

# Londonderry Times

March 31, 2016 ♦ Volume 17 – Issue 13

A FREE Weekly Publication



## Bunny Hop

Three-year-old Kiley McCormack hops over some obstacles at the annual Londonderry High School Class of 2016 Easter Egg Hunt. See more photos page 19.

*Photo by Chris Paul*

## Funding Drainage Project Under Consideration for Town Common

KAITLYN G. WOODS  
LONDONDERRY TIMES

The Heritage Commission considered conceptual plans for a solution to drainage issues on the Town Common last week.

Comprehensive Planner John Vogl said town engineers evaluated the

property and have proposed installing a total of 400 feet of pipe to direct water that flows from the Presbyterian Church away from the bandstand in the direction of the apple orchards, as well as toward a brook located near Mammoth Road.

Public Works Director Janusz Czyzowski and

Assistant Director of Public Works John Trottier estimate the project would likely cost around \$200,000 to complete.

Ultimately, the project would be funded through a warrant article.

"The details are not there yet, but the process would be for us to talk

**continued on page 3**

## Dredge/Fill Application for Pettengill Area Road Misses Conservation

KAITLYN G. WOODS  
LONDONDERRY TIMES

Upon learning they were not made privy to copies of a dredge and fill application for the construction of a road to access commercial properties located south of Pettengill Road, the Conservation Commission voted to request the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (DES) grant members time to review the project and provide comments.

South Loop Road is to be an extension of the newly constructed Pettengill Road, which was permitted under a DES

permit.

Construction of the 50-foot-wide, 1,800-foot road would result in 4,281 square feet of impact to the remnant wetlands located between the recently completed UPS and FedEx projects, according to the application to the DES.

Chris Danforth of engineering firm T.F. Moran said the larger of the two wetlands is fed from a detention basin from the FedEx property and flows under the existing access road through a culvert and ends in a short shrub wetland.

"It used to flow onto the Prologis site and dissi-

pated into sandy soils on the property," he said.

The smaller, isolated wetland is to be partially filled by construction of the road. The roadway was previously cleared and partially graded in anticipation of its eventual construction; however, the wetlands were not altered.

"The proposed project is necessary to provide public access to commercial and industrial land located on the south side of Pettengill Road in Londonderry. The road is part of an overall development plan for commercial and industrial land locat-

**continued on page 6**

## Bi-Weekly Recycling Could Increase Collection of Recyclables

KAITLYN G. WOODS  
LONDONDERRY TIMES

The Town will launch on July 1 a new bi-weekly recycling collection program that's anticipated to save taxpayers over \$1 million.

Londonderry entered into a five-year contract last year with Waste Management for solid waste and recycling, which came in with the low bids of \$456,208 annually for recycling services and \$1.2 million annually for waste collection.

The bids for waste collection and recycling are not adjusted for the cost of fuel.

The cost to the Town over the life of the contract to continue with weekly recycle pick-up

would have been nearly \$3.5 million, according to Public Works Director Janusz Czyzowski.

"We checked with other communities that participate in the bi-weekly recycle collection program and they were happy with the program," he said.

Trash will continue to be collected curbside on a weekly basis and overflow bags for trash are available at Town Hall.

Although collections will be held less frequently, collections of recyclables may increase, as the bins to be provided to residents are more than double the capacity of the two 8-gallon bins being utilized, according to Czyzowski.

"Collections will be neater and cleaner, with less litter and garbage flying away, because the new bins are fitted with a lid," he said.

In June, the Town will deliver to all households participating in curbside pick-up new blue, 96-gallon barrels for single-stream recycling items, which include paper, cardboard, plastics, glass

**continued on page 2**

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## Beach Party Gets Students off Electronics



Matthew Thornton Elementary School students were encouraged to turn off their screens last week and head out to school-sponsored events that didn't involve electronic devices. On Thursday, March 24 the school hosted a Beach Party-themed evening that combined Zumba and dance along with a book fair. See page 10 for the school's Gym Night. *Photos by Chris Paul*

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## Recycle

Continued from page 1  
and cans.

A "Recycling Collection Schedule" is to be provided with the barrel to each resident, and will

indicate which week recycling will be collected. That information will also be posted on the Town's website.

Czyzowski said the Town will arrange to provide free an extra bin for

additional capacity to households of six or more people, as well as those who recycle more on a case-by-case basis.

"We want people to recycle as much as they can," he said.

As in the previous recycling contract, bulky plastic items (large toys, barrels, lawn furniture, etc.) may be disposed of

at the Drop-Off Center free.

Residents may also dispose of unwanted 8-gallon bins previously used for recycling at the Drop-Off Center free.

For more information, including a complete list of accepted recyclables, visit the Town's website at [www.londonderrynh.org](http://www.londonderrynh.org).

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# New Reference Librarian, New Online Catalog at Leach Library

KAITLYN G. WOODS  
LONDONDERRY TIMES

The Leach Library has welcomed new Reference Librarian Donna Plante to the staff just as the library introduced its new online cataloging system.

Features of the new system include the ability to search for library materials from home, to view loaned items, to renew materials that are not overdue and to place holds on desired item, according to Plante, who

assumed her new role this month.

"I've been helping patrons learn to use the new catalog at home," she said. "There's a learning curve for everyone. We're getting used to what the new features are as well."

Plante, who previously worked in public libraries in Henniker and Weare and served as an advisor to online students while earning her master's degree in Online Library Science, is an important library resource to patrons seeking the answer

to a question or unsure of where to find desired materials.

"Any question, I will do my best to answer it for them," Plante said. "This week I helped a couple people learn how to use a computer. It's great to help them gain that freedom."

Plante said she enjoys learning alongside the patrons she serves and called herself "a lifelong learner."

On her transition to

the Leach Library, Plante said Leach is a good fit and she is enjoying the opportunity to serve a larger community.

Library cardholders are encouraged to visit the new card catalog and create an account. The catalog is accessible from the library's website at [http://londonderrynh.org/Pages/LondonderryNH\\_Library/Index](http://londonderrynh.org/Pages/LondonderryNH_Library/Index), where patrons may search and browse the collection from home by author, title, subject keyword and more.

Residents may call the reference staff at 432-1132 with any questions.



The Leach Library has welcomed new Reference Librarian Donna Plante to its staff.

Photo by Kaitlyn G. Woods

## Drainage

Continued from page 1

about it, get our ideas out and get this into a workable presentation for the Capital Improvements Plan (CIP) Committee," member Art Rugg told the Commission.

Vogl noted the project may also require the installation of catch basins on the Common, as well as grading of the site.

No further electrical

upgrades are needed on the Common, but the Commission has discussed installing Wi-Fi.

Member Tom Bianchi asked if the Town would seek a second opinion from outside contractors.

Vogl said the Town is trying to handle internally as much of the project as possible to cut costs.

"It saves us money to keep as much as we can in-house," he said. "The Department of Public Works can't complete all

the work, so some will need to be contracted out."

The Heritage Commission, with input from members of the public, identified addressing drainage issues on the Town Common as the highest priority improvement for the property.

"It will be nice when you put your blanket down for a summer concert; it won't get soggy," Rugg said.

## LHS Engineering Students and Robotics Club to Visit Methuen Hospital

KAITLYN G. WOODS  
LONDONDERRY TIMES

Londonderry High School advanced Engineering students and members of the school's Robotics Club will visit Holy Family Hospital to learn first hand how robotics technology is used in health care.

Holy Family Hospital, an acute care hospital with campuses in Methuen and Haverhill, Mass.,

specializes in orthopedic care, cancer care, neurology/neurosurgery, wound and hyperbaric care, behavioral medicine and maternity care. Students are to attend on April 8 at the Methuen hospital.

Students will attend a lecture on the knee given by a surgeon, as well as a lecture on how surgical robots are used for knee surgery.

An engineer from Stry-

ker, a medical technology manufacturer, will also discuss with students an overview of the surgical robot and 3D imaging and how they are used in joint replacement surgery.

During a saw bone lab, students will participate with surgeons to identify landmarks and register arrays, initiate the cutting of bones and attach the implant.

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# Editorial

## Cart Before the Horse

Four firefighter positions – out of the eight originally singled out – were not restored to the Town of Derry budget last year. This year, in planning the new budget, those four positions remain unfilled.

Is that because they were just “padding” or “fluff” anyway? After all, don’t firefighters just sit around all day?

The answer is no, no and no.

Those four positions would staff a tanker, making it possible to bring water to the large area of Derry that has no hydrants. Right now, the fire department has to rely on mutual aid from nearby towns for that area.

But even more important than the fact that those firefighters would play a significant role in the safety of residents, the positions were left unfilled for the new budget because their cost – \$350,000 – is what was needed to achieve a 1 percent cut in taxes.

Acting Town Administrator Stephen Daly said he looked at the cost of providing services as opposed to “what the money is spent on” in choosing the firefighter positions.

And while both Daly and the Town Councilors emphasized that the budget is far from final, it’s where they’re going to start.

