

Londonderry Times

February 4, 2016 ♦ Volume 17 – Issue 5

A FREE Weekly Publication



Bring It On The 2015 Division 1 winning Londonderry High School wrestling squad marched into last week's pep rally to generate enthusiasm as the school gets ready to battle Pinkerton Academy at home on Saturday in basketball during the annual Ball Family Trophy competition.

Photo by Chris Paul

Bielinski Threatens Lawsuit Against Town Over Petition Article

KAITLYN G. WOODS
LONDONDERRY TIMES

State Rep. Al Baldasaro, R-Londonderry has challenged the Town Council's decision to keep a citizen's petition off the ballot.

The Town Attorney advised it would be illegal for the Council to enforce a warrant article petition

Richard Bielinski of Hall Road submitted, which proposes dissolving all Tax Increment Finance (TIF) Districts and revitalization districts, and requiring a ballot vote to establish any new TIF or revitalization districts.

But Baldasaro said Secretary of State David Scanlon told him the Town had no authority to

shut him down or to deny petitions on the ballot.

Baldasaro said Scanlon pointed to New Hampshire RSA 39:3, which states, "Upon the written application of 25 or more registered voters or 2 percent of the registered voters in town, whichever is less, although in no event shall fewer than 10 regis-

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Town Deliberative Session is Saturday Morning at LHS

KAITLYN G. WOODS
LONDONDERRY TIMES

The School District will hold Deliberative Session Saturday morning, Feb. 6 at 9 a.m. in the Londonderry High School cafeteria to act on the fiscal year 2017 Warrant.

If the entire FY17 Warrant were to pass as proposed, the tax rate impact would be \$5.04 per thousand, which includes veterans' exemptions, according to Finance Director Doug Smith.

That's because all the warrant articles, with the exception of the operating budget and Article 14, are to be funded with

Fund Balance, Smith said.

Residents who attend deliberative session may vote to amend a warrant article, including the dollar amount, as long as the amendment doesn't change the intent of the article.

Warrant articles follow:

Article 1: To choose Town Officers. This will be voted on by secret ballot at the March 8 election.

Article 2: To raise and appropriate \$210,000 to be placed in the Town's Expendable Maintenance Trust Fund, with funds to come from the June 30 Fund Balance. The article has no tax rate impact.

Both the Council and the Budget Committee voted unanimously to recommend the Article.

Article 3: To raise and appropriate \$29,591,028 as the Town's operating budget, not including appropriations by special warrant articles and other appropriations voted separately. If the article is defeated, the default budget is \$29,594,363. If passed, the article will require the Town to raise \$17,924,670 in property taxes, resulting in a tax rate impact of \$4.87 per thousand based upon projected assessed values. Both the Council and

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Voters to Deliberate on School Warrant Friday Evening

KAITLYN G. WOODS
LONDONDERRY TIMES

The School District will hold its Deliberative Session Friday evening, Feb. 5 to act on the fiscal year 2017 Warrant, including the School Board's proposed \$70.7 million budget.

Deliberative Session is at 7 p.m. in the Londonderry High School cafeteria. The National Honor Society will provide babysitting services from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. in Rooms 219 and 221.

Residents who attend Deliberative Session may vote to amend a warrant article, including the dollar amount, as long as the

amendment doesn't change the intent of the article.

The total local education tax rate if the Board's proposed FY17 Operating Budget and all Warrant Articles pass is \$13.82 per thousand. For a \$300,000 home, that means a local education property tax bill of \$4,146.

Combined with the State education property tax rate of \$2.20 per thousand, the total education property tax bill for a home valued at \$300,000 would be \$4,806.

The FY17 Warrant includes:

• Article 1: To elect school district officials. This will be voted on by

secret ballot at the March 8 election.

• Article 2: To raise and appropriate as an operating budget for the FY2016-2017 school year, not including appropriations by special warrant articles, the School Board's amended budget of \$70,778,003 (estimated

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Heritage Commission Satisfied with Changes in Workforce Housing Project

KAITLYN G. WOODS
LONDONDERRY TIMES

The Heritage Commission is satisfied with changes to plans for a proposed workforce housing development on Stonehenge Road that serve to enhance the residential look of the complex.

Changes to the architectural design of the Residences at MacGregor Cut, which were based on recommendations the Commission submitted at its design review of the development in December, include a switch to more durable, higher quality materials; the addition of about 1,100 feet of stone walls; and the addition of a sidewalk

from the end of the parking lot out to Stonehenge Road, where school pickup is to be.

Architect Dennis Mires said in speaking with the School District, he learned they would prefer the small bus stop shelter planned for construction along Stonehenge be closer to the street, but under town ordinances the structure must meet setback requirements.

Member Pauline Caron asked if parents will be permitted to park along Stonehenge Road and wait for their children's bus, creating additional traffic issues on a road that is already congested during the morning commute.

Fougere said there will be 10 parking spaces near the bus stop where parents will be able to park and wait.

"We aren't interested in creating a problem on Stonehenge," he said. "If it becomes a problem, it's something management will just have to take care of."

Property owner Samir Khanna said they will have staff working in an office in the development's clubhouse to address maintenance or other issues as they arise.

Plans for the workforce housing development include the construction of 12 buildings with 24 units each.

The proposal features

three primary building types, each to house one- and two-bedroom units.

The 12 buildings are to be broken into neighborhoods, with each of the buildings in the smaller groupings to feature a different color.

To make the large apartment buildings look more residential, Mires said they enhanced the trim around windows and added molding.

Additionally, they varied the proportion of shingle and clapboard and reorganized the porches, flipping the original design so porches are facing public areas to help break up the façade.

"There's no doubt you listened and these chang-

es are a step in the right direction and much appreciated," Geographic Information Systems Manager John Vogl said.

Addressing concerns over trash collection and the need for storage space, Khanna said there will be a trash compactor to the rear of the site featuring a sensor that will alert the waste collection company when the receptacle is full.

And to address Commissioner Jim Butler's concern that there won't be enough storage for tenants, Khanna said they plan to make arrangements with a local storage facility.

"In our experience, on-site storage has led to a

number of problems, such as tenants leaving items and us having to remove them as trash, things being stolen and the spread of things like bed bugs," he said. "At a property we built in Epping where we have a storage facility half a mile away, we got a discounted rate for tenants we referred to them."

The Heritage Commission was satisfied with the changes in the project to address their concerns and agreed to recommend the plan to the Planning Board.

Fougere said they have had their Technical Review Meeting and hope to see the Planning Board in March.

Market Basket Redevelopment Eyes Spring Opening for Stores

KAITLYN G. WOODS
LONDONDERRY TIMES

The Heritage Commission considered proposed signage for the Market Basket redevelopment on Nashua Road, which is progressing rapidly.

Members said they were satisfied with the signage for Baldoria, Annie's, Hallmark, Olympia Sports, Home Goods and T.J. Maxx.

The New Hampshire State Liquor Outlet is also a confirmed tenant for the strip mall, but has yet to submit proposed sig-

nage, according to Senior Project Manager Jeff Kevan of TF Moran.

The proposed 33-acre redevelopment project, the first phase of the Woodmont Commons development, includes bringing in a boulevard entrance to the site, taking down the original Market Basket building and eventually developing smaller pads totaling 42,220 square feet along the boulevard.

Overall, the development will result in a total of 186,000 square feet of retail space, a reduction of about 30,000 square feet.

Kevan said they hope to get T.J. Maxx and Home Goods into their buildings this month to begin fitting and outfitting their new spaces, with the goal of opening the retail in April.

"Once we move all tenants in, the original building will come down. Come spring and early summer, the parking lot will be finished up and then the outpads will be available," he said. "They've been talking to people and we'll be back with plans to develop those," he said. "We've been doing a lot of work

and you'll start seeing some of that shortly here. There are a lot of people working on it."

In other business at last week's meeting, the Heritage Commission appointed Marty Srugis

chairman, Pauline Caron vice-chairman and David Colglazier secretary.

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Three's a Charm

Londonderry Middle School student Timmy Gore, above, finished in the top spot for the third year over his rival competitor Luke Pascarelli, above right, with Sydney Olin taking third in the school's annual Spelling Bee. Photos by Chris Paul



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Lancer Nation Stands Behind Merrimack Athlete Battling Cancer

KAITLYN G. WOODS
LONDONDERRY TIMES

Lancer Nation showed a local athlete who has been fighting for her life that they are standing behind her, presenting the teen at their annual pep rally with a real-hair wig from Pantene.

Dana Mendes, a Merrimack High School graduate, was preparing to begin her first season playing field hockey at Assumption College in Worcester, Mass., when she was diagnosed with Myelodysplastic Syndrome, a condition that affects the bone marrow and blood cells it produces.

Mendes' doctors informed her she would

have to undergo chemotherapy as well as a bone marrow transplant, according to a fundraising page her sisters created to help raise money for her treatment.

Fortunately, Mendes' sister was determined to be an exact match.

After she lost her hair while undergoing treatment, Mendes' field hockey coach, Ann MacLean, who is a teacher at Londonderry High School, reached out to Steve Juster an English teacher about securing a wig for the teen.

Juster, who helps students organize the school's annual Day of Giving event, told those gath-



Dana Mendes, center, a Merrimack High School graduate, thanks Londonderry High School students and her field hockey coach, Ann MacLean, far right, who is a teacher at LHS. Photo by Chris Paul

ered for the Friday assembly they were able to locate for Mendes a rare, dark cinnamon-colored wig.

Although Mendes has

been under strict quarantine while her immune system is compromised, her doctors made a special exception with some con-

ditions that allowed her to receive the wig at the pep rally, along with a loud roar of applause and a standing ovation.

"I hope this wig helps you feel a little more like yourself," Juster told Mendes, as he presented her new locks.

"I really do appreciate this school. Thank you guys for letting me come here," Mendes said, also thanking Pantene for providing her with the wig. "I'm super excited to be here. It's awesome just to get out and see new people, and see this school and see how rad you guys are."

Mendes told the students, some of whom she has competed with on the field, it has been a long journey, but she is halfway

through her treatment.

"It has been a blessing to come here and share my story with you guys. I'm so appreciative of everything you guys are doing," she said.

"I'm really touched right now. All you guys have rallied behind us and we're so thankful for that. We're so inspired by what you do here," said Adriana Mendes, Dana's mother. "We're so thankful and so touched by what you've done today."

"The past year has been a year of changes," Mendes said. "This experience I will hold onto; and, hopefully, I can come back next year. I appreciate everything Londonderry High School has done. This is one for the books."

Police Locate Suspect Linked to Shooting

KAITLYN G. WOODS
LONDONDERRY TIMES

Londonderry Police ended a manhunt for a suspect linked to a shooting in Manchester last week.

Marcus Cherry, 37, of Manchester was charged with resisting arrest, and is additionally facing two counts of First Degree Assault and one count of Felon in Possession of a Firearm out of Manchester.

Manchester Police responded to a call reporting a shooting at Town Suites on Huse Road at 8:50 p.m., according to a press release. A 42-year-old Boston man told police that while visiting a female acquaintance at the hotel, an argument ensued, which led to a physical altercation with another man inside the hotel room.

The man suffered a non-life threatening but

serious gunshot wound to his neck during the altercation.

Police identified Cherry and Ariel Dupuis, 25, of Manchester as the suspects involved in the shooting in the hotel room.

