A lot of hard work, dedication and experience," she said. "It's definitely been a life-improving, life-betterment type of program."

When her career in high school and the Cadets ends, she said, she plans to travel to South America, on a Rotary Club scholarship, for a year. Then she'll begin schooling for nursing and anesthesiology,

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MORE INFORMATION

For more information on the U.S. Naval Sea Cadets, visit their website at www.seacadets.org. Existing units across the country can be found on the site. For more information on re-starting a Portsmouth-area chapter of the Sea

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after which she'll serve time in the Navy.

Her commitment to the Navy even shows up at home; her English setter is named Admiral.

A Sea Cadet since age 11, Talor also welcomed her younger brother into the group. She has received citations for everything from sharpshooting to the performance of her unit.

Talor began her career as a cadet in the now defunct Portsmouth chapter, but when the officer who led the unit was sent to Afghanistan, the unit went by the wayside without him. Talor and her mother, Holly, say they hope the Portsmouth chapter of the Sea Cadets can be re-opened if enough interest is generated.

Holly said she knows a lack of free time and a troubled economy have left the number of potential volunteers flagging somewhat, but she still hopes Portsmouth will have a Sea Cadets unit before long.

"The program really is fabulous," she said.

Portsmouth Naval Shipyard Public Information Officer Deb White said Wednesday that Talor's work in the Sea Cadets was truly inspiring.

"It's a testament to hard work and commitment, and an example of leadership and responsibility. What a great role model for young women," White said.

Cadets, contact Bruce Clark of the Navy League in Portsmouth at (978) 440-2838 or bruce_a_clark@raytheon.com.

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