Last year, Galen Stearns, Town Administrator at the time, cut the four firefighter positions when he

presented the budget. The Town Council – on a 4-3 vote – cut four more positions, which were later reinstated in a special town vote. Today, three of those four Councilors who voted in favor of cutting firefighter jobs are no longer on the Council.

Asked about the remaining four unfilled firefighter positions, Daly said he could not comment on the impact of the proposal until he had discussed the budget with the Town Council.

And in an email to the Nutfield News, he said the effect of the unfilled jobs on fire operations was an appropriate question, but one that would be addressed with the Council first.

While not filling the four firefighter jobs would make for easy math in producing a 1 percent tax cut, it should be discussed only in the context of how those positions would contribute to public safety, shown by both Derry voter action and a Town survey last year to be a very high priority.

Yes, go ahead and have the conversation – publicly, we hope – with the Town Council. And answer questions about public safety in determining whether keeping those positions empty is in the best interest of Derry residents.

And once and for all, stop putting the cart before the horse.

# Letters

## Thanks Hannaford

To the editor:

Thank you to the Londonderry Hannaford. The Londonderry Historical Society is thrilled to announce that we have been selected to be a part of the exciting Hannaford Helps Reusable Bag Program designed to create a revenue stream for nonprofits like us.

For every blue and gold Hannaford Helps Reusable Bag with the “good karma message” purchased during the month of April at the Londonderry Hannaford, 6 Hampton Drive, \$1 will be donated to the Londonderry Historical Society to help us rebuild the Reverend William Morrison House.

If you pick up a beautiful blue and gold Hannaford Helps Reusable Bag (or two) at the reusable bag rack while you do your grocery shopping, you’ll not only help us but you’ll also help to eliminate paper/plastic use.

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Remember, the April 1 start date is this Friday, so please spread the word to your family and friends. The more people who learn about how the program helps us and purchase the bright blue and gold Hannaford Helps Reusable Bag with the “good karma” message during the month of April, the more money the Londonderry Historical Society will raise.

Ann Chiampa  
President  
Londonderry  
Historical Society

## Trump Wrecking Ball

To the editor:

Trump could win the Republican nomination, but

lose to Clinton in the general election. He might severely damage the Republican Party, and adversely impact Republicans in Congressional and state races.

His un-American campaign of political violence and hooliganism is reminiscent of 20th century Nazi and Communist dictators.

In the Republican primaries Trump is averaging 35 percent of the vote. If Trump was up against one other candidate, polls show he might get another 10 percent of the vote. History reveals primary candidates receiving less than 50 percent of the vote will lose the election for President.

The U.S. electorate comprises 26 percent Republicans, 30 percent Democrats, and 44 percent Independents. Polls show Trump garnering 70 percent of the Republican vote, or 18 percent (30 percent voting other); 5 percent of the Democratic vote, or 1.5 percent; and 40 percent of the Independent vote, or 18 percent, giving him 37.5 percent of the total vote.

Clinton will receive few Republican votes; 95 percent of the Democratic vote, or 28.5 percent; and 60 percent of the Independent vote, or 26 percent.

This gives Clinton 54.5 percent of the total vote, Trump 37.5 percent, and the remaining 8 percent are write-ins or blank ballots. It is a Trump Wrecking Ball.

The integrity of the Republican Party and the dignity of the Presidency is at stake.

Donald Moskowitz  
Londonderry

## Sex Offender Treatment Audit

To the editor:

A committee chaired by Sen. Sharon Carson, R-Londonderry, voted 4-0 on

March 23 to kill a bill calling for an in-depth performance audit of the sex offender treatment program in the men’s prisons.

Carson acted against the interests of her constituents in trying to scuttle HB 1113. Don’t let her.

The sex offender treatment program has been understaffed for years. It flunked an independent quality assurance audit in 2012. It would flunk this one. Well over a hundred men were on track this summer to pass their minimum sentences without starting this program. No sex offender can make parole without finishing it. The men in limbo were costing taxpayers \$3.5 million a year, based on the average inmate cost of \$35,000.

We at Citizens for Criminal Justice Reform wrote HB 1113 to remove this costly backlog. We met with the governor’s lawyer in July. She soon announced the hiring of three staff to teach the sex offender treatment program. It would also last six months, not 18. One of those new therapists has quit. But why gut a program that needs to be 18 months?

This state agency pledged to build a women’s prison for \$38 million. That cost has risen to \$52 million. The project has been on hold for months. Whenever the place opens a year or three years late, it will be way too small.

We urged building much cheaper halfway houses and sober houses for women and a small prison. The agency can’t manage cash or inmates. Please let your senator know how you feel about that.

Chris Dornin  
Co-founder, Citizens  
for Criminal Justice  
Reform  
Concord

# Londonderry Times

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# Beautify Londonderry Schedules Dates for Spring Clean-up

KAITLYN G. WOODS  
LONDONDERRY TIMES

Beautify Londonderry held its first planning meeting of the year, with new leadership and a few new members.

The group was almost suspended due to a lack of volunteers, but residents stepped up to ensure the Town's annual spring cleaning campaign will go on.

Londonderry's 2016 "Roadside Pride" campaign will kick off on April 23 and run through May 29.

Beautify Londonderry will put together bags with gloves for trash col-

lection and other materials volunteers may need to complete their project.

Volunteers may schedule projects for any time during the five-week Town-wide clean-up campaign.

Projects may range from collecting litter along the road to landscaping town and school properties, laying mulch, weeding and planting flowers. Beautify Londonderry provides the flowers, mulch, gloves and equipment people need to complete their project.

"This program is about the volunteers and the Londonderry environ-

ment," said Paul Margolin, chairman of the Solid Waste and Environmental Committee. "Beautify Londonderry is not an adjunct to the Department of Public Works or to redirect School District employees; we're here to encourage and propel people who would like to do something nice outdoors and make something look nicer."

Volunteers should call ahead to inform Beautify Londonderry of the number of people in their group, where they will be working and what they plan to do.

Former chairman Kerri

Stanley and other veteran members said rallying community groups to take on projects on the weekends of the campaign has been challenging in recent years.

"We had 800 to 1,000 volunteers from all different groups when we got started out there," Margolin said. "In more recent years we've seen more in the 300- to 400-person range. We'd like to keep that going at least this year and build it up."

"It's been really hard getting a lot of these groups," Stanley said. "We used to have a lot of Boy and Girl Scout groups,

but it has really dropped off in the last few years. You do have some groups interested and ready to go, it's just a matter of coordinating them." Stanley said many high school-aged youth in town are looking for projects to complete required volunteer hours.

In addition to seeking volunteers for projects during the weeks of the clean-up campaign, Beautify Londonderry hopes to secure donations of supplies and monetary donations from local businesses - specifically, members said they are in need of mulch for landscaping

projects.

Beautify Londonderry is also hoping to increase its membership and encourages residents who want to get involved to attend the group's next meeting on April 5 at 7 p.m. at Town Hall.

For more information or to sign up for a clean-up project, contact Chairman Mike Byerly by email at [Beautifylondonderry@londonderrynh.org](mailto:Beautifylondonderry@londonderrynh.org) or by phone at 537-9551.

Volunteers should also check Beautify Londonderry's page on the Town website at [www.londonderrynh.org](http://www.londonderrynh.org) for updates.

# LHS Workforce Workshop Helps Prepare Students to Enter Job Market

KAITLYN G. WOODS  
LONDONDERRY TIMES

Londonderry High School's Futures Lab hosted a series of workshops last week to prepare students planning to enter the workforce.

The seminars featured business professionals from throughout the community, who shared thoughtful advice and valuable tips on topics ranging from applying and interviewing for a job to maintaining work/life balance and understanding benefits and workers' rights.

"Some of our students are going to be looking for summer work soon and some of our seniors may be going into the workforce. For students going into college, these



Londonderry School District Human Resources Generalist Melissa Thomson leads a workshop on cover letter and resume writing at Londonderry High School's Workforce Workshop Day. Photo by Kaitlyn G. Woods

skills could help them as they apply for internships," said Donna Chisholm, co-facilitator for the Futures Lab, a resource

for students to research colleges and careers, as well as practice for the SATs.

Since the Futures Lab

was established, the program has expanded to include the trades and cosmetology, helping students to determine what classes they should take to enter a particular field, or to earn certification or acceptance to a two-year college.

In addition to serving as a daily resource for students who wish to research careers and educational opportunities, the Futures Lab has offered activities and events for students, such as Career Breakfasts, where students had the opportunity to network with local professionals, and "Brown Bag Work-

shops," where students learned about job shadowing opportunities and other topics related to college and career readiness.

Principal Jason Parent said the March 25 Workforce Workshop is "another stepping stone" for students working to land their first job.

Londonderry School District Human Resources Generalist Melissa Thomson, who led a workshop on cover letter and resume writing, shared with students tips for making their resume stand out to an employer, following up after submitting an application and

making a good first impression.