When Cherry's cell phone was triangulated to a small apartment building on Stonehenge Road near the intersection of Mammoth Road, Manchester Police called on Londonderry Police to assist with the search at 3:50 a.m. Friday, Jan. 29, according to Londonderry Det. Chris Olson.

Stonehenge Road was closed while police conducted a search of the apartment building, which did not result in locating Cherry.

Around 11 a.m., Police received a tip with the address of a mobile home on Stage Coach Circle, where Cherry was be-

lieved to be located.

Olson said Stonehenge was closed from around noon to 4 p.m. and a few houses in the immediate vicinity of the mobile home were evacuated while Londonderry Police worked to persuade Cherry to exit the residence.

Cherry was considered armed and dangerous.

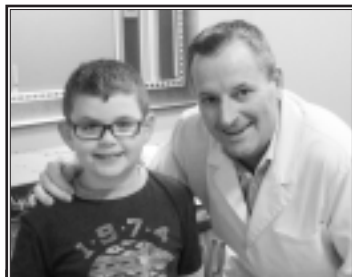
Police deployed 11 cans of pepper spray inside the mobile home before Cherry exited and was arrested.

It took police about an hour to bring Cherry into custody after arriving to the mobile home park, according to Olson. No weapons were found inside the mobile home.

Superintendent of Schools

CONGRATULATIONS

Jack Noce



Jack is pictured with Dr. Calvin

son of Todd and Mary Noce of Bow
Jack is the December winner of the "No Cavity Club" at Calvin Dental Associates!

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Editorial

First in the Nation

In recent weeks, one Presidential hopeful or another could be found chatting and glad-handing residents, or hosting "town hall" question and answer sessions. All just down the road or across town or in the community next door.

Whether chatting with breakfast diners, glad-handing tavern patrons, hosting folksy "town hall" visitors or making their case at fundraising dinners, whichever candidate interests you was likely in the Granite State in recent days.

As we gear up for the first-in-the-nation Presidential primary Feb. 9, we hope you've had a chance to take a personal look at the candidates, check out the person behind the public relations hype, and hear for yourself whether your views match the promises of the men and women who want your vote.

The clock is ticking. Winning or losing in New Hampshire doesn't have to seal the fate of any candidate, but it definitely plays a significant role in what will happen in other states in the months ahead. And most importantly, it factors into who will be on the ticket for the November election.

So in the few days remaining before the primary, ask some questions - not about smaller government, ending health care reform, cutting the deficit, defeating ISIS, or verbally attacking Obama. We deserve

specifics.

How does a candidate's religious views impact his or her decision making? How will a candidate propose to "fix" Social Security in laymen's language - and do people really want such change

If you have the chance, don't accept the answer of "I favor smaller government, I want to end health care reform, I want to cut the deficit, I want a strong foreign policy." Platitudes and generalities mean nothing.

Anyone can say those things - and more often than not, the candidates do. Anyone can attack their presumed opponent or President Obama rather than express their own views.

Ask real questions. Demand specifics. If you don't get real answers, keep asking. Recognize that failure to answer says something important as well.

And remember, a President doesn't govern in a vacuum. A lot of those broad campaign promises depend on Congress, the Supreme Court and the rule of law.

By virtue of residence in New Hampshire, the significance of our vote resonates from one coast to the other, from the border with Canada to the border with Mexico. But only if we care enough to vote intelligently. And that means asking tough questions and making up our minds for ourselves.

Letters

Combes for Council

To the editor:

My name is Ted Combes and I am running for a position on Londonderry's Town Council. I am running on the support of my family, and the encouragement of friends, business owners, and other citizens.

I have been approached by many people over time that they feel like they have lost confidence in the Town Council, do not receive respect from the Town Council that a citizen should, as well people have felt that the Council has not always had the citizens' best interests at heart.

The other main reason I am running for Town Council is that I would like to be able to bring a different perspective to the council to be able to represent a new generation that the town needs to welcome and entice to come to Londonderry.

I have lived in Londonderry the majority of my life, except for a few years when my family followed my father's job to Pennsylvania when I was a child. I grew up in this town picking apples, playing on rec soccer teams, becoming an Eagle Scout for Troop 521, and marching all over New Hampshire and the country with the Londonderry Marching Lancers.

I received my Business Management degree from Suffolk University, and my MBA from Southern New Hampshire University. I have spent the majority of my career working in property management, going over contracts, and budgeting for projects, which will be an asset for the position that Town Councilors play in managing town infrastructure. I currently work for a construction company, doing business development,

which involves a good deal of contract negotiations, construction pricing, and long-term planning for the business.

I do not come from a lifelong political family, but I am looking to at least better the lives of citizens in town, and doing my public service. I have served on the Budget Committee for the past three years, and have been Chairman for the past two years of my term. I have also been appointed to the Town Master Plan Implementation Committee, as well the Town Planning Board. As an Eagle Scout, I have always felt a need to give back to my community and making it a better place to live, even after completing my Eagle Project.

Back to my main reason for running for Town Council that I had mentioned up top. The Town of Londonderry has recently had a good deal of businesses move to town, as well as soon some major developments happening. I would like to be able to be a beacon for the younger generations to get involved, young entrepreneurs to move to town, and entice younger families to move back to town.

I'm Ted Combes and I want to preserve our past, but also help make a brighter future for our town. Please show your support by voting for me on March 8. Thank you!

Ted Combes
Londonderry

Applied Education

To the editor:

Decisions. We make them each day and have a large one facing us right now as the next presidential election draws near. In fact, strong decision-making skills are an important quality that we look for

and value in elected and other leadership positions. Yet what are we doing to prepare the voters of tomorrow - the students of today - to be able to make decisions, or even be a part of the discussion?

The current President of the United States won on a platform of change. In the matter of education, our students can win with change as well. Changing the traditional school constraints to a model of Applied Learning - where students are introduced to project-based activities that mirror the real world, adult work and relevant contributions to the community, is a win for everyone.

At the New Hampshire School of Applied Learning in Londonderry, we do just that: experienced educators cultivate a middle school learning community that challenges traditional assumptions about the educational process. Students in grades six through eight have choices, make decisions, accept responsibility and work cooperatively. They become motivated learners, collaborative problem solvers and active participants in their community - role models for our leaders.

Applied Learning empowers students to own their learning and make connections to what is relevant in their world. What parent hasn't had a child ask, "But why do I have to learn this? I will never have to use it." Applied Learning projects provide students more control over their own activities (choosing their theme, topic, resources and activities), as well as an opportunity to explore their own abilities.

This model promotes cooperative learning and teaming, allowing stu-

Continued on page 19

Londonderry Times

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Conservation Commission Takes Position on Warrant Articles

KAITLYN G. WOODS
LONDONDERRY TIMES

The Conservation Commission discussed warrant articles the Town Council moved to the Town's Deliberative Session that would have an impact on the Commission's efforts to conserve open space in Londonderry.

Of greatest concern to members is Article 11, to place annually no more than \$100,000 from the Land Use Change Tax (LUCT) in the Conservation Fund, with the balance to be placed in the General Fund.

Before 2013, 100 percent of the LUCT was placed in the Conservation Fund to protect farm and forest open spaces, as well as water and wildlife resources.

In 2013, the Town brought in a total of \$126,515 in Land Use Change Tax, of which \$110,606 was distributed to the Conservation Commission and \$15,909 went to the General Fund.

The distribution to the General Fund in 2015 was higher - with a total of \$564,879 in Land Use Change Tax, the Conservation Commission received \$285,951, and \$278,927 went into the

General Fund.

Councilor Tom Freda, who sponsored Article 11, argued that a vast amount of the Town's open space is underutilized, and taxpayers should have the opportunity to weigh in on whether or not additional properties are purchased with the LUCT, particularly as the development of Woodmont Commons is expected to generate a \$1 million windfall in fees.

But member Eugene Harrington noted Woodmont will take 10 to 15 years to complete, and the LUCT funds will come into the town incrementally.

Addressing the argument that much of the Town's open space is underutilized, member Deb Lievens said the sole purpose of many of the Town's conserved acres is to protect natural resources, such as clean air and water, as well as to serve as habitat for wildlife.

"In the Master Plan, everyone surveyed said they want to keep Londonderry green," Conservation Commission Chairman Marge Badois said.

Noting 14 percent of the Town's land is permanently protected and 14 percent is partially pro-

tected, Badois said it's important to keep in mind residents' desire to maintain the rural character and nature of the community.

According to Badois, Manchester's latest Master Plan reports 17 percent of the community's land remains open space. "People need to visualize just what that is," she said.

Member Mike Byerly added it's important to talk about the Society for Preservation of New Hampshire Forests' recommendation that communities conserve at least 25 percent of their land for trails, parks, farms and forests.

"I sent a note to Tom Howe, who is the senior director of land conservation at the Society for the Protection of New Hampshire Forests, and he said the recommendation is for permanently conserved land," Byerly said.

"The Open Space Task Force said environmental scientists actually recommend 40 to 50 percent open space. That 25 percent recommendation is the minimum," Lievens said, noting 80 to 85 percent of the Town draws its water from dug wells.

Lievens additionally

argued that investing in the Conservation Fund has enabled the Commission to pay for a number of services unrelated to land acquisition, such as the recreation guide, the recreation portion of the Rail Trail and treatment of invasive plant species.

Having funds available in the Conservation Fund also allows the Commission to qualify for grants that require funds be available to support a project, or meet a seller at the table to acquire an important property that would benefit the Town.

"It would be nice to get it back to 100 percent as it used to be, but I think we could settle for the first \$100,000 and split the rest," Lievens said.

"It's important for maintaining a balance between development and conservation," Badois said of LUCT.

Also considered at the Commission's Jan. 26 meeting was Article 12, to authorize the transfer of all supervision, management duties and responsibilities of the Town Forest from the Commission to the Town Manager.

Commissioners agreed they don't oppose the change, but recommend the Town allocate funds to address maintenance of the Town Forest.

"It involves conversations about what to do with that area," Speltz said. "In my view, we

probably could be open to either outcome. It's a tiny fraction of the forested land we manage and it's right in the center of town. They could turn it into something nice if they're willing to put the money into it. If voters want to see something different, I don't think we should oppose that. My personal opinion is this should remain a forested area."

"My concern is there's a cost to manage it more as a park," Lievens said. "The \$300,000 they appropriated for the Town Common was taken away, so there's no money for this."

"If they're transferring this to the Town Manager, they can decide what they want to do with it. It could remain the same," Badois said.

In addition to the warrant articles, the Commission discussed funding an engineering analysis to establish the technical feasibility and estimated costs of various proposed outdoor recreation improvements.

The Capital Improvements Plan (CIP) Committee recommended the project be funded at \$100,000 in FY17.

"The Planning Board approved it in the CIP,

and then the Town Council completely ignored it," Speltz said. "The choice we now have is to wait another year on a study that is already 2 years old, or see if we can fund it ourselves out of the Conservation Fund."

Speltz noted he has requested the Town Attorney determine if the project could be legally funded with money from the Conservation Fund.

"I think there's a good case to be made we could, and I think we should at least consider it. We've been under a lot of pressure from the Town Council to do more in terms of utilizing our open spaces - recreation areas, like camping spots, picnic places, boat launches," he said. "The idea would be if we want to proceed with this, we would tailor a scope of work that got us what we really wanted and put it out to bid."

"We need to really look at ideas because it would be crazy to spend money on something we don't want or think is appropriate for that area," Lievens said.

Speltz said the Commission wouldn't have to commit any funds until the study is in hand.

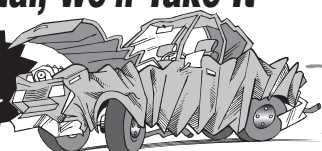
Election Letters

The Londonderry Times will not be accepting Letters to the Editor pertaining to the March 8 Election for its March 3 edition, other than to correct inaccuracies in previous letters. It is the paper's policy that running election letters that week would not give candidates time to correct inaccuracies. The last edition for election letters will be Feb. 25, and the deadline is 5 p.m. Monday, Feb. 22.

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School Board, Town Council Seats Face Contested Election

KAITLYN G. WOODS
LONDONDERRY TIMES

With the Town's March 8 election rapidly approaching, the filing period for elected officials closed last week.

There is only one position for which no volun-

teers declared their intent to run - Supervisor of the Checklist. Christine Tighe currently holds that seat, but she will not run for re-election.

Town Clerk Sherry Farrell said when no one runs for an open position, the position is offered to the

write-in candidate with the most votes. If there are no write-ins, the Town Manager may appoint a volunteer.

Running for two open positions on the Town Council with three-year terms each are incumbents Tom Dolan and John Farrell, and Edward

"Ted" Combes.

Pauline Caron, Robert J. Collins and John A. Curran are running for Trustees of the Leach Library, all three-year terms.

Christine Patton and Donald Moskowitz are running for the two open positions on the Budget

Committee, both three-year terms, and Robert Saur filed to run for Town Moderator.

On the School District side, incumbent John Laferriere and Jenn Ganem are running for one open seat on the School Board, a three-year term.

John Conley will seek re-election as School District Treasurer, a three-year term; Mary Soares is seeking re-election as School District Clerk, a three-year term, and Cindi Rice Conley filed to run for School District Moderator, a three-year term.

Conservation Recommends George Brooks for Negotiating Post

KAITLYN G. WOODS
LONDONDERRY TIMES

After interviewing two candidates for an open position on the Joint Negotiating Committee, the Conservation Commission voted unanimously to recom-

mend the Town Council appoint George Brooks to the position.

The Committee meets on an as-needed basis to review properties being considered for town purchases and guide negotiations to acquire open space.

Brooks has worked in real estate since 1977 and has lived in Londonderry for 30 years.

He served as President of the New Hampshire Board of Realtors, achieved designation as a Certified Commercial Investment

Member (CCIM) through the National Association of Realtors and certification as a New Hampshire appraiser, which Brooks said allows him to appraise any property on which he has adequate knowledge.

Brooks told the Commission that in the 1980s he facilitated as a broker about 20 different subdivisions in the Goffstown, Hooksett, Manchester and Concord area and negotiated subdivisions and developer acquisitions of single-family homes, condominiums and office warehouse

condominiums.

"I believe I have the experience to add some sort of value to the Joint Negotiating Committee," he said.

Applicant James Hooley, who serves on the Budget Committee, told Commissioners he applied for the position on the Joint Negotiating Committee because he has some experience in real estate and had heard no one else had stepped up to volunteer in the role.

"There had been a longstanding void in the Joint Negotiating Commit-

tee and there was some talk we needed to come up and volunteer. I volunteered in the absence of anyone coming up," said Hooley, who has completed some work on conservation areas in town, including the Musquash and Kendall Pond. "If I were you, I would choose (Brooks)."

The Commission also voted to appoint member Mike Byerly as their representative on the Joint Negotiating Committee. Commissioner Mike Speltz also serves on the Committee.

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YMCA Interested in Collaborating in Area of Drug Prevention

KAITLYN G. WOODS
LONDONDERRY TIMES

Ken Gould of the Greater Manchester YMCA told the Town Council that the community-focused non-profit is interested in collaborating with the Town and other groups to discuss the possibility of a drug prevention program.

"Our mission is to help families become healthy families and to help support the community," he said at the Council's Monday night meeting. "We don't have drug prevention mental health

expertise and we wouldn't be in a position to run that organization, but we would like to partner with other groups and collaborate in this time when there's a drug crisis in the community."

In other business:

The Council approved with a 4-0 vote revisions to the Municipal Traffic Safety Code relative to stopping, standing and parking during snow removal.

The revisions, which increase penalties for violations of the Code, are included in the Council's

full agenda package, available on the Town's website at www.londonderry-nh.org.

The Council approved with a 3-0 vote the expenditure of \$6,236 from the Expendable Maintenance Trust Fund for snow and ice removal at the Senior Center, winter maintenance at Town Hall and the Cable Access Center, and additional outlets in the office area at South Fire Station.

Councilor Jim Butler recused himself from voting due to a conflict of interest.

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Neighbors Claim Woodcutting Business is Illegal, Disruptive

KAITLYN G. WOODS
LONDONDERRY TIMES

Several residents of Estey Drive complained to the Town Council that a wood cutting business on their neighbor's property is disrupting the neighborhood. "The business has devalued my property," Robert Cinelli of 9 Estey Drive told the Council at its meeting Monday evening.

According to Cinelli, when he tried to sell his home, the business at his next-door neighbor's 5 Estey Drive residence caused buyers to back out of making an offer.

"We had a purchase and sales agreement on the property and they pulled the agreement around Thanksgiving of last year," he said, arguing the business is an eyesore in the neighborhood and that Robert Potter of Derry operates the wood cutting business on his parents' property outside of permitted business hours. "It's bad enough the property looks like that, but last Saturday he put 10 'no trespassing signs' on trees along my property line, and he put stakes in the ground and ran a string along the stakes. My feeling is that's harassment. There's no reason to put 10 signs along my side of the property."

Cinelli further argued, "there's no permit and the business is not grandfathered by the Town," adding he is working with Town Manager Kevin Smith to address his concerns.

"We've referred the matter to Attorney Mike

Ramsdell to look at all the documentation we have on it," Smith said. "(Former Code Enforcer) Frank Holdsworth made a ruling on the existing non-conforming use in a residential neighborhood. Ramsdell is looking to see if he concurs with that judgment or not, and we're waiting for him to get back to us with an opinion on this."

Adding to concerns over the potentially illegal operation of a commercial business in a residential neighborhood were allegations made by Bonnie Hussey of 3 Estey Drive that Potter started harassing her family after they sounded alarms over his business in 2008.

Hussey told the Council the harassment escalated when "Potter became enraged and tried to run my son down with his truck."

"We have always met with Dick and Freda (5 Estey Drive property owners). They say, 'we'll control him, we'll talk to him.' Nothing changes," she said.

Hussey further alleged that Potter called her husband's employer in an effort to threaten his employment and contacted a local newspaper "to slander" him in retaliation for their going to the Town with their complaints.

Hussey told the Council she also thinks Potter killed her dog, but she can't prove it.

"We have not been vigilant enough in reporting him. According to (Code Enforcement officer Richard) Canuel, we have made his job difficult in enforcing

him," she said. "This whole situation for me is very difficult."

Hussey said she lives in fear of retaliation for any complaint she might make to the Town.

"If you believe a crime has been committed, whether or not you think you can prove it, that shouldn't be the threshold for reporting a crime," Councilor Tom Dolan said.

"When people are victims of this type of harassment...you don't want to make it worse," Hussey said. "You have a tendency to get scared, rather than get angry and making waves. When someone tries to run over your child, especially when it's someone who presents themselves as someone you'll never get out of your neighborhood, you never want to give them a reason to go all the way. I'm not willing to risk my life or the life of my child because it's just too scary."

Potter denied Hussey's allegations and said Canuel informed him that as long as he operates within the town's rules, he is permitted to continue working at his parents' residence.

"My family has been doing this business there since 1965," he said. "No, I did not try to run anyone over with a truck. The allegations are exactly that."

Potter said Kevin Hussey has used threatening language toward him and accused him of "watching

his wife and taking pictures."

Potter told the Council the Husseys' allegations and behavior toward him are retaliation for calling the police to their neighborhood when he observed the couples' 8-year-old driving a golf cart up and down their street.

"I just want to work and mind my own business. Now, I can't even complain because they'll retaliate," he said. "All those allegations were serious, very serious. She says she's intimidated, that she's in fear for her life."

"Why do you think she feels that way?" Dolan asked.

"That's not for me to decide. I'm not to say what kind of person she is. I'm not the judge," Potter said.

"Now, we have heard two versions of the story and you can't reconcile them. That tells me someone is not telling the truth," Councilor Tom Freda said, noting that while the neighbors are not under oath when addressing the Council, being dishonest is not the best way to proceed. "Fortunately, technology fills the gaps in 2016. Everyone in the world has a camera. Someone has made statements here and someone's going to record events and they're not going to jive. It may behoove all you people to figure out how to get along."

Freda said the Council

can regulate the traffic laws on Estey Drive and find it's unsafe for trucks to go down the street.

"It may not have impact on the profitability of your business, but it may," he told Potter. "Now you brought this controversy to us. What do you expect us to do? Have your business and leave these people alone. You have every right to put up signs, but you're escalating the situation, and you know it."

Chairman John Farrell

said the Town Attorney has been directed to make a decision on whether or not the wood cutting business is a grandfathered use by March 1.

"It could go either way," he said. "The Police will be engaged if people feel they are not safe. I'm not there, I don't know the facts. We've heard two stories. When these things finally reach us, generally no one wins. We would much rather see everyone work it out."

ENGAGEMENT Announcement

Kendra Snyder and Craig Huckins



Mr. and Mrs. Christopher Snyder of Londonderry announce the engagement of their daughter, Kendra Lynn Snyder, to Craig Matthew Huckins, son of Mr. and Mrs. Timothy Curran of Belcher-town, Mass. He is also the son of Rodney Huckins of Swanzey.

Ms. Snyder is a graduate of Londonderry High School and Keene State College, from which she graduated in 2015 with a Bachelor's degree in Nursing. She is a Registered Nurse at Monadnock Community Hospital in Peterborough.

Mr. Huckins is a graduate of Campbell High School and Keene State College, from which he graduated in 2009 with a Bachelor's degree in Architecture. He is a Technology Designer at Vanderweil Engineers in Boston, Mass.

A September 2016 wedding is planned.

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Lawsuit

Continued from page 1

tered voters be sufficient, presented to the selectmen or one of them not later than the fifth Tuesday before the day prescribed for an annual meeting, the selectmen shall insert in their warrant for such meeting the petitioned article with only such minor textual changes as may be required."

Additionally, Baldasaro notes the Town Charter invokes the rights granted citizens through RSA 39:3, referring to the

statute in Article 7 of the Charter. Section 7.3 of the Town Charter states, "The voters of the Town shall retain the rights and privileges set forth in RSA 39:3."

"RSA 39:3 makes it a violation if they refuse to insert a petition article into the warrant. Our best course of action is to include the warrant and express concerns at Deliberative Session," Baldasaro said, noting the voters generally defeat proposals where there are clearly legal issues.

The Council also could have petitioned to the

Superior Court for instruction on how to proceed with what was deemed an illegal warrant article petition, or proposed its own language eliminating the legal defects at Deliberative Session.

"The dates are over because by law the Town had to make a decision the last Monday of January. Now the ball's in my constituent's (Bielinski's) court on what to do. I don't know of any remedies to even put this forward," Baldasaro said. "In my legislative opinion, I think the Town Attorney may have given us some bad advice."