"Never stop with applying online. You could be one in a million applications. But if you go in person to meet the manager, you could be one in 20," she told students.

Thomson said the skills students learned in the workshop day put them at a significant advantage.

"When I was a kid we didn't have anything like this," she said. "These skills will help make them stand out."

"Some of the kids have gotten a lot out of it," Chisholm said.

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# Conservation Commission to Host Monthly Community Hikes

KAITLYN G. WOODS  
LONDONDERRY TIMES

The Conservation Commission plans to host its second monthly community hike at the Kendall Pond Conservation area in April.

The walk, which is scheduled for April 23 at 10 a.m., will offer local nature enthusiasts views of streams flowing from Beaver Brook, Eastern White Pine trees, Red and

White Oak saplings, native shrubs and a variety of wildlife species.

Members of the Commission will lead the hike, which is expected to take about an hour to complete.

The Commission hosted its first guided walk on March 26, leading residents along the Orchard Connector portion of the Adams Pond Trail, which offered participants a glimpse of beaver activity

in town and scenic views of Mack's orchards (See related story page 7).

"Although I have lived in Londonderry for several years, until I joined the Londonderry Conservation Commission, I was not aware of all the conservation areas and the well-developed trail systems within Londonderry," Commissioner Michael Noone said in an email.

Noone and Commissioner Mike Byerly have

been working to organize monthly hikes of the Town's conservation areas in an effort to increase their utilization and to raise awareness of the benefits Londonderry's conserved lands offer.

"We thought that this would help to promote more use of the trail systems and teach citizens more about the protected spaces right here within Londonderry," Noone said.

Noone and Byerly have

also started publishing a monthly conservation newsletter to inform residents of outdoor recreation opportunities in Londonderry, to educate subscribers on conservation and wildlife and to provide another opportunity for the Commission to connect with the community.

The newsletter features outdoor recreation events in Londonderry and neighboring communities, local conserved

properties, wildlife and botanical highlights and news related to the Commission.

In addition to the community hikes, the Commission is planning monitoring walks in town, which the public is welcome to attend.

To sign up to receive the Commission's monthly digital newsletter, visit <http://goo.gl/luDcu6> online or text 'CONSERVATION' to 42828.

## Dredge & Fill

Continued from page 1

ed on the south side of the Manchester-Boston Regional Airport," the wetlands permit application says.

Construction of the road through the wetland is unavoidable, but efforts will be made to minimize impacts.

The wetland is located

between recently developed properties that included filling portions of the wetland, and the wetland does not contain or support rare or exemplary communities, nor does it support a fish population, according to the application to the DES.

The wetland to be impacted is less than an acre and has limited functional value.

Losses or impacts recently incurred have been mitigated by preservation of important habitat areas, funding the Aquatic Resource Mitigation fund program and supporting monitoring of critical habitats in the area. he primary functions of the wetlands include wildlife habitat, including threatened and endangered species habitat, according to Danforth.

"We had Fish and Game out on the site. We have cottontail, hognose snake and turtles out here," he said. "They vet-

ted the project for that and mitigation has been addressed. I believe some funds have been given to Fish and Game for a further monitoring project. This is part of the overall development scheme for the entire area."

Danforth noted the developer is not required by statute to provide mitigation, but said "this whole conglomerate is donating towards the mitigation for the project as a whole."

Commissioners said they have not seen the agreement between the Town and Fish and Game.

"It's not that we're opposed. What you're asking is not unreasonable, but the process on our end is not real clear and we never had a chance to intervene because we never saw the application," Commissioner Deb Lievens said.

"It seems to me you'll suffer from our ability to get administration straight," Commissioner Mike Speltz said.

"We really don't even have a vote at this point," Lievens said. "I'm not sure there are any issues, other than this logistical stuff and the fact we

haven't seen the mitigation agreement."

Danforth noted the project is between Ballinger/Five N and the Town.

"It has nothing to do with F.W. Webb," he said.

The Commission agreed to ask DES to allow for comment after their April 12 meeting.

"We're not going to stop DES from issuing their permit, so I think it makes sense for us to ask for the additional time. If we can have useful input, great. If not, so be it," Speltz said.

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# Heritage Commission Recommends F.W. Webb Site Plan

KAITLYN G. WOODS  
LONDONDERRY TIMES

The Heritage Commission has recommended that the

Planning Board approve the site plan for F.W. Webb's proposed distribution facility on Pettengill Road.

The 785,000-square-foot facility would be the third largest building in the Granite State, according to Jim Petropulos,

president of Haynor Swanson.

"There are no cultural or historical resources registered here for this property and no stone walls through the property," he said, noting the site was historically used as a rock and gravel pit operation.

Existing trees around the property will remain untouched and approximately 400 trees will be planted, as will varieties of lilacs.

The proposed two-story warehouse facility, which would serve as central distribution for F.W. Webb's 86 showrooms in nine Northeast states, would have shipping and receiving on both sides of the building and a small fuel island for their fleet.

The warehouse would

operate 24 hours a day, with trucking deliveries to head out in the early morning hours.

"There will only be a couple hundred employees at this facility," Petropulos said. "It's not a massive trucking operation - there's maybe a fleet of 50 trucks. The traffic and sewage impact is not significant."

An office for employees is included in the plans for the facility, as is a recreation area next to the employee entrance.

Petropulos said the property is being developed similarly to those of neighboring properties, such as FedEx.

The grading of the site is lower than that of FedEx and the building will be about half a mile from Pettengill Road.

"Despite the enormity

of the building, I don't think you'll see the site from Pettengill," Petropulos said.

Design review for signage of the site is to move through the Town's planning process separately, but Petropulos shared with the Commission designs they plan to incorporate on the façade of the warehouse, as well as at the entrance to the property.

The lighting design for the property meets Londonderry standards and features downcast LED lighting.

"There will be no spill-over onto anyone's property," Petropulos said.

"I think it's terrific," member Art Rugg said. "It looks good. I think the bulk of the public won't even know it's there, aside from seeing the sign."

## 18 Attend Open Space Walk

The Conservation Commission held its first monthly "Get to Know your Open Space" walk on Saturday, March 26. Eighteen walkers, one dog, and four Conservation Commissioners walked the mile-long Adams Pond Trail, starting from the trail head in Mack's orchard on Mammoth Road.

During the walk, Conservation Commissioners provided notes on the surroundings, ranging from why stone walls appear in the woods, to why white pine trees develop multiple trunks, to why Adams Pond had to be lowered, pending repair of the dam. A highlight was seeing an area of intense beaver activity.

The Conservation Commission intends to sponsor



Plenty of walkers and one dog turned out for last week's Londonderry Conservation Commission walk on the Adams Pond Trail. Courtesy photo

a walk each month to a different trail on land that has been conserved by the town. The next hike is scheduled for 10 a.m. April 23 at the Kendall Pond Conservation Area, featuring views of Beaver Brook.

Hikes are announced

and directions provided in the Conservation Commission newsletter and in the Londonderry Times' "Around Town" section.

Residents may sign up for the newsletter at <http://goo.gl/luDcu6> or by texting "CONSERVATION" to 42828.

## Rash of Burglaries on Rockingham Road

KAITLYN G. WOODS  
LONDONDERRY TIMES

Londonderry Police are investigating a rash of burglaries in the area of Rockingham Road that occurred earlier this week.

The homeowner at 90 Rockingham Road called police on March 28 at 1:17 a.m. when he observed two male suspects breaking into his shed and vehicle, which was parked on his driveway.

Det. Chris Olson said the homeowner told police he had a firearm, but had no intention of confronting the men, one of whom was described as 5 feet 10 inches, wearing a red shirt and baseball cap and driving a Dodge Charger.

The homeowner said he yelled at the suspects from his second floor window and they fled.

A GPS device and small electronics were

reported stolen from the homeowner's car.

Olson said there were multiple burglaries before and after that burglary in the same area. Items stolen in those burglaries were similar to those stolen from the homeowner's vehicle.

"We think it's the same person," Olson said.

Anyone with information about the burglaries can call the Police Department at 432-1118.

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### - PROVIDER ON CALL - SMOKING AND LUNG CANCER

Each year, about 3,000 nonsmoking adults will die of lung cancer as a result of breathing secondhand smoke. About 213,000 people will be told they have lung cancer this year. The average age of people diagnosed with lung cancer is 70. Lung cancer is not common in people younger than age 45. Lung cancer is the leading cause of death from cancer among both men and women.

More people die of lung cancer every year than from colon, breast, and prostate cancers combined. Lung cancer makes up 12% of all cancer cases. It causes 29% of all deaths from cancer.

Cancer is the uncontrolled growth of abnormal cells somewhere in the body. The lungs are the organs that nourish our blood with fresh oxygen and eliminate carbon dioxide when we breathe. Put smoking and cancer together and you have a deadly disease - one of the most common cancers and the leading cause of cancer deaths.