At the Council's Jan. 18 meeting, Attorney Mike Ramsdell did advise the most conservative action would be to move Bielinski's warrant article petition to the Warrant. Ramsdell said if the courts found the petitions were in fact legal, the Town would be in violation of State law.

"We could have put the petition to the ballot, but if it passed, what are we supposed to do with that?" Councilor Tom Dolan asked, as a heated argument between the petitioner and Council members flared.

Bielinski maintained his position that the warrant article petition he submitted is not illegal.

"Even if was illegal, which I say it was not, I find it disturbing after watching the meeting (on Jan. 18) between the Town Attorney, the Town Manager and the five of you there that night, no one knew on page 25 we have all the rights and privileges granted under RSA 39:3," he said.

Additionally, Bielinski

expressed frustration that the Town never contacted the Secretary of State's Office to seek further advice regarding his warrant article petition.

"I watched the meeting and you said you would contact the Secretary of State's Office. I spoke with Dave Scanlon, and as of 3:30 p.m. on Friday, he said he has never heard from the Town and that concerns me because a lot of what is going on could have been avoided," Bielinski said. "Now we have a situation where the dates are passed. You didn't have the right to do what you did."

"We had already made a decision based on substantive case law from the New Hampshire Supreme Court," Councilor Tom Freda said. Freda is an attorney.

Citing the New Hampshire Municipal Association, Freda said that if the substance of an article is illegal and can't be remedied with minor changes, the New Hampshire Supreme Court has upheld that the Town is not required to place it on the warrant.

Freda pointed to cases in 1976 and 1978, which have yet to be overturned, in which the Supreme Court ruled selectmen don't have to move an illegal article to the Warrant.

But Baldasaro said the State statutes have been amended since the 1970s, and that it's his opinion as a state legislator for over a decade that RSA 39:3, referred to in the Town's Charter, requires the Council move the illegal article to the ballot.

Bielinski called for the

Town to go to the State to seek a waiver, and to freeze the Town's TIF accounts if the waiver is not granted.

"I did everything I was supposed to the way it was in the Charter," said Bielinski, who has hired legal counsel and is prepared to take the Town to court over the matter.

"The Charter enables the Council and only the Council to enact ordinances. Your petition would violate the Charter and prevent the Council from enacting ordinances," Dolan said. "What are you trying to achieve by putting this on?"

Bielinski said RSA 39:3 offers the people one chance each year to remedy if they see something wrong in the operations of their local government.

"I did it because a lot of people came up to me and didn't understand the TIF's," he said. "I don't think public money should ever be used for private development."

Bielinski also testified at the meeting that Town Manager Kevin Smith told him the \$250,000 raised through the Airport TIF was not actually raised to pay for a traffic light on Pettengill Road, but was to reimburse Ballinger/Five N, the partnership behind the development of the Fed/Ex building on Pettengill, for the purchase of an easement necessary for the development.

Bielinski claimed Smith told him in two separate conversations that Ballinger/Five N wouldn't have moved forward with the development had the Town not agreed to pay the developer the \$250,000 for the easement with the

TIF funds.

Smith said the conversations never happened. "It's entirely untrue," he said.

"Well, now I know where we stand with you, Kevin," Bielinski said. "We have a Town Manager who tells me something who won't own up to what he said."

"No one puts a gun to anyone's head here. Are they tough to deal with, they probably are," Councilor Jim Butler said, arguing that Bielinski would have been just as angry if the Town had failed to facilitate the opportunity to bring in Fed Ex/Pratt & Whitney and lost the developer.

"You have to spend money to make money," Butler said. "You would say we lost the opportunity to bring revenue into this town. This is baloney."

"Mr. Bielinski is encouraging us to take his financial advice on how to move this Town forward. He was also part of the group that recommended we never allow the power plant to come into town, because the \$5 million they would pay would never be paid. The first thing they would do is go to the State and find ways to not pay," Freda said. "And now they're paying \$8.5 million per year, and they have brought in over \$75 million over the years you would have had to pay as homeowners."

"Your record of financial advice to the town is the worst I have seen," Freda continued. "I stand behind this Council and our legal counsel, and Mr. Bielinski, bring us to court."

OBITUARY

Wilbur 'Joe' Cole

Wilbur "Joe" Cole, 89, of Scituate, Mass., died at home Jan. 24, 2016 surrounded by his family.

He was born in Three Rivers, Mass., on April 23, 1926, to Isaac and Elizabeth (Sinclair) Cole. He was the youngest of eight children.

He was a World War II veteran.

His 45-year railroad career brought promotions that took the family to several states, eventually returning to Massachusetts.

His tenor voice was enjoyed by many in church, at social gatherings, and weddings. An avid golfer, he enjoyed many hours on the links with family and friends. He had a tremendous sense of humor.

He is survived by Dorothy (Whitney) Cole, his wife of 63 years; children David Cole and wife, Evelyn, of Merrill, Wis., Steven Cole and wife, Michele, of Whitman, Mass., and Sandy Cole and partner, Doug Kunitake, of Londonderry; grandchildren Chris Cole of Duxbury, Mass., and Alyssa, Julia and Brian Frechette of Londonderry; a sister, Gertrude Allison of Ludlow, Mass.; many nieces and nephews; and canines Kailey, Norman and Taylor.

A visitation will be held Saturday, Jan 30, from 10 a.m. to noon in the United Church of Christ, 460 Main St., Norwell, Mass., followed by a memorial service at noon. A reception will follow. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Friendship Home, P.O. Box 916, Norwell, Mass. 02061 or friendshiphome.net.



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North's Jill Connors Named Assistant Principal of Year

KAITLYN G. WOODS
LONDONDERRY TIMES

Jill Connors of North Elementary School said she was shocked to learn she is the 2016 New Hampshire Assistant Principal of the Year.

The humble award winner said she couldn't have come out on top without all the support of her teachers, fellow administrators, North School parents and the Londonderry community.

"Being an administrator, you can have great

ideas, but if you don't have the staff to work with, it's hard to see them through. We are such a community here," she said.

Connors also recognized her mentor, Mary Coltin, whom she replaced as assistant principal at North.

Connors is following in her mentor's footsteps as Assistant Principal of the Year.

"I really want people to know I truly wouldn't have been able to win this

award without the staff and administrators here," Connors said. "It's really about who you surround yourself with. The true payoff of working here is the incredible support of the staff, administrators and District."

A Londonderry High School graduate, Connors started her career in education in 2001 as a special education teacher at Londonderry Middle School.

She moved on to serve as coordinator of pupil services in the District

Office in 2008, then accepted the position of Vice Principal at North School in 2010.

The school hosted a three-member committee on Dec. 3, who interviewed all members of North School's faculty and staff, as well as current and former students, parents and members of the community.

In addition to the interviews with staff and members of the community, the Committee, which spent three hours at the school, also conducted a one-on-one interview with Connors.

"Before I left the interview, they told me, 'It's important for you to know the impact you have made on the families and students, and what you have done for your staff and the culture and morale of your school,'" said Connors, who thought the Committee might be boosting her



North Elementary School's Jill Connors is the 2016 New Hampshire Assistant Principal of the Year.

spirits before announcing she wasn't the winner.

A young recipient of the award, Connor said she told the Committee she still has a lot to learn.

Principal Paul Dutton said he was not surprised by Connor's selection, saying the energetic administrator has flourished in all areas of responsibility and skillfully balances her various

roles at the school.

"She takes the time with students, staff and parents to communicate and listen," he said. "Jill is always striving for excellence, and we are very proud of her."

Connors is to attend the New Hampshire Excellence in Education Awards in June, where she will be a guest speaker.

Kate Balcom a Candidate in Presidential Scholars Program

KAITLYN G. WOODS
LONDONDERRY TIMES

A Londonderry scholar has been named a candidate in the 2016 U.S. Presidential Scholars Program.

Kate Balcom, a graduating senior, is one of more than 4,000 candidates selected to apply to the program from nearly 3.3 million students to graduate U.S. high schools this year.

Students are selected on the basis of superior academic and/or artistic achievements, leadership qualities, strong character and involvement in community and school activities.

"I got a really good foundation in academics. My parents did a good job to make sure I was pushed hard and challenged myself," said Balcom, who is home schooled.

Balcom has also been commended as a National Merit Scholar and an AP Scholar.

With an interest in mathematics, Balcom has applied to the University of New Hampshire, Georgia Institute of Technology, Vanderbilt University and Worcester Polytechnic Institute. And in a few weeks, Balcom said she has an interview with the University of North Carolina for a scholarship.

In addition to succeeding academically, Balcom is captain of Londonderry High School's varsity girls' basketball team and has committed over 500 volunteer hours to a children's bible study program at Calvary Bible Church in Derry.

She plans to submit an application to be considered as one of 800 semi-finalists in the U.S. Presidential Scholars Program, who will be named in early April. From those semi-finalists, 161 finalists will travel to Washington, D.C. in June for the National Recognition Program.



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Londonderry Renaissance Man Dennis Braje Installs Seascapes at Library

KAITLYN G. WOODS
LONDONDERRY TIMES

The Leach Library's featured artist through the month of February is a painter, sculptor, world traveler, personal chef, retired engineer, sailor and poet.

Renaissance man Dennis Braje's unique range of experiences abroad, working in marketing for IBM and sailing in the Caribbean informs his impressionist paintings and metal sculptures in a profound and interesting way.

This week Braje has installed a series of seascape paintings depicting scenes of the ocean at beaches across the country.

"The ocean is a lovely thing for an artist because it changes its mood as quickly as the wind changes," he said. "And as a sailor, the ocean makes you realize how small you are. It doesn't

matter how big your boat, when the ocean roars up; but also, in the calm, it's very poetic."

In addition to his paintings, Braje has written a collection of poems inspired by his time at sea, many of which he wrote on napkins in hotel lobbies while traveling.

Braje was formally trained at the Dayton Art Institute and the Cincinnati Art Academy. He also completed countless hours of private instruction and completed courses to become a Bob Ross Certified Instructor, qualified to teach the Ross "wet-on-wet" method of oil painting.

The genres of Braje's work range from landscape, seascape, abstract art and oriental brush and ink to indoor and outdoor metal sculptures and wall pieces.

Braje said most of his art

is inspired by his travels to China, Thailand, the Caribbean, Canada, Europe, Australia and New Zealand. While visiting China, Braje said he discovered a passion for Chinese art, which he is now studying.

Braje also teaches oil painting and continues to work as a personal chef, but on a selective basis.

"People will say, 'I can't even draw a straight line.' But you won't find any straight lines in nature. That's what I love about oriental painting," he said. "It's more than just putting a painting down - it's knowing someone 1,000 or 3,000 years ago was painting something like that."

In the winter, Braje likes to focus on sculpting, as the cooler weather is more conducive to welding in his workshop.

Many of Braje's paintings



Dennis Braje's painting "Fury" is a seascape he has included in his installation at the Leach Library through the month of February.

and sculptures have found homes in private art collections in the U.S. and China.

When asked what art has meant to him personally, Braje says it has changed his view of the world.

"All of a sudden you see everything differently in the world," he said. "When you look up and see leaves in a tree, I see the spaces between the leaves and shadows."

In a more technical, engi-

neering-related position at IBM, Braje said he never felt disconnected from his artistic side.