Cigarette smoking is the leading cause of lung cancer. About 87% of lung cancer cases result from smoking or exposure to tobacco smoke. Compared to nonsmokers, men who smoke are 23 times more likely to die of lung cancer. Women who smoke are 13 times more likely to die of lung cancer than nonsmokers. The risk for lung cancer is no different in those who smoke light or low-tar products.

Cigarette smoke contains about 4,000 chemical agents, including over 60 carcinogens. In addition, many of these substances, such as carbon monoxide, tar, arsenic, and lead, are poisonous and toxic to the human body. Nicotine is a drug that is naturally present in the tobacco plant and is primarily responsible for a person's addiction to tobacco products, including cigarettes.

Smoking is also responsible for most cancers of the larynx, oral cavity and pharynx, esophagus, and bladder. In addition, it is a cause of kidney, pancreatic, cervical, and stomach cancers.

Symptoms of lung cancer can be subtle. Smoking and second hand smoke are well known causes of lung cancer but not the only possible ones. A doctor will order specific diagnostic tests to determine whether or not

you have lung cancer. Treatment for lung cancer can be complex, so you want to make sure you are in the hands of the right medical specialist.

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# Electronics Recycling, International Fair This Weekend

KAITLYN G. WOODS  
LONDONDERRY TIMES

The Londonderry High School Parent Teacher Student Organization (PTSO) and International Club have again teamed up to host their third annual electronics recycling fundraiser.

Members of the community may unload for a small fee unwanted electronics, including computers, televisions, air conditioners, phones, and digital cameras at a drive-through recycling station in the high school's main

parking lot on Saturday, April 2 between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m.

"For a small fee you can recycle responsibly and support these two great groups," said Donna Chisholm, a member of the PTSO.

The PTSO splits the funds raised with the International Club, who use their profits to support Heifer International, a non-profit that brings sustainable agriculture and commerce to communities with a history of poverty. The PTSO uses

the money it raises to fund senior scholarship and teacher grants.

"We chose Heifer International because it's not like you're sending money or building a building and that's it. It's sustainable. They take supplies and teach communities to build wells and use animals for agriculture," International Club President Abby Espallat said.

The club's publicist, Michael Baker, noted he prefers donating to Heifer International because he can see the funds they

raise directly impact communities globally in a profound way.

The LHS International Club, a group of about 15 students who meet regularly to learn about different countries with parties featuring food and music, used money from their first recycling fundraiser to purchase a well for a village that didn't have access to clean water.

Co-advisor Tom Wilson said the International Club is one of the school's "best kept secrets" and that they are working to

increase participation among students.

In addition to the electronics recycling fundraiser, the International Club will host International Night on Friday, April 1, a cultural fair featuring musical performances, food, dancing, games and an activity corner for younger children with face painting and coloring, also to benefit Heifer International.

Espallat said they have promoted the community event at the elementary schools and on the Londonderry Moms

Facebook page.

Admission to the fair is \$2 per person, with an \$8 maximum charge for families.

Baker said International Night is a good opportunity to expose members of the community to different cultures and open up its world view.

"More and more our world is so connected - everything we do affects other countries and the things they do affects us," Espallat said. "It's really important in the 21st century to be global citizens."

# Londonderry High Senior Project Will Repair Skate Park

KAITLYN G. WOODS  
LONDONDERRY TIMES

When Londonderry High School senior Nick Lekas saw the Town's skate park was in need of repairs, he decided to take the project into his own hands.

"I was skating with my friends and I saw some of the sheet metal boards that are screwed in were loose. I thought, I'll fix it," he said.

After consulting with several of his teachers, as well as Recreation Director Art Psaledas and Town Manager Kevin Smith, Lekas said he was encouraged to take on the work as his Senior Project and started a Go Fund Me

page to raise money for new sheet metal and pressure-treated wood to complete needed repairs.

"Funding is tough," said Lekas, who has raised \$245 through his campaign. "But so many people are helping."

In addition to repairing areas in need of attention, Lekas plans to replace offensive graffiti in the park with community artwork.

To celebrate the restoration, Lekas hopes to organize a live concert at the skate park where members of the community will have the opportunity to spray paint the new sheet metal to be installed.

Lekas said he has highly skilled friends in vocational classes whom he can count on to help complete the repairs and ensure the integrity of the facility is maintained.

"A teacher said to me, 'right now, the skate park is a sore spot on the Town,'" Lekas said. "She doesn't feel comfortable taking her son. This would brighten it up and make it known as more than a skate park, but something students worked for. If this gets finished, I think there will be more respect for the park."

And maintaining a skate park in town is important because it's a safe place for young people to recreate, according to Lekas.



Londonderry High School senior Nick Lekas is hoping to repair much of the deteriorating skate park in town as his senior project.

"If you're too busy

skating, you won't have time to do other things," he said.

To donate to Lekas' fundraising campaign, visit [www.gofundme.com/5drw6gz](http://www.gofundme.com/5drw6gz).



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# Local Artist's Nature Paintings Featured in Leach Library Exhibit

KAITLYN G. WOODS  
LONDONDERRY TIMES

When nature enthusiast Tom Abruzese started painting several years ago, it wasn't on traditional canvas.

"I'm always looking for different materials to paint on," said Abruzese, who has completed over 100 paintings of nature on maple leaves, as well as meticulously crafted paintings on feathers, grains of rice and sesame seeds. "I love nature. If I'm going to paint nature, why not paint on something that came from nature?"

Stabilizing the grains of rice and sesame seeds on clay, Abruzese works with a magnifying glass in one hand and a paint-

brush with only two bristles in the other.

"I live in an old house, so if someone walks by, the vibrations will transfer up to the hand," he said. "You have to be by yourself. Even one stroke of the brush makes a difference in whether it's a good or bad painting. It takes a lot of concentration. You have to slow yourself down."

Previously a stonemason, Abruzese said he got into painting about eight years ago to continue flexing his creative muscle in the winter months when business would slow down.

As the Leach Library's featured artist for April, Abruzese will display his paintings in an exhibit all month. The show includes

his more recent paintings on turkey feathers, which require delicate upward strokes, and on spider webs, which are preserved under acrylic paint.

Abruzese has also painted delicate scenes on small stones he found at the seashore and sold them to jewelers.

"I like doing something that shows people you don't need a piece of canvas to create a piece of artwork," he said. "Art is everywhere."

As a custodian at North Elementary School, Abruzese painted numerous murals throughout the school and even a gift for then Gov. John Lynch, which students presented during a visit to Concord.

After Gov. Lynch re-

ceived his painting of the Old Man of the Mountain, the governor scheduled a special visit to the school just to meet Abruzese, who was featured on New Hampshire Chronicle and has artwork hanging in U.S. Sen. Kelly Ayotte's office.

Abruzese's work is also on display at the Capitol Building in Concord and at Boston City Hall.

As a commissioned artist, Abruzese paints murals in client homes and scenes for weddings; his prints of paintings featuring local scenes are popular among tourists to the area from all over the world.

Abruzese can be reached at 434-4971.



Tom Abruzese displays artwork that will be at the Leach Library in April. He painted on feathers in this piece. Photo by Chris Paul

## Conservation Seeks Proposals for Recreation Plan Project Analysis

KAITLYN G. WOODS  
LONDONDERRY TIMES

The Conservation Commission voted to pursue a request for proposals (RFP) to complete an engineering analysis to establish the technical feasibility and estimated costs of projects proposed in the Town's Outdoor Recreation Improvements Plan.

The study would provide information the Commission needs to prioritize projects featured in the plan and determine if they are viable.

The Town's FY2017-FY2022 Capital Improvements Plan (CIP) recommends funding the analysis at \$100,000 in FY17.

When the Town Coun-

cil did not move a warrant article to fund the analysis to the Town's March 8 ballot, the Commission discussed funding the study with Conservation funds.

Commissioner Mike Speltz noted at the Commission's March 22 meeting the Commission is not on the hook financially until it selects an RFP and negotiates the scope and terms of the work to be completed. "We have no obligation to accept any bids," Speltz said.

The analysis would be used to identify projects the Commission could complete to increase utilization of open space and enhance recreation in town.

Additionally, the analysis would reveal which projects may be too expensive to pursue.

The Commission likely would not seek data related to the feasibility of projects on properties it does not manage, such as the Town Forest.

"Now that we're spending Conservation money, that can only be spent for Conservation purposes" Speltz said.

In other business at the March 22 meeting:

Chairman Marge Badois said the Town Council has yet to appoint their recommendation, Jay Hooley, to the open position on the Joint Negotiating Committee.

The Commission origi-

nally recommended George Brooks be appointed to the position at their Jan. 25 meeting, but Brooks withdrew his application.

With a unanimous vote, the Commission confirmed they "have no objection to the Council appointing Jay Hooley to the Joint Negotiating Committee."