"I have that interest in how things work - the battle is between functionality and beauty. My artistic side overcame that. I believe everyone is creative," said Braje, who wrote papers and taught classes on creativity in the workplace as a private consultant after retiring from his position at IBM.

A member of the Londonderry Arts Council, Braje lives in town with his wife, Judy, and is enjoying in retirement the time he has to focus on his paintings and sculptures.

To see Braje's seascape paintings, visit his installation at the Leach Library during February. To speak with Braje about his art work or classes, call 965-4511 or 425-9670 or email at dennisbraje@comcast.net.

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Fire Destroys Holstein Avenue Shed

KAITLYN G. WOODS
LONDONDERRY TIMES

The Fire Department responded to reports of a shed fire on Holstein Avenue, working quickly to extinguish the blaze.

Battalion Chief Kevin Zins said it took crews about six minutes and 1,500 gallons of water to completely overhaul the fire after responding at 10:57 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 30.

There were no other

structures close enough to the shed to catch fire.

Zins said the shed was completely destroyed.

The cause of the fire was a faulty chainsaw, according to Zins.

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LONDONDERRY SPORTS

Scuffling Lancer Boy Cagers Continue to Struggle

CHRIS PANTAZIS
LONDONDERRY TIMES

The Londonderry High School boys' basketball squad's 2015-16 season continued to be a pretty bumpy ride. And the unsettled haul continued last week as the locals absorbed a tough loss before winning a tight battle to enter this week with a 5-4 record in Division I.

The Lancers fell to the struggling Salem High School Blue Devils by 21 points on that team's home court Wednesday, Jan. 27. But LHS rebounded for a hard-fought, two-point win over a tough Winnacunnet Warrior crew at home two nights later.

With that success fresh in mind the Lancers made the short trip to Derry on Monday to take on the rival Pinkerton Astros.

In the loss to Salem, that is now 3-7 and had lost three consecutive decisions going into that game, LHS was outscored in every period but the third.

The Blue Devils led 14-8 after one quarter, 36-18 at the half, and 49-35 rolling into the last stanza. Salem then put the win away by outscoring LHS by 19-12 in the fourth.

Matt Corey - whose dad, Andy, is a former Salem High varsity boys' hoop coach - paced the lackluster Lancer effort with 19 points, and Jake Coleman

was good for 11.

The LHS squad knew that they'd have their hands full with the Winnacunnet team that came into the Friday night game having won three of its last four and boasting a 6-2 record in Division I. The locals got the battle they expected, and won in a 51-49 decision.

The Warriors looked like a defensive machine in the first quarter, bouncing in and out of zone and man-to-man defenses and holding LHS to one outside shot virtually every time down the court. And the LHS shots weren't falling.

The Lancers, whose first basket of each of the four quarters was a three-pointer, started out with a 3-0 lead on a Coleman trey. But Winnacunnet then netted 12 of the next 14 points in the period to carry a 12-5 advantage into the second stanza.

But Londonderry junior guard Cam MacDonald's exceptional second quarter sparked his crew, and the hosts outscored their guests by a 20-8 margin to carry a 25-20 advantage to the half. MacDonald threw down 13 of the 20 LHS points in that period and also played some strong defense.

The Lancers' lead wobbled between one and five points throughout the third quarter, with Winnacunnet

knotting the score at 34-34 late before Londonderry regained the upper hand at 36-34 to head into the fourth up by two.

The hosts began the fourth quarter looking like they had fire in their bellies, and their lead grew to seven points at 41-34 before the Warriors put together an 8-0 run and grabbed a 42-41 lead with 3:40 showing on the game clock.

After calling a time-out, Londonderry went on to outscore its opponent by a 10-7 margin the rest of the way. Cam Reddy hit a couple of big buckets and Corey sank a vital three down the stretch in helping their team succeed.

"We needed this one," said a relieved coach Nate Stanton after the game. "We went through a little tough patch, but I'm glad it happened in late January instead of early March. We got the chance to play our kind of basketball tonight, and this was a big one for us to get."

MacDonald led the victors with 19 points, while Coleman contributed nine and Corey and Reddy each had six.

It was then on to rivalry action against a blistering-hot Pinkerton Academy Astro squad, which began play with an 8-1 record and six consecutive divisional wins.

And in that first of two meetings between the rival squads this week - they'll play again this Saturday afternoon at LHS - the academy bunch remained impressive, bagging a 74-51 victory on their home court despite the absence of scorer Brennan Morris due to a case of food poisoning.

The game was still very much in question at half-time after the streaking Astros grasped relatively modest advantages of 16-13 after one period and 31-24 at the half.

But Pinkerton busted the contest open in the second half, outscoring the Lancers by a 43-27.

Pinkerton had 20 points in the third quarter while Londonderry only managed eight, so PA grasped a 19-point lead of 51-32 rolling into the last stanza.

Lancers' star junior guard Jake Coleman had a frustrating night, scoring just two points during the first three quarters as his shots simply wouldn't fall.

Coleman managed 11



Londonderry big man Matt Corey surveys his options while up in the air during the Lancers' lopsided loss to Pinkerton in Derry earlier this week. Photo by Chris Paul

points in the fourth period, leading the now 4-5 Lancers with his 13 points, but they didn't come until Nate Gaw bagged 10, and Cam Reddy contributed eight.

Jake Coleman ended up



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Lady Lancer Cagers Extend Winning Streak, Then Falter

CHRIS PANTAZIS
LONDONDERRY TIMES

The two-time defending Division I champion Londonderry High girls' basketball squad extended its winning streak to eight games by defeating Salem during

the middle of last week. But by the end of the week, that winning streak ended as well.

Despite a strong effort from the 5-7 Salem High Lady Blue Devils at LHS Wednesday night, Jan. 27, the 10-1 Lady Lancers

made it eight divisional victories in a row with a 47-33 defeat of the guest.

The hosts were up by 11 points at halftime (24-13), led by veterans Jackie Luckhardt (15 points, nine steals, five assists), Kate Balcom (12 points, six rebounds, three blocks), and Kelsey Coffey (10 points).

"A tough, physical game, our third one in six days," said LHS coach Nick Theos. "Salem pushed us and kept it close in the first half. But we played our best basketball in a while during the

third quarter, outscoring them 18-5 and playing amazing half-court defense."

The hosts grasped a 24-point lead rolling into the final period.

But the Lady Lancers walked a far more rocky path in Hampton two nights later, suffering shooting woes and losing to the skilled Winnacunnet High Lady Warriors by 20 points in a 65-45 decision.

"(Winnacunnet) shot nearly 70 percent in the first half. Some of that was the fact that we couldn't or didn't play de-

fense," lamented Theos. "They got up 22-7 after one quarter, and they didn't stop. We couldn't slow them down. They ran their offense perfectly and knocked down every open shot."

Londonderry continued to work diligently to climb back into the fray, but fell short in that effort.

"We cut the lead down to 16 with the ball in the third, but we missed two free-throws and didn't get back on defense, so they got an uncontested layup. That four-point swing

really hurt our chances. We played four games in seven nights, and our legs just were not there," he said.

Coffey scored 18 points and Balcom contributed 15 on a tough night that ended with Winnacunnet bumping its divisional record up to 9-3 with its fourth victory in five games.

It will be a much more rested Lady Lancer group that will take on the arch-rival Pinkerton Academy Lady Astros in Ball Family Trophy action at LHS Saturday afternoon, Feb. 6.



Veteran LHS hoop star Jackie Luckhardt weighs all of her options as she drives the ball up the court during a recent Lady Lancer contest.

Lancer Gymnasts Roll Over Opponents

CHRIS PANTAZIS
LONDONDERRY TIMES

The Londonderry High School girls' gymnastics squad continued its superb 2015-16 campaign last week by upping its record to 15-1 by outscoring four opposing teams in its own gymnasium.

The Lady Lancers tallied a team score of 132.1 to easily defeat Exeter (117.5), Pelham (115.45), Dover (114.95), and Spaulding of Rochester (96.75) in the home meet Tuesday, Jan. 26.

Veteran standout Jill McIntire continued to be a force for the locals, bagging first places on vault (9.25), in the floor exercise (9.0), and in the all-around (34.05). She also claimed third place on the balance beam with a mark

of 8.2.

Her fellow veteran Mira Kutney also saw success, winning on beam (9.0), snaring second in the all-around (33.5), and snagging third place on vault (8.4).

And their fellow LHS stalwart Maddie Croteau stood out by taking seconds on the vault (9.0) and the uneven bars (8.0).

Additionally, the hosts received a second place from Susie Moore in the floor exercise (8.6), and strong work from a number of other sources including Taylor MacKenzie, Seana Kelly, Maddie Baumann, Jessi Pignone, Courtney Baharian, Tara Nigro, and Rachel Larkin.

"Overall, the team had a good meet and we got our highest score this season," said coach Heather

Tuden. "As we move toward states we are working hard to get our skills consistent, but also trying to rest our gymnasts the best we can."

The Lady Lancers then held their Senior Night Meet this past Monday night, with a slew of opposing teams under the LHS gym roof including Bishop Guertin of Nashua, Goffstown, Pelham again, Nashua North, Nashua South, Campbell and Bedford.

The Lancers outscored the competition again, with a team score of 133 with Goffstown finishing a distant second (113.3).

Londonderry made its season record a stellar 21-1 and received wins from Jill McIntire on vault - tying the school record with a 9.45 - as well as

floor 8.75 and in the all-around with a 34.5.

Kutney proved unbeatable on the beam (9.0), and second places were bagged by Croteau on vault and McIntire on bars. Baumann collected third places on vault, bars, and in the all-around, and Croteau notched a third in floor.

Following the competition, Tuden praised her three seniors Jessi Pignone, Baumann, and McIntire for the work they've done under her leadership.

"I have seen these three girls grow into amazing young women, and I'm truly blessed to have been a part of their gymnastics careers. I wish them all the best of luck with their future endeavors," said Tuden.

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Struggling Londonderry High Icemen Fall Twice More

CHRIS PANTAZIS
LONDONDERRY TIMES

The Londonderry High ice hockey team has fallen into a rough patch recently, and the scuffling Lancers dropped their third and fourth consecutive decisions last week to slip to 4-6 in tough Division I.

The LHS icemen dropped a home game to Bedford during the middle of the week and then fell on the road to a Manchester Central crew that's been struggling even worse than Londonderry.

The Lancers suffered their third consecutive

divisional loss and slipped under the .500 mark to 4-5 with a 4-1 loss to the Bedford High Bulldogs at the Salem Icenter Wednesday night, Jan. 27.

Londonderry's lone goal against the stingy Bedford defense was collected by Nick Donnelly, and the locals received an impressive performance in net from Cody Baldwin with 34 saves.

The Bulldogs pushed their D-I record to 8-1 that night, bagging their third straight win in the process.

Londonderry then stepped into its Saturday

night game against an opponent that was scuffling even more than itself in the form of the 3-7 Manchester Central Little Green. The Queen City team had only won one of its previous six games going into that contest.

But the locals wound up making an upsetting exit from the JFK Arena that evening after watching a 1-1 tie turn into a 7-2 loss during the third period.

The Lancers potted the only goal of the first stanza - just 1:40 after the opening face-off - when Brian Murphy was set up by Patrick Murphy and Troy Muldoon.