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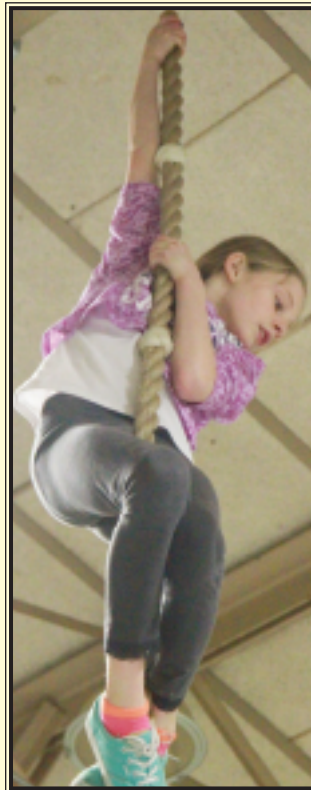
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# Gym Night Keep Students Off Screens at Matthew Thornton



Students and family members attended the annual Gym Night at Matthew Thornton Elementary School during the school's Turn Off The Screen week. They were encouraged to turn off their screens and head out for an evening of physical activities. Bowling, wall climbing, a balance beam, and rope climbing were a few of the many activities offered to keeps students off their screens. See page 2 for the Beach Party. *Photos by Chris Paul*

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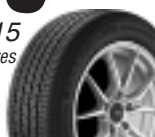


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# LONDONDERRY SPORTS

## LHS Junior Jake Coleman Named a Top All-State Hoopster

CHRIS PANTAZIS  
LONDONDERRY TIMES

After playing a vital role as a sophomore on Londonderry High School's undefeated and historic, Division I title-winning 2014-15 boys' basketball team, Jake Coleman stepped into his junior campaign this past December aiming to helm another championship hoop team.

But with a number of the other standouts from that immensely exciting title-winning crew having graduated - including electrifying guard Cody Ball, who is now playing close by at Saint Anselm College - the lanky Coleman and his coach Nate Stanton knew that winning the 2015-16 crown would be difficult, at least.

As fortune would have it, this year's Lancer team didn't make it any further than the first round of the

D-I tournament. But once again, Coleman was a stalwart for the Londonderry side, and as a result of his strong campaign the smooth and highly-skilled shooting guard was recently named a Division I First Team All-State selection by the New Hampshire Basketball Coaches Association.

"It means a lot to me to be recognized as a top player in the NHIAA, but I'm definitely not satisfied and I know I need to put in a lot of work in the off-season," he said.

Coleman - who also saw significant playing time as a freshman while enjoying time as a teammate of his elder brother Max - was most often the pace-setter for the LHS offense this winter.

If the smooth-shooting guard was on, so were the Lancers. And if he struggled somewhat on offense, so did the team.

The at times odd and frustrating 2015-16 season came to a close for the defending Division One champions with a 58-47 opening-round tournament loss to the Winnacunnet High Warriors in Hampton back on March 9.

Stanton's 10th-seeded LHS Lancers had to work hard to overcome an awful first quarter, and they did so to get within a bucket of the seventh-ranked Warriors' lead in the third period. But the hosts then reeled off a big run to rebuild their advantage and drive to victory.

Londonderry had bagged a slim win over that seacoast opponent at LHS during the middle of a nightmarish, 1-6 skid that occurred between Jan. 22 and Feb. 6. So Stanton and his Lancers knew that they could best the Warriors.

The locals had finished their regular season with a solid 10-8 record, winning six of their last seven games.

Londonderry received bad news in the days before the first-round contest on the seacoast when versatile junior guard Cam MacDonald was diagnosed with mononucleosis and lost to the locals.

As things turned out, Jake Coleman and his 2015-16 teammates fell steps short of the second straight state title they sought. But after only losing senior point-guard Nate Gaw to graduation this winter and boasting a crew which will once again be helmed by Coleman - who is now a full-fledged D-I First Team All-Stater - the 2016-17 campaign could be a fun and productive one.



Londonderry High School star junior guard Jake Coleman hit the heights individually recently, garnering Division I First Team All-State Honors.

Photo by Chris Paul

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# LHS Senior Cager Balcom Wins Prestigious Ford Award

CHRIS PANTAZIS  
LONDONDERRY TIMES

The lucky folks who got to watch Londonderry High School senior basketball player Kate Balcom play during her four years at the school will tell you that she always gave her all, that she was completely dedicated to the team concept, and that her teammates and opponents alike held her in high esteem.

Well, folks close to the Lady Lancer standout - who was recently named a Division I Second-Team All-State selection - also know that Balcom excels in other segments of her life. And the Londonderry cager's basketball abilities, academic talents, and her willingness to give to others has earned her the prestigious Division I Girls' Jack Ford Basketball Award for the 2015-16 season.

LHS varsity girls' basketball coach Nick Theos was effusive in recommending his veteran guard/forward Balcom for this year's D-I girls' Ford award - which is named for New Hampshire Basketball Coaches Association founder and former longtime Winnacunnet High School boys' basketball coach Jack Ford - and the folks on the awards

committee agreed that the LHS senior cager was worthy of the honor.

"Kate began playing organized basketball in her freshman year. Over the next four years, she has improved by leaps and bounds, culminating in career highs this season in points, rebounds, assists, and steals," said Theos. "Kate also led the team in rebounding this season, even though she is only 5 feet 6 inches tall. She is respected by both teammates and coaches for her tireless work ethic and her team-first attitude. Kate is a special athlete, but more importantly she is a special person. She has always put the needs of others ahead of her own, and I believe that is what makes her the perfect Jack Ford Award candidate."

Having Theos put her name forth as a nominee for the Ford award hit Balcom like a bolt out of the blue, as did the news that she'd won it.

"I was surprised when I was nominated for the award because I had

never heard of it before, and I felt honored when I was chosen as the winner. I'm very thankful for the support of my coach Nick Theos and the other Division I coaches who voted for me," she said.

Balcom - who is home-schooled - was an important member of the Lady Lancers' state-title winning teams at the ends of the 2013-14 and 2014-15 seasons. She was also a co-captain on this past winter's LHS girls' contingent, which fell just two victories short of a third straight D-I championship.

On the court, Balcom finished her senior hoop season having averaged 8.2 rebounds, 2.5 assists, 4.4 steals, 1.3 blocks, and just under 10 points (9.4) per game.

Academically, the senior standout carries an unweighted grade-point average of 4.0, is a National Merit Scholar and a U.S. Presidential Scholar Award candidate, and she scored a 2,300 in the SAT's to finish among the top 50 percent of students a-

cross the country.

The Lady Lancer has been awarded a full, Trustee Fellow scholarship at Grove City College in Pennsylvania. Balcom said she plans to study math and play basketball in college.

"Kate accumulated approximately 580 hours of volunteer service during high school through various activities," said Theos.

The LHS hoop standout has volunteered at basketball clinics to teach skills to younger players, participated in two, week-long service trips to Quebec to teach religious education programs to Cree Indian children, volunteered weekly as a student-leader in a religious education program for children, and for three years she taught an eight-week, after-school religious education program for kids at a Derry elementary school.

Balcom is also a co-inventor of an anti-distracted driving device who campaigned against texting while driving.



Versatile LHS senior Kate Balcom had her hoop, academic, and community accomplishments recognized recently with the Ford Award. Courtesy photo

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# Former LHS Student/Athletes Make Marks in College Sports

CHRIS PANTAZIS  
LONDONDERRY TIMES

Folks in the know are aware that Londonderry's rich sports tradition carries beyond the high school's sports facilities and on to college campuses far and wide.

And former Lancer standout student/athletes played significant roles for collegiate squads again during this recently-completed winter campaign, including a couple of ex-Lady Lancer basketball stalwarts who ended their Londonderry High hoop careers in recent years by hoisting the Division I championship plaque.

Say the name **Aliza Simpson** to anybody who paid any attention to LHS sports between 2010 and 2014 and you'll doubtless be greeted with tales of Simpson's superb play both on the basketball court and the soccer field at the local high school.

The athletic, multi-sport star has moved on to the University of New Hampshire, where she just finished her sophomore season as a key



Former LHS multi-sport star Aliza Simpson enjoyed a strong sophomore season for the UNH women's hoop team. Photo courtesy of Paige O'Donnell

player on the Lady Wildcats' hoop squad.

Simpson, her UNH teammates, and veteran coach Maureen Magarity expected to do better than 12-18 overall and a humble 6-10 in the America East Conference this season. But those were the Lady Wildcats' final numbers.

Five foot nine inch

guard Simpson helped the UNH contingent go a fine 4-1 in its final five games of the regular campaign, but the Granite Staters were later sent packing by the University of Maine lady cagers with a 58-47 defeat in the America East tourney in Vestal, N.Y., weeks ago.

Guard Simpson played in 29 of the team's 30

games, starting 27 of them and averaging 26.5 minutes worth of playing time. That court time placed her second on the squad in that department.

The former Lady Lancer star ranked second on the squad in total assists (72) and assists per game (2.5), and that latter mark placed her 10th overall in America East.