The pace of play in the period was intense and high-speed, but that wound up being the only goal tallied. The Lancers got seven saves from freshman goalie Cam Donovan, and were a third of the way to a win.

The track meet on ice continued in the second period, but Central knotted the score at 1-1 with 7:39 remaining with what would prove to be the only marker tallied in the middle stanza.

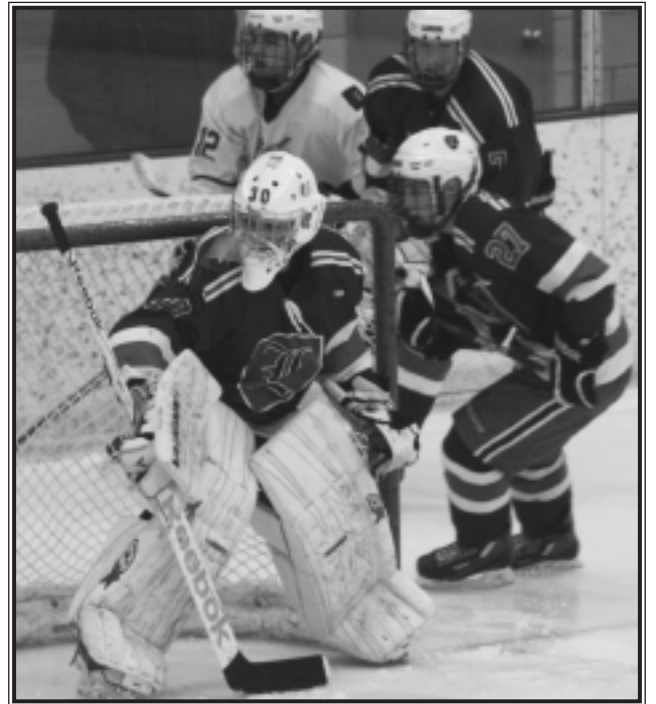
Keeper Donovan made six more saves in that period, and he and the Lancers prepared for the third period with hopes of pulling out the win.

The host Little Green busted the 1-1 tie with a goal on a rebound just 22 seconds into the third stanza, but LHS senior captain and defenseman

Colby Austin knotted the score back up with an exceptional individual effort a mere 34 seconds later when he rushed the puck in from the right point in the Central zone, skated past several defenders, and tucked a back-hander past the opposing goalie.

However, Londonderry's hopes of gliding away with a victory on this evening fell apart under the weight of five unanswered goals by Central during the final 14:04 of play.

LHS keeper Donovan faced a total of 18 shots in the third period, and the host team collected six goals to claim the 7-2 win. All in all, the freshman goalie made 25 saves in a losing effort.



Young Londonderry goalie Cam Donovan follows the action closely as players swirl around his net during the Lancers' loss to Central last week.

Photo by Chris Pantazis

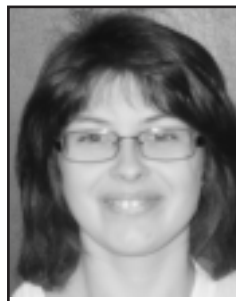
Athletes of the Week

For the Week of Jan. 24



Will Boyle,
Sophomore, Unified
Basketball

This tall cager has been a big factor for the unified team this season, proving himself a great defensive player and a superb three-point shooter.



Skyler Tarmey,
Senior, Unified
Basketball

This spirited senior hoopster has had a successful season, scoring in all of her games and proving herself to be a great team player.

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Lancer Grapplers Enjoy Major Successes on the Road



Mahdi Achab snagged a second-place finish in helping his LHS wrestling team to fourth place at the Methuen, Mass., Invitational last week.

CHRIS PANTAZIS
LONDONDERRY TIMES

After dropping a 42-22 decision to the tough Concord High Crimson Tide on its own mats Wednesday, Jan. 27, the Londonderry High wrestling squad enjoyed significant success in other teams' gymnasiums later in the week. The Lancers simply bowled over the Manchester Memorial Cru-

saders in the Queen City in a forfeit and pin-filled match Thursday, Jan. 28, and then two days later coach Jason Cucolo's LHS bunch placed fourth out of 17 teams in the Methuen (Mass.) Invitational. In the head-to-head contest with Memorial, Londonderry won by the lopsided tally of 54-6, thanks in part to pin wins from David Donnelly at 120 pounds, Tyler Byrd at

132, Craig Santos at 145 pounds, Alex Boucher at 160, and Taylor Dyer in the 170-pound bout. At the Methuen Invitational Saturday, Jan. 30, the Lancers had nine wrestlers collect medals in finishing fourth as a group behind only the champs from Methuen, second-place Mount Anthony Union from Vermont, and third-place Springfield Central of

Massachusetts. Londonderry didn't have an athlete win his weight class, but Mahdi Achab snared second at 170 pounds, thirds were taken by Donnelly (120), Colin Reardon (152), and Ben Psaledas (182), in fourth were Ryan Cabezas (126) and Byrd (132), fifths were snagged by Tyler LeBlanc (113) and Andrew Chase (138), and Santos took sixth.

Lancer Swimmers End Regular Seasons With Success

CHRIS PANTAZIS
LONDONDERRY TIMES

The Londonderry High School swim teams' home pool was brimming with athletes Friday night, Jan. 29 as the Lancers played host to an eight-team meet to end the 2015-16

regular season.

The Lady Lancers and Lancer males enjoyed significant team success that evening, with LHS swimmers only collecting one individual first place but many snagging other top-three and top-six placements.

And as a result, the Lady Lancers went 7-0 on the night with the LHS guys going 6-1.

GIRLS

Lady Lancer veteran standout Emily Buttafuoco stood out with her victory in the 200-yard freestyle (time of 2 min-

utes, 05.98 seconds) because that win was the only one snared by an LHS athlete that night.

Buttafuoco also registered the only LHS girls' second place in the 500 free, and third places were taken by Brittaney Brown in the 500 free, Maeve McPhail in the 100-yard butterfly, Anna Gruchot in the 200-yard indi-

vidual medley, and the Lady Lancers' 200 free relay, 400 free relay, and 200 medley relay quartets.

BOYS

The Lancer guys received second places from Mike Weisse in the 200 free and from a 200 free relay group. Third places were tallied by Kyle MacKenzie in the 50

free and the 100 free, John Stuart in the 500 free, Nick Byrne in the 100 fly, Weisse in the 100-yard backstroke, and 400 freestyle and 200 medley relay crews.

The LHS squads will now use practices to stay tuned up for the Division I championship meets at the University of New Hampshire on Feb. 13.

Daniela E. Verani, M.D., P.A.

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- Nearly 37 percent of all female deaths in America occur from CVD, which includes coronary heart disease (CHD), stroke and other cardiovascular diseases.
- In 2005, CVD claimed the lives of 454,613 females; cancer (all forms combined) 268,890.
- In 2005, coronary heart disease claimed the lives of 213,572 females compared with 41,116 lives from breast cancer and 67,894 from lung cancer.
- At age 40 and older, 23 percent of women compared with 18 percent of men will die within one year after a heart attack.
- Stroke is a leading cause of serious, long-term disability; an estimated 15 percent to 30 percent of stroke survivors are permanently disabled.

A 2003 American Heart Association study of more than 1,000 women conducted by Harris Interactive, Inc., revealed the lack of understanding women have of the dangers of heart disease and stroke. According to the results, a mere 13 percent of women in America believe that heart disease and stroke are the greatest health threat to women. This reveals the lack of knowledge and understanding a majority of women have for their most serious health threat.

- Risk of heart disease and stroke increases with age, and in the year 2006, more than 36 million American women were 55 and older.
- More women than men die of stroke.
- Low blood levels of "good" cholesterol (high density lipoprotein or HDL) appear to be a stronger predictor of heart disease death in women than in men in the over-65 age group; high blood levels of triglycerides (another

type of fat) may be a particularly important risk factor in women and the elderly.

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Track Teams Hit Maine for Their Final Tune-Ups

CHRIS PANTAZIS
LONDONDERRY TIMES

The Londonderry High School's boys' and girls' track and field squads made the ride to the University of Southern Maine's Gorham campus Saturday, Jan. 30 for their final competitive preparations for the Feb. 7 state championship meets in Hanover.

The Lady Lancers received strong performances from standout Yorgelis Ortiz, who won the 55-meter dash in a time of 7.37 seconds, finished second in the long jump, and claimed third in the high jump. The locals also got a first place from their 4x200 relay crew (1:49.81).

Other second-place

performances were registered by Gretchen McGrath in the 600-meter run and Andrea Wooldridge in the 55 dash, and another third came from McGrath in the 55 dash.

In the boys' meet, the Lancer males received second-places from Trevor Guay in the long jump and Kyle Foden in the shot put.

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Athletic Leadership Council Promotes Healthy Choices with Inspirational Posters

KAITLYN G. WOODS
LONDONDERRY TIMES

Londonderry High School's Athletic Leadership Council recently installed a series of inspirational posters focusing on their "Life of a Lancer" initiative, which promotes sportsmanship and healthy lifestyle choices.

Produced through collaboration between the school and the NHIAA – New Hampshire Interscholastic Athletic Association, the dynamic images illustrate both the student athletes' commitment to their sport and to "Life as a Lancer."

The project was funded with a grant from the NHIAA.

English teacher and Council advisor Crystal Rich said the posters, produced by Kevin Bresard, a professional photographer and soccer coach at the high school, put a face to who is accountable for the values of the policy.

Next year, Rich said

they hope to expand the project to feature students in co-curricular activities, like chess and band. They are also discussing the potential to produce a series of posters featuring "unified students" with physical and intellectual disabilities to promote tolerance and acceptance.

"I think it's fantastic. It's something new and innovative," Principal Jason Parent said. "These student athletes are some of our most respected in the high school and the message is a positive one. It's great for our students and staff to see, a visual image of what we're trying to promote - good sportsmanship, healthy lifestyle choices and doing the right thing when no one is watching."

The student athletes featured were excited to install their posters throughout the school and in the gymnasium. They said the reaction from classmates and teachers has been over-

whelmingly positive.

"Friends of mine on the indoor track team were practicing long-jump in a hall where a poster of (football player David Wiedenfeld) is hanging and they said they felt like he was watching them, so they had to do well," said Hannah McGrath, who is featured in a poster holding her field hockey stick with the quote, "There are only two options: make progress, or make excuses."

Other quotes featured on the posters include, "work hard in silence and your success will be your noise;" "talent wins games, but teamwork and intelligence wins championships;" and "stay hungry, stay healthy, be a gentleman, believe strongly in yourself and go beyond limitations."

When asked if they think the posters will have the desired effect of inspiring students to uphold the morals, ethics and values of "Life of a Lancer" and to make



Athletic Leadership Council advisor Crystal Rich and members Erika Testlias, clockwise from top left, Breda Holland, Jackie Luckhardt, Cam Reddy, Nick Donnelly, Max Hastings, David Wiedenfeld, Nate Gaw, Jill McIntyre and Hannah McGrath share inspirational posters featuring the student athletes that have been installed throughout the school.

healthy decisions outside of school, the students answered with an enthusiastic, "Yes."

"Being on a poster comes with serious re-

sponsibility," Rich said.

"No one wants to be the kid who has their poster taken down," McGrath said.

"This is a great group,"

Rich said of the Athletic Leadership Council. "They really represent the goals we're trying to accomplish."