Simpson, who averaged 4.7 points per contest, notched a career-high 11 assists at Maine in February and snagged a career-best 11 rebounds at Dartmouth back in November.

The former Miss New Hampshire Basketball, New Hampshire Gatorade Player of the Year, and NHIAA Player of the Year tallied season-highs of 12 points against both Boston University and Boston College in December.

Simpson stands as the all-time assist leader in LHS girls' hoop history and is a member of the school's 1,000-point hoop club as well.

The talented guard helped lead her Lady

Lancer cagers to the 2013-14 Division I state championship before graduating in the spring of 2014.

One of Simpson's teammates on that title-winning LHS squad - **Rebekah Carroll** - just completed her first hoop campaign at Simmons College in Boston.

The former Lady Lancer was one of two first-year players for the Simmons' women's squad who saw action in all 25 games. Carroll drew 22 starts and averaged 21.2 minutes of playing time per contest.

The first-year cager - who is majoring in Health Care Administration/Management at Simmons - averaged 2 points and 2.2 rebounds per game for the Simmons Lady Sharks, who went 7-18 overall with big wins over Wheelock College, Fisher College, and Pine Manor College.

And just a bit outside of the New England region at the Rochester (N.Y.) Institute of Technology, former LHS track and field stalwart **Mike Whelton** earned United States Track and Field and Cross-

Country Coaches Association All-Atlantic Region honors for the 2015-16 indoor track and field season.

The RIT senior smashed the school mark in the heptathlon on two separate occasions during the season, winning the heptathlon at the ECAC (Eastern Collegiate Athletic Conference) Championships on March 4 and 5.

Whelton's winning score of 4,685 points at that competition bettered his previous school mark of 4,620, which was set at the Brockport Golden Eagle Invitational in late January.

The computer science major was a two-time Liberty League Track Performer of the Week (Jan. 31, March 5) during the 2015-16 campaign, and he also earned prestigious Liberty League Field Performer of the Week honors (Dec. 13) as well as impressive New York State Collegiate Track Conference and Eastern Collegiate Athletic Conference Upstate Field Athlete of the Week accolades (Jan. 31).

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# Londonderry Man Returns to Competitive Gymnastics

CHRIS PANTAZIS  
LONDONDERRY TIMES

When most folks think of somebody in their 30s or 40s participating in the demanding sport of gymnastics, they expect they'd be doing so in a coaching or judging capacity and thinking back fondly on their own competitive days.

Well, after competing as a high school gymnast at Nashua High School in the late 1980s and early 1990s, Londonderry resident Eric Petersen stepped away from the sport to which he had dedicated so many hours and so much energy as a competitor. But now, the 40-year-old local has decided to return to competitive gymnastics. And after much preparation, he will

be competing at the National Association of Intercollegiate Gymnastics Clubs' National Championships in Sacramento, Calif., in April.

"It was just such a huge part of my life growing up, practicing and competing from when I was a little kid up until college. But then, of course, you graduate, and suddenly there's nothing out there for someone who wants to keep doing gymnastics as an adult," said Petersen. "I spent a few years looking for a place where adults could do gymnastics, and I'd started to think there just wasn't any such place.

"But then when I was nearing 30, I found a place that operates out of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, a group that



Londonderry resident Eric Petersen is returning to competitive gymnastics at age 40. Courtesy photo

has now become Cambridge Community Gymnastics. And I've been working out with them ever since, more than 12 years now, gradually getting back into shape and getting skills back. But to be honest, the whole time I was thinking that competing again would always be out of reach," he said.

The Londonderry man - who moved to town with his wife, Melissa, from Bil-

lerica, Mass., last June - attended a national competition as a floor coach for the Cambridge Community Gymnastics squad last year. And Petersen ultimately decided that he was ready to attempt competing again himself after watching others do it, and he has competed in as many as five events at competitions since taking part in a gymnastics camp for adults in Ports-

mouth last September.

Petersen has been competing at events nearly every weekend recently, and he will be attempting to show and test his mettle at the national event in California.

"It was when I was at nationals that it suddenly seemed possible to compete again as a gymnast. Everyone was having a blast, and even though they were doing some good gymnastics, I started looking around and thinking that maybe I could do this again," he said. "I mean, I know I'm not going to be medaling on any events, but I do feel like I can actually put together some reasonably competitive routines on my best events like floor exercise and parallel bars. And on the other, tougher

events for me, I'll just do the best I can."

Outside of stepping back into gymnastics, Petersen has remained active athletically over the years, even focusing on Spartan races - completing three different distances or a 'Trifecta' - several years ago.

During his dozen years at Bay State-based Cambridge Community Gymnastics - which is a non-profit business supports the Cambridge Rindge and Latin School varsity gymnastics squad - Petersen also served as a member of that gymnastics center's Open Gym Safety Staff.

Now, even though he's not such a young man, the local goes west to see how he fares against the nation's best in a sport he has loved since childhood.

## Londonderry High JV Hockey Squad Made Strides Forward

CHRIS PANTAZIS  
LONDONDERRY TIMES

Anybody involved in high school sub-varsity sports will tell you that the vital jobs of junior varsity contingents are to give young athletes important playing time at the high school level, further hone their athletic skills, and enable them to have fun while also hopefully deepening their love for the sport they're playing.

In the big picture, wins and losses are of secondary importance until athletes reach the varsity level, and the work they do on the junior varsity and freshman levels pushes a great many youngsters toward their goal of playing varsity sports.

So although coach Brittany Skudder's Londonderry High School junior varsity boys' ice hockey squad didn't do as much winning as it either

hoped or expected to this winter, the young Lancers got plenty of work done during the 2015-16 campaign nonetheless.

Skudder's squad only won one of its 11 contests, but that victory had an exclamation mark next to it as it was a 19-3 hammering of the Manchester West High Blue Knights. But despite the fact that her Lancers only managed that one victory, the LHS mentor had no

qualms about the growth and effort her charges exhibited during the 2015-16 campaign.

"Although the record doesn't show, this group improved every week and it was great to watch them develop. They were all very coach-able and it was a fun season," said Skudder.

The LHS junior varsity contingent had at least one member of every one of the four present graduating classes at Londonderry High on its roster, with veteran sub-varsity skater and defenseman

Elise Isaak being the lone 12th grader.

Isaak was recognized along with the Lancer varsity hockey team's four graduating seniors on Senior Night at the Salem Icecenter, and she got the chance to play late in that last varsity regular season game against the Salem High School Blue Devils.

The Lancer junior varsity hockey team's juniors included goalies Brian Tausky and Danielle Ziv and forward Billy Croteau, the sophomores were forwards Graydon Geraghty, Matt Maheras, Taylor

Rose, Ben Henson, and Aiden Crowley, and the freshmen included forwards Pat Cohen and Sean Mullholland and defensemen Matt Naso, Josh Morin, and Oliver Preston.

The LHS 2015-16 varsity hockey squad will lose seniors Jax Theriault, Colby Austin, Andrew Morrisette, and Nick Donnelly to graduation this spring. Austin and Donnelly were co-captains. So there will be roster spots to fill on the Lancers' 2016-17 contingent later this year.

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# Londonderry Woman Spends Spring Break with Habitat for Humanity

KAITLYN G. WOODS  
LONDONDERRY TIMES

Londonderry's Lexann Meklenborg, a junior at Anna Maria College in Massachusetts, traveled with her peers to Florida for Spring Break this month, but instead of joining in the more traditional local festivities, she devoted her time to building a home for a woman in need.

Tasked with nailing stripping up for the home's rafters, Meklenborg worked seven-hour days to help complete the home's front porch, inside walls, rafters and

paneling on the outside of the house.

"I grew up in a family that did a lot of wood-working, so I'm used to working with power tools and a hammer and nails. I surprised everyone," she said.

When the group had an opportunity to step back and take in the fruits of their labor, Meklenborg said it left them with "a really good feeling inside.

"It was a good experience. I want to be a music therapist, so I wanted the aspect of serving someone else and it not being centered around me being

the all-important person," she said.

"The Alternative Spring Break is one of many ways that Anna Maria helps service-oriented students fulfill their passion for giving back," Anna Maria College President Mary Lou Retelle said in a press release. "Many Anna Maria students aspire to serve their communities in future careers as social workers, firefighters, music therapists and more. Experiences like the Alternative Spring Break play an important role in further shaping students who seek ca-

reers serving others."

While working to complete the home, the 12 students who served the New Smyrna Beach chapter of Habitat for Humanity had an opportunity to meet the woman they were helping.

"She was really excited," Meklenborg said. "It was cool to meet the person who would be living in the house we were building."

Meklenborg, who was home schooled and served as a maiden of St. Joan of Arc at St. Jude Parish in Londonderry, said working with Habitat

was her first service trip.

"I heard about it through campus ministries at my school and I heard from other people who said it's really fun and a great experience," she said, noting she enjoyed bonding with the group of service-minded students she worked with from March 7-11.

In addition to the building project, students had an opportunity to sight-see, taking a guided kayaking trip at the end of the week and enjoying an afternoon walking through Downtown Disney on

their last day.

The students also enjoyed their afternoons and evenings after work at the beach, according to Meklenborg, who said she looks forward to maintaining the new friendships she formed on the trip.

"I learned I can talk to people who are not also music majors," she said, laughing. "But in addition to that, I learned helping people and talking to people I may not normally have talked to gives you a good feeling inside."

## Budget Committee has Organizational Meeting

KAITLYN G. WOODS  
LONDONDERRY TIMES

The Budget Committee made appointments for chairman and vice chair, but tabled a decision on secretary as there were no volunteers for the position.

The Committee voted unanimously to appoint Jay Hooley chairman and Tim Siekmann vice chair at their March 24 organizational meeting.

Member Christine Patton was not present for the meeting and the Committee plans to offer her the position of secretary.

The Committee also discussed appointing liaisons to the Town Council and School Board, but decided to make those appointments at their next meeting on April 28.

The Committee discussed scheduling with the School Board for a

presentation in August. "In the summer we usually have at least one presentation from the School District, after the year-end financials are complete," Hooley said.

The Committee also discussed consulting with the Town Manager about what he anticipates the Town's financial situation will be at year end and where they are with negotiations with the Fire and

Police unions.

"This will be starting the third year for Fire working without a contract and the second year the Police Department is working without a new contract," member Gary Vermillion said.

Hooley said he would also like to see Public Works Director Janusz Czyzowski address concerns raised during the 2017 budget process with the Department's staffing level.

"We looked at Police staffing and increasing Fire staffing. We may want to have Janusz in to discuss what the state of the Public Works Department is," he said. "We're only building more, not fewer roads."

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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](http://www.nutpub.net). Please send items to [calendar@nutpub.net](mailto:calendar@nutpub.net).

## International Night

The Londonderry High School International Club hosts International Night, a cultural fair featuring musical performances, food, dancing, games and an activity corner for younger children with face painting and coloring, all to benefit Heifer International on Friday, April 1 from 5:30 to 8 p.m. Admission is \$2 per person and \$8 for families.

## Toy Swap and Sale

Londonderry Women's Club's 14th annual Toy Swap and Sale takes place from 9:30 a.m. to noon Saturday, May 14 at the

Matthew Thornton Elementary School gym, 275 Mammoth Road. Registration is 7:30 to 9 a.m. Registration forms are at the Leach Library. This is a consignment sale, with the price set by the owner, who receives two-thirds of the sale price. The other third goes to Community Alliance for Teen Safety (CATS) in Derry. Gently used toys, bikes, sporting goods and baby equipment are featured; stuffed animals, cribs, car seats, VHS tapes and clothing cannot be accepted.

## Chili Cook-off

St. Peter's Episcopal Church's annual Chili Cook-

off is 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. Saturday, April 9 at the church, 3 Peabody Row. Net proceeds support St. Peter's and Manchester's Liberty House, a substance-free housing community for formerly homeless veterans. At \$10 for adults and \$5 for age 10 and under, attendees may sample chili and vote on their favorite for People's Choice and Kids' Choice awards. Celebrity judges will name Best Overall Chili. Country-western entertainment and piñatas are featured. Cook registration is at 4:15 p.m., dining from 4:30 to 6 p.m., followed by awards. To register, contact Lee O'Connor at [loconnor621@gmail.com](mailto:loconnor621@gmail.com) or 781-801-8161.

## Drop Off Center

The Londonderry Drop Off Center opens April 2 through Nov. 19, Saturdays only, weather permitting, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Payment is by check only; no cash is accepted. For more information, visit: [LondonderryNH.org](http://LondonderryNH.org) or call 432-1100, ext. 193.

## Young Adult Movie

The Leach Library presents a free Movie Time program with the film "Pan" on Thursday, April 14 from 3:30 to 5:45 p.m. Students in grades 6 through 12 are invited to the movie, which includes popcorn and beverages, and a raffle for door prizes. No sign-up is necessary.

## Library Craft Week

Starting Monday, April 11 through closing on Saturday, April 16 during National Library Week, Leach Library children's patrons are invited to create a stained glass-inspired bookmark. Stop by the Children's Room desk to pick up the supplies and create the bookmark in the library or at home.

## Silly Stories

The Leach Library presents "Silly Stories" for children on Monday, April 18 from 4 to 5 p.m. Stories include "Count the Monkeys," "Because I stubbed my toe" and "Down by the Bay," and the participants will play a mixed up matching game. Participants are also welcome to wear their silliest outfits and bring their favorite joke or riddle to share. Everyone who attends will receive a silly accessory. Advance registration is required and begins at 9 a.m. Monday, April 11. To register, call 432-1127 or stop by the Children's Room.

## Electronics Recycling

The Londonderry High School's International Club and Parent Teacher Student Organization (PTSO) hold their third annual Electronics Recycling fundraiser from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, April 2 at the LHS main parking lot. Proceeds go to the two sponsoring groups. Residents can drop off computers, TVs, air conditioners, dehumidifiers, VCRs and phones for a fee, ranging from \$1 (keyboards and cell phones) to \$35 (TV larger than 32 inches). Cables, wires, cords and mice can be dropped off free.

## Farm Day

As a kick-off to National Library Week, children are invited to the Leach Library on Monday, April 11 from 4 to 5 p.m. to meet some of the animals that inspired the classic novel "Charlotte's Web." Participants will learn all about life on the farm and how animals help to run it. Live animal visitors may include a micro pig, pygmy goat and skunk. Advance registration is required and begins at 9 a.m. Monday, April 4. To register, call 432-1127 or come by the Children's Room. This program is sponsored by the Friends of the Londonderry Leach Library.

## Pathfinder Dance

The Southern New Hampshire Indian Pathfinders, based in Londonderry, is a father/daughter group open to all dads and daughters in southern New Hampshire. A father-daughter dance takes place at Mastricola Upper Elementary School, 26 Baboosic St. Merrimack on Saturday,

April 9 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Admission is \$24 per family (father/daughters) or \$30 (cash only) at the door. Admission includes snacks, beverages and door prizes, as well as free photos. Dress is semi-formal. For details, including a corsage package, visit: <http://indianpathfinders.com/pathnew/events>.

## Crafters Wanted

Londonderry Senior Citizens, Inc. (LSCI) will hold a Summer Arts and Crafts Fair from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. June 25 at the Londonderry Senior Center, 535 Mammoth Road. Space is available to local artisans. Funds raised from the fair will be used to purchase equipment and materials for the Senior Center. Eight-foot spaces inside or 10X10 outdoor spaces are available at \$35 plus a craft or gift item to be raffled by LSCI. Crafters must provide a table and chairs. Applications and fees are due by May 6. For more information, call Bonnie Ritvo at 432-8554 or email [SeniorCenter@LondonderryNH.org](mailto:SeniorCenter@LondonderryNH.org).

## Coed Softball

Londonderry Coed Softball is looking for new players to join an existing team or start their own team. Play takes place Thursday evenings and a few Sunday afternoons. All skill levels are welcome. Contact Michael Costello at [Ltowncoed@gmail.com](mailto:Ltowncoed@gmail.com) for questions or to join.

## Girl Scout Cookies

Girl Scout Cookie Booths are now open across New Hampshire and Vermont. Cookie booths can be found at shopping centers now through early April. To find a cookie booth, visit [girlscoutsgwm.org](http://girlscoutsgwm.org) and click on the Cookie Locator. Seven Girl Scout cookies, including the iconic Thin Mints and top-selling Samoas, and Tagalongs, are available at \$4 per box. Gluten-free Toffee-tastic Girl Scout cookies retail for \$5. All proceeds support local Girl Scout programs and serve as a major funding source for troop activities, including field trips, camping, and community service projects.

## Fuel Assistance

Fuel assistance is available from Southern New Hampshire Services, which is

Continued on page 17

## OBITUARY

### Phyllis O'Brien



Phyllis I. (Critchett) O'Brien, 83, of Londonderry died March 28, 2016 at her home surrounded by her family.

She was born in Candia on June 9, 1932, a daughter of the late Edwin G. and Mary Luella (Davis) Critchett.

She was a graduate of Manchester Central High School.

In 1952 she married Lewis F. "Lefty" O'Brien of Londonderry, where they lived and raised their family over the past 64 years.

She retired from the Londonderry School District, where she managed the school cafeteria for over 20 years.

She enjoyed painting ceramics, watching birds, playing cards, and reading.

She is survived by her husband, Lewis; daughter, Pamela O'Brien; son, Darren O'Brien and his wife, Doreen; four grandchildren, Ashley Carrier and her husband, Shawn, Amanda Butler and her husband, Bo, Alanna Pevear and Zachary O'Brien; five great-granddaughters, Emma Carrier, and Summer, Sawyer, Saylor and Sullivan Butler, all of Londonderry; and many nieces and nephews. She was predeceased by her sisters Dorothy Richard, Beatrice Estey, and Donna Pouliot, and her brother, Edwin G. Critchett Jr.