Donations Sought for Operation Care for Troops

KAITLYN G. WOODS
LONDONDERRY TIMES

Operation Care for Troops is holding a Valentine's Day collection to "Remember our Troops for Valentine's Day."

A packing event for the Valentine's Day collection for deployed troops is to be held from Feb. 11 through Feb. 13 at the Nashua National Guard Armory. Those who would like to participate may drop off supplies for

the care packages, which are shipped to deployed troops, at the Armory on Feb. 11 and Feb. 12 from 2:30 to 7:30 p.m. and on Feb. 13 from 8:30 a.m. until 12:13 p.m.

Items most needed include white socks, power bars, Ramen noodles (packages, not cups), individual drink mixes, tuna pouches, small canned fruit (flip-tops preferred), nuts and trail mix (individual sizes or smaller packages) and

dental items.

Operation Care for Troops is an entirely volunteer donation-based organization.

In addition to monetary donations and donations of items for the packages, Operation Care for Troops is in need of volunteers for the packing event.

To volunteer, email volunteer@octnh.org. Donations may be sent to P.O. Box 1604, Nashua, NH 03061.



Division 1 Dancer

Shannon Corcoran, a sophomore at Clemson University, is a Division 1 dancer for the "Clemson Rally Cats" dance team. She was recently invited to dance for her team in the Orange Bowl in Miami, Fla. The Clemson Tigers then went on to play Alabama in the NCAA College Football Championship. Corcoran graduated from Londonderry High School in 2014 and maintains a 4.0 average at Clemson's Calhoun Honors College, where she is studying Mathematical Sciences and Physics.

Courtesy photo

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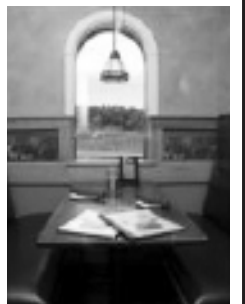
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AROUND TOWN

Around Town Policy: This section is meant to be used to announce free events to the communities. If your group or non-profit is receiving money for what they are publicizing, there will be a charge of \$30.00/week per paper. All Around Town/Calendar Items will be held to 100 words maximum; anything over will incur a charge of \$30.00/week for up to another 50 words. All free announcements in the Around Town/Calendar section can run a maximum of 3 weeks. Deadline for submissions is Monday at 5 p.m.
Additionally: We will run the full versions of any calendar items online free of charge at www.nutpub.net. Please send items to calendar@nutpub.net.

Coaches vs. Cancer

The Londonderry High Basketball Program hosts a Coaches vs. Cancer Fund-raiser Saturday, Feb. 6 at the Londonderry High School gym. The Lancers and rival Pinkerton Academy Astros will face off, with girls varsity playing at 1:30 p.m. and boys varsity at 3:30 p.m. Standard game admission is charged. Spectators are asked to donate to the American Cancer Society at the door. The Booster Club concession stand will be open. Raffle tickets for a Gift Card Tree valued at \$250 will be available at \$5 each.

Vet to Vet

The Greater Derry Vet to Vet Program will begin meeting at Birch Heights Independent Retirement Living, 7 Kendall Pond Road in Derry on Wednesday, Feb. 10, from 7 to 8 p.m. The group will meet the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month. Vet to Vet is a peer support group outreach to all veterans, especially those impacted by Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) and/or Traumatic Brain Injury. The group is not for telling "war stories" but to help with adjustment to a world that for the most part has not experienced

nor can relate to what veterans have experienced.

Pie Contest

Mack's Apples holds its annual Apple Pie Contest on Saturday, Feb. 6. Pies should be dropped off at the farm stand by 1:30 p.m. the day of the contest; judging is at 2 p.m. Pies may be submitted in one of two categories: traditional (a two-crust pie with apple filling) and non-traditional (mostly apple filling, with nuts and other ingredients permitted). Contestants may register up until the morning of the event. Those who wish to enter a pie should stop by the farm stand to fill out the required paperwork.

Northern Lights

On Thursday, Feb. 18 at 7 p.m., the Leach Library will host Dr. Alexa Halford in the lower-level meeting room for a free evening presentation of "Painting the Sky: The Northern Lights." Halford is a space physics researcher at Dartmouth University working with the BARREL mission, a multiple-balloon investigation that will study Earth's radiation belts. In this slide show, Halford will discuss the lore of the aurora, how it has been scientifically studied, and what is still being

learned about these lights. Light refreshments will be served.

No School Feb. 9

Due to the New Hampshire Primary, there will be no school on Tuesday, Feb. 9. It will be utilized as a Teacher Workshop Day.

Hospice Volunteers

The Compassus program serving Londonderry and surrounding areas seeks volunteers to provide comfort and support to patients and families in need of end-of-life care. Compassus provides hospice care in the place of a patient's choosing, whether home, an assisted living facility or nursing home. An integral part of the care team, volunteers provide support, companionship and dignity to persons facing serious and life-limiting illness. All participants receive training, and can choose to dedicate as little as two hours a month to as much as six hours a week. For details, visit www.compassushealthcare.com or call 606-7974.

Free Meals

The Free Community Meals program offers the following meals. Everyone is welcome. Feb. 14, Church of

the Transfiguration, 1 Hood Road, Derry, 5 to 6:30 p.m.; Feb. 18, West Running Brook Middle School, 1 West Running Brook Lane, Derry, dinner, 5 to 6:30 p.m.

Holiday Closure

The Leach Library will be closed on Monday, Feb. 15, for Presidents Day.

Book Fair

Londonderry Middle School holds its annual Scholastic Book Fair for students in grades 6-8 the week of Feb. 1-5. Students may purchase books during their assigned time to visit the fair or before and after school.

Book Bingo

Children are invited to the Leach Library on Monday, Feb. 8, from 4 to 5 p.m. to play Sweetheart Book Bingo, a picture version of the classic game. All participants will win and have a chance to choose books from selection tables. Advance registration is required. To register, call 432-1127 or stop by the Children's Room.

LEEP

Londonderry children who turned 3 as of Sept. 1, 2015 may enroll in the Londonderry Early Education Program (LEEP) preschool offered by the Londonderry School District. Three-year-olds meet 8:45 to 11 a.m. two or four days per week; prekindergarten students meet noon to 2:30 p.m. three or four days per week. Tuition is: \$145 per month for two days/week and \$195 per month for four days/week. Prekindergarten costs \$180 per month for three days/week and \$195 per month for four days/week. For details or to

apply, call Kathy Kelley at 437-5855, ext. 7223. Applications are available at http://www.londonderry.org/documents/moose/leep_inclusion_app.pdf.

Kindergarten

Pre-Registration for the 2016-2017 school year is going on now for Moose Hill School Kindergarten. Anyone who has a child who will be 5 years old by Sept. 30, 2016 and who lives in Londonderry can enroll the child at Moose Hill School. Call Moose Hill at 437-5855, stop in between 8:30 a.m. and 4 p.m. or email the director, Bonnie Breithaupt, at bbreithaupt@londonderry.org to request a registration packet. Include child's name, birth date and Londonderry address when making a request. Registration packets are mailed in January.

Child Find

Londonderry School District announces a free Community Child Find Program for all Town residents age 2-1/2 years old through 5 years 11 months old who are suspected of having vision or hearing problems or developmental concerns. Child Find will take place at the Londonderry Early Education Program (LEEP) at Moose Hill School on Feb. 4 and April 7, 2016. Parents are encouraged to make an appointment if they have concerns. To do so or for more information, call Kathy Kelley at 437-5855, Ext. 7223 weekdays between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. Appointments are required.

Fuel Assistance

Fuel assistance is available from Southern New Hampshire Services, which is taking applications through

April 30 to help renters and homeowners in Rockingham County pay past or future energy bills. Fuel assistance pays for oil, propane, wood, pellets, kerosene, natural gas or electric heat costs, with payments going toward a past due balance or credit for future use. To qualify, one person can earn up to \$1,935/month, with a family of four earning up to \$3,986/month. Fuel assistance may also be applied to rent if heat is included in rent. To make an appointment, call the Derry office at 965-3029.

Arts Café

The Londonderry Arts Council's second annual Arts Café returns from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 6, at the Senior Center, 535 Mammoth Road. Area musicians will perform at "Open Mic" sessions while local artists exhibit their work for sale in a coffeehouse atmosphere. Hot beverages and pastries will be available. This event is free. For more information, contact Karen at events@londonderryartscouncil.org.

Free Clothing

Renew free clothing distribution is Saturday, Feb. 13, from 8 to 10:30 a.m.; arrive by 10 a.m. A maximum of two winter coats per household is allowed. Derry residence is not required. Enter at the marquee sign of Calvary Bible Church, 145 Hampstead Road, Derry. Each household is limited to 20 of the newest items, plus a reasonable number of older items. No donations of money are accepted. Donations of good condition, modern clothing may be placed in bins by the door. For details,

Continued on page 19

School

Continued from page 1

tax impact is \$13.60) or the Default Budget of \$70,932,073 (estimated tax impact is \$13.65). The School Board and Budget Committee recommend Article 2, each with a 5-0 vote.

- Article 3: To accept and receive federal grants and other funds to support the school lunch program and federal projects; further to raise and appropriate such funds in a special revenue fund -

school lunch program, \$1,546,577; and federal projects, \$1,389,000; for an estimated total appropriation of \$2,935,577. The funds are self-supporting through local, state or federal revenue sources. There is no tax impact. The School Board and Budget Committee each recommend Article 3 unanimously.

- Article 4 (Special Article): To raise and appropriate \$500,000 for the School Buildings Maintenance Expendable Trust Fund, previously estab-

lished and approved at the March 1995 School District Meeting. The funds would be used for major one-time capital costs for District facilities, including a digital camera upgrade for video security at a cost of \$30,000; an emergency generator at a cost of \$65,000; field improvements at a cost of \$160,000; and LED lighting retrofits at a cost of \$40,000. The tax impact is \$.14 cents. The School Board and Budget Committee each recommend Article 4 unanimously.

- Article 5 (Special Article): To raise and appropriate \$100,000 for the School District Equipment Capital Reserve Fund, established in 2013 to provide funds to procure essential small equipment for classrooms, offices, technology and buildings and grounds. The sum is to come from the June 30, 2016 fund balance available for transfer on July 1, 2016. There is no tax impact. The School Board and Budget Committee each recommend Article 5 un-

animously.

- Article 6: To raise and appropriate \$300,000 to fund necessary costs to improve the School District's network infrastructure, including wireless capabilities to address the curriculum and administrative needs of the School District. The appropriation would be non-lapsing until all necessary infrastructure improvements are completed or by June 2020, whichever is sooner. The estimated tax impact is \$.08 cents. The School Board and

Budget Committee each recommend Article 6 unanimously.

- Article 7: To amend the Londonderry School District Charter to remove the quorum requirement for amendments at the School District Meeting by amending relevant sections of the Charter.

Voting for all town and school officials and all official ballot warrant articles will take place by secret ballot on Tuesday, March 8 between 7 a.m. and 8 p.m. at the Londonderry High School gym.

Town

Continued from page 1
the Budget Committee voted unanimously to recommend the Article.

Article 4: To raise and appropriate \$494,678 to fund Police Outside Details, to come from the Police Outside Detail Special Revenue Fund. This is funded through user fees and the Article would have no tax rate impact. Both the Council and the Budget Committee voted unanimously to recommend the Article.

Article 5: To raise and appropriate \$6,307,524 to defray the cost of construction, payment of the interest on any debt incurred, management, maintenance, op-

eration and repair of constructed sewer systems. The fund will not accumulate from year to year and will not be commingled with town tax revenues, and the fund will be deemed part of the municipality's general fund accumulated surplus. The services are funded through user fees and have no tax rate impact. Both the Council and the Budget Committee voted unanimously to recommend the Article.

Article 6: To raise and appropriate \$38,000 to resurface the Town's basketball and tennis courts on Nelson Road, with funds to come from the June 30 unassigned fund balance. The Article would have no tax

rate impact. Both the Council and the Budget Committee voted unanimously to recommend the Article.

Article 7: To raise and appropriate \$650,000 to be placed in the Roadway Maintenance Expendable Trust Fund, with funds to come from the June 30 Unassigned Fund Balance. The Article would have no tax rate impact. Both the Council and the Budget Committee voted unanimously to recommend the Article.

Article 8: To raise and appropriate \$350,000 for improvements to the Londonderry Senior Center, with funds to come from the June 30 Unassigned Fund Balance. The Article has no

tax rate impact. Both the Council and the Budget Committee voted unanimously to recommend the Article.

Article 9: To raise and appropriate \$724,000 to be placed in the following capital reserve funds: Highway Trucks, \$50,000; Highway Heavy Equipment, \$30,000; Fire Equipment, \$149,000; Fire Trucks, \$380,000; Pillsbury Cemetery Expansion, \$75,000; and GIS, \$40,000. The funds are to come from the June 30 Undesignated Fund Balance and the Article would have no tax rate impact. Both the Council and the Budget Committee voted unanimously to recommend the Article.

Article 10: To raise and

appropriate \$350,000 to expand the Route 102 sewer system from Home Depot to the intersection of Mammoth Road, with those funds to come from the June 30 Unassigned Fund Balance. Both the Council and the Budget Committee voted unanimously to recommend the Article.

Article 11: To, pursuant to the provisions of RSA 79-A:25 IV, place annually not more than \$100,000 from the Land Use Change Tax in the Conservation Fund, with the balance to be placed in the General Fund; where, currently, the first \$100,000 from the Land Use Change Tax and 40 percent of the remainder of the revenues received from the Land Use

Change Tax are placed in the Conservation Fund. The change would be effective April 1, 2016. The Article has no tax rate impact. The Council voted 5-0 to recommend the Article. The Budget Committee voted 2-3 and does not support the Article (Chairman Ted Combes and Tim Siekmann voted in favor of the change). See related article page 5.

Article 12: To authorize the transfer of all supervision, management duties and responsibilities of the land surrounding the Town Common and fronting on Mammoth Road and Pillsbury Road, which is sometimes referred to as the

Continued on page 18

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Deliberative

Continued from page 17

Town Forest, from the Conservation Commission to the Town Manager, with the advice and recommendations from the Historic District/Heritage Commission, Conservation Commission and Town Council. The Article has no tax rate impact. Both the Council and the Budget Committee voted unanimously to recommend the Article (see related article page 5).

Article 13: To raise and appropriate \$50,000 to establish an addiction and counseling program for families in need, with the funds to come from the June 30 Fund Balance and to be placed in the general fund. The petition, which the Town Council drafted and moved to Deliberative Session, is intended to replace on the ballot a warrant arti-

cle petition School Board member John Laferriere proposed to address at the community level the heroin and opioid crisis in Londonderry and throughout the State. The Council and Laferriere agreed a counseling program has the potential to serve residents suffering from substance abuse more effectively than the Family Mediation Program, as Laferriere's warrant article petition proposes reestablishing. Both the Council and the Budget Committee voted unanimously to recommend the Article.

Article 14 (Citizen's Petition): To raise and appropriate \$50,000 to reestablish the Family Mediation Program for Londonderry families in need. The article would result in a tax rate impact of \$.01.

Proposed by School Board member John Laferriere (see above, Article 13),

he later told the Council he plans to propose defunding the Article with an amendment at Deliberative Session. The Town Council voted 5-0 to move Article 15 to Deliberative Session, but voted against the Article with a 0-5 vote. The Budget Committee voted against the Article 0-5.

Article 15 (Citizen's Petition): To recommend the Town Council propose an amendment to the Town Charter to set term limits on all non-land use boards, non binding on the Town Council. The Article has no tax rate impact. Londonderry Times Publisher Deb Paul proposed the petition article. If passed, Paul's warrant article would serve only as the taxpayers' recommendation that the Council propose an amendment establishing term limits. The Council voted against the Article 1-4 vote, with Joe Green the sole vote in favor.

Articles 16-21: To authorize the Town Council to call one special meeting, at its option, to address cost items included in a collective bargaining agreement between the Town of Londonderry and Londonderry Administrative Executive Association-Public Safety, should a collective bargaining agreement be reached between the Town and Londonderry Administrative Executive Association-Public Safety.

The Town Council voted to recommend the Articles. The Budget Committee also voted 5-0 to recommend the Articles.

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Londonderry Police Log

Selections from the Londonderry Police Logs

Monday, Jan. 25

7:53 a.m. Wallet stolen from car on Fieldstone Drive.

8:34 a.m. Car gone through on Mammoth Road.

6:32 p.m. Wayne O'Brien,

21, Laurel Street, Manchester arrested for Theft: All Other. Bail set at \$3,500 personal recognizance, with March 1 Derry Circuit Court date.

Tuesday, Jan. 26

4:54 a.m. Burglary report-

ed at Burger King, Nashua Road. Occurred last night.

9:10 a.m. Dealer plate stolen from Auto Auction of New England, Inc., Action Boulevard.

9:56 p.m. Glen A. Maxwell, 32, Windham

Road, Derry arrested on warrant for Forgery. He refused services of bail commissioner and was transported to Rockingham County Jail in Brentwood, with Jan. 27 arraignment in Derry Circuit Court.

Wednesday, Jan. 27

12:17 a.m. Matthew Fitzgerald, 19, Ashmere Drive, Manchester arrest-

ed for Disobeying an Officer, Reckless Operation, Traffic Light, Yellow Line and Failure to Dim Lights. Bail set at \$1,500 personal recognizance, with Derry Circuit Court date of March 1.

11:39 a.m. Counterfeit bill at Workout Club and Wellness Center, Orchard View Drive.

Saturday, Jan. 30

10:49 a.m. Londonderry Fire responding for shed fire. Fully involved, on Holstein Avenue.

8:50 p.m. Londonderry Fire requests cruiser to respond to Harvey Road for bonfire and large group of people on site. No issues, not being rowdy, but nervous on approach.

Letters

Continued from page 4

dents to use their own skills in a variety of ways as they take on different roles within their groups, exploring new social relationships with peers. Applied Learning projects allow students to work to their own strengths as they choose the roles they will play in preparing project materials and report on project results, leading the team in some areas, and participating as a contributing team member in others. Sound like something we would like to see from our Presidential candidates?

Students are in the driver's seat, allowing them to learn the self-confidence, research and interpersonal skills and hands-on aptitude that will serve them not only into the next phases of their academic endeavors, but in all aspects of adult life. They will mature and develop social skills, embrace value systems, explore ideologies, and as they choose, step up to lead the causes that will define their generation.

In today's changing world, the ability to ask questions and make these kinds of connections is critical in order to make

informed decisions. The strength of our future leaders depends on it.

Debra A.
Repoza-Hogan
Head of School
New Hampshire
School of Applied
Learning
Londonderry

Gas Pipeline

To the editor:

The earliest that Tennessee Gas could have filed was more than three weeks ago (Jan. 5, 2016). Nothing (according to the Site Evaluation Committee docket) has been filed.

It is becoming increasingly apparent that Tennessee Gas may be intentionally delaying its Site Evaluation Committee (SEC) application to avoid a potentially adverse ruling prior to the determination. The SEC has a statutory obligation under RSA Chapter 162-H to protect the public's interest regarding the Northeast Energy Direct (NED) project. This includes insisting that the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) withhold action on its Tennessee Gas application until the SEC has been afforded the opportunity to reach its determination such that it may be considered in the FERC's decision-

making.

The Attorney General also has the obligation to protect the interests of New Hampshire and its citizens in the matter, which, likewise, requires insistence that the FERC proceeding not conclude without consideration of the SEC/State's ultimate position (decision) as to whether the NED project is in the state's best interests.

I greatly appreciate the motions to intervene that you have filed in the FERC proceeding but implore you to both file motions to stay the matter until such time as the SEC has reached its decision. Neither of you have to take a position on the merits, but demanding a fully-informed decision that includes the SEC's decision is indisputably in the public interest.

Cherylann Pierce
Londonderry

Ganem for School Board

To the editor:

It's election time again, and while most people are focused on voting for a Presidential candidate, many here in Londonderry have something more local on their mind. Our schools.

Last year, no one ran against the incumbents for school board. For the first time in years, the citizens of our town got engaged in a hot topic issue: the elimination of our much needed educational assistants. Many citizens participated at school board meetings and at the deliberative session. Our citizens petition to raise the budget to keep the assistants was voted in favor at the election. Unfortunately, the school board ignored the requests of the voters, and our tax money was not budgeted for what we voted on.

I have been a parent at North School for 14 consecutive years. Currently in North School, class sizes are the largest they have been since our family has been there. For the first time in many years, teachers are working without assistants.

Knowing that our current school board didn't listen to its voters and our children and teachers are now paying the price is frustrating at best.

We have all heard Albert Einstein's definition of insanity: "doing the same thing over and over again but expecting different results." So, why do we continue to vote in

the same school board members?

Just as our country needs change, so does our town, and more specifically, our schools. For years Londonderry has had the lead in education, now we see our neighboring towns surpassing us.

I believe progress is impossible without change. To stay on top, our schools need and deserve change.

I'm writing to express my support for Jenn

Ganem, who is running for the open position on the school board. Unlike the incumbent, Jenn has three children currently enrolled in our schools, and the issues matter to her personally. Her professional background in psychology assures me that Jenn will listen to the voters in this town. Please head to the polls on March 8 and vote for Jenn Ganem for Londonderry School Board.

Amy Solomons
Londonderry

Around Town

Continued from page 16

search for "Renew Derry" on Facebook, email renew-clothing@yahoo.com, or call the church secretary at 434-1516.

Model Railroading

Seacoast Division of the National Model Railroad Association holds Derry Fun Night the second Friday night of each month from 7 to 9 p.m. at the Marion Gerish Community Center, 39 West Broadway, Derry. The next Fun Night is Feb. 12. Scott Jewell will give a presentation based on his modeling of the 1920s Boston harbor and Cape Ann railroading scene. This presentation will showcase "Modeling the Granite Industry in

New England." Always a part of the program is Model Showcase, where modelers bring in the latest project they are working on to show and discuss. For details, visit seacoastnmra.org/calendar.

HU Chant

An Eckankar Community HU Chant takes place Sunday, Feb. 14, at 9:30 a.m. at the Holiday Inn, 2280 Brown Ave., Manchester.

Eckankar Worship

An Eckankar (ECK) worship service, with discussion of "Finding Your Inner Wisdom," a short HU chant and music take place Sunday, Feb. 14, at 10:30 a.m. at the Holiday Inn, 2280 Brown Ave., Manchester.



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