Calling hours will be held Friday April 1, from 4 to 8 p.m. in the Peabody Funeral Homes and Crematorium, 290 Mammoth Road, Londonderry. Funeral services will be held on Saturday, April 2 at 10 a.m. in the funeral home, with cremation to follow. Memorial donations may be made to the NHSPCA, 104 Portsmouth Ave, Stratham, NH 03885. To send a condolence or for more information, visit [www.peabodyfuneralhome.com](http://www.peabodyfuneralhome.com).

## OBITUARY

### George Butler



George Francis Butler, 75, died unexpectedly March 21, 2016 following a brief illness.

Born in Rochester, he was the son of George F. and Margaret (Hunt) Butler, and was known as "Fran" during his childhood.

He was raised in the Lakes Region, graduating from Laconia High School in 1959.

He enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps and was stationed in Washington, D.C., where he served as a security guard in the Pentagon. He was honorably discharged in 1963.

He graduated from Plymouth University with a B.Ed. degree and received an M.Ed. from Boston University.

He was employed by the Nashua School District for 15 years. In the early 1980s he began a career in real estate, specializing in commercial properties. He was a licensed Broker and owner of Butler Realty, LLC in Salem, N.H., for over 30 years.

He loved his home and property and had a passion for transforming ordinary spaces into beautiful private viewing areas. "Shadowbrook" was his sanctuary.

He is survived by his wife of 47 years, Charlotte.

There are no calling hours. Following cremation, a private celebration of his life is being planned for a later date. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital, 262 Danny Thomas Place, Memphis, Tenn. 38105. To send a condolence or for more information, visit [www.peabodyfuneralhome.com](http://www.peabodyfuneralhome.com).



## Around Town

Continued from page 16

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.

### Sanctuary Benefit

On Sunday, April 3, at 4 p.m., join First Parish Congregational Church, 47 East Derry Road in East Derry, for a 25th Anniversary Concert by Songweavers, a 100-plus women's chorus from Concord Community Music School. Conductor is Peggo Horstmann Hodes. This is

the last chance to experience the sanctuary before restoration work begins the next day. Tickets are \$20 per adult, \$15 per student or senior, and include a light reception. Proceeds go to help restore the historic building. For tickets, call 434-0628, email officemgr@fpc-ucc.org, or stop by the church office.

### Garden Club

The Derry Garden Club meets Friday, April 1, at 10 a.m. at the Boys and Girls Club of Greater Derry, 40 Hampstead Road, Derry. The speaker will be Phillip Ferdinando, owner of J and F Farms in Derry. He will discuss composting. Members are asked to bring a bag

lunch. The committee will provide chips, drinks and dessert. The club is a member of the New Hampshire Federation of Garden Clubs and the National Garden.

### Israeli Dance Nights

Etz Hayim Synagogue, 1-1/2 Hood Road, Derry hosts Israeli Dance Nights on

Continued on page 18

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#### YARD SALE

Tag Sale – Saturday, April 2, 2016. 3 Mayflower Drive Londonderry. Rain date, Saturday, April 9, 2016. Furniture, household items and more.

#### FAIRS/MARKETS

HUGE CRAFT FAIR, More than 45 crafters. Saturday, April 2, 9:30am to 3:00pm. Windham High School by Woman's Service Club of Windham

## National/Regional Listings

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### Continued from page 17

April 29 and June 3. Friday night services begin at 7:15 p.m., with Kiddush, music and dancing following the services.

#### HU Chant

A Community HU Chant takes place at 9:30 a.m. Sunday, April 10 and again at 7:30 p.m. Sunday, April 21 at the Holiday Inn, 2280 Brown Ave., Manchester.

#### Eckankar Worship

An Eckankar worship service takes place Sunday, April 10 at 10:30 a.m. at the Holiday Inn, 2280 Brown Ave., Manchester. This month's topic is "Opening Your Heart to More of God's Love."

#### Free Meals

The free Community Meals Program offers the following meals, with no residency requirement: Sunday, April 10, 5 to 6:30 p.m., Church of the Transfiguration, 1 Hood Road, Derry; Saturday, April 16, 5 to 6:30 p.m., St. Luke's United Methodist Church, 63 East Broadway, Derry; Sunday, April 17, 5 to 6:15 p.m., Etz Hayim Synagogue, 1-1/2 Hood Road, Derry; Thursday, April 21, 5 to 6:30 p.m., West Running Brook Middle School, 1 West Running Brook Lane, Derry; and Mondays through Fridays, 4:30 p.m., Sonshine Soup Kitchen, First Baptist Church, 2 Crystal Ave., Derry.



## TOWN OF LONDONDERRY PLANNING BOARD

The Londonderry Planning Board will hold a Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 13, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. in the Moose Hill Council Chambers, 268B Mammoth Road, Londonderry, NH to consider the following:

#### NEW PLANS

A. Application Acceptance and Public Hearing for a lot line adjustment and subdivision of 4 existing lots into 6 total lots, including Tax Map 14 Lot 45 at 44 Rear Pettengill Road (Ballinger Properties, LLC; Five-N-Associates, Owners) Zoned GB, Map 14 Lot 35 at 68 Rear Litchfield Road (Tana Properties Limited Partnership, Owner) Zoned GB and AR-I, Map 14 Lot 36 at 68 Rear Harvey Road (Tana Properties Limited Partnership, Owner) Zoned GB, and Map 14 Lot 38 at 68 Rear Harvey Road (Tana Properties Limited Partnership, Owner) Zoned GB, (Green Leaf Construction, Applicant).

B. Application Acceptance and Public Hearing for a site plan to construct a distribution facility and associated site improvements at 10 Webb Drive, Tax Map 14 Lot 36-1 (Ballinger Properties, LLC; Five-N-Associates; Tana Properties Limited Partnership, Owners) Zoned GB, (Green Leaf Construction, Applicant).

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## Easter at the High School

There was no shortage of fun holiday activities offered at Londonderry High School's Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday. More than 7,000 eggs were set out to be collected at the school track. This was the fourth year the class of 2016 hosted the event. *Photos by Chris Paul*

## Londonderry Police Log

### Selections from the Londonderry Police Logs

#### Monday, March 21

**12:03 p.m.** Caller reporting gunshots sounding like they are coming from Sparhawk Drive.

**1:16 p.m.** Margaret Smith, 29, Sagamore Road, Portsmouth turned herself in on warrant for two counts of Issuing Bad Checks. Bail set at \$3,000 personal recognizance, with Derry Circuit Court date of May 3.

#### Tuesday, March 22

**3:11 p.m.** Patrick Shepherd, 30, Cohas Terrace, Londonderry was arrested for Simple Assault. Bail set at \$2,500 personal recognizance, with Derry Circuit Court date of May 3.

**3:24 p.m.** Home burglary reported on Parmenter Road. Multiple items missing.

#### Wednesday, March 23

**9:43 a.m.** Londonderry Fire responding to Gil-

crest Road on report of propane leak.

**3:52 p.m.** Report of possibly sick raccoon in yard on Baldwin Road.

**8:17 p.m.** Cheryl Ann Carswell, 53, Liberty Lane, Merrimack arrested across from UPS on Pettingill Road for Prowling, Resisting Arrest or Detention, Disobeying an Officer, and Traffic Control Devices. Bail set at \$2,500 personal recognizance, with Derry District Court date of May 3.

#### Thursday, March 24

**9:01 a.m.** Caller on Gillette Drive reports someone flattened tires on truck.

**11:48 a.m.** Elizabeth Furey, 20, Acropolis Avenue, Londonderry arrested for Fraudulent Use of Credit Card and Receiving Stolen Property. Bail set at \$2,000 personal recognizance with Derry Circuit

Court date of May 3.

**5:08 p.m.** Shayna Wilson, 29, Kendall Pond Road, Derry arrested for Theft by Deception, Forgery and Receiving Stolen Property. Bail set at \$3,000 personal recognizance with Derry Circuit Court date of May 3.

#### Saturday, March 26

**8:22 a.m.** Caller reports mailbox on Pillsbury Road repeatedly damaged.

**9 a.m.** Brian M. Hanlon, 27, Wilshire Drive, Londonderry arrested for

Criminal Trespass. Subject released on \$1,500 personal recognizance bail, with Derry District Court date of May 3.

**9:07 a.m.** Mailbox and a couple of neighbors' mailboxes smashed overnight on Lucas Road between 1 and 9 a.m.

**2:57 p.m.** Reports target shooting behind home on Buyck Street.

#### Monday, March 28

**1:17 a.m.** Someone reported to be breaking into caller's vehicles and shed on Rockingham Road. Homeowner has gun.

**3:56 a.m.** Batteries taken from three box trucks at Granite State Shuttle, Londonderry Road.



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## TOWN OF LONDONDERRY PLANNING BOARD

The Londonderry Planning Board will hold a Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 6, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. in the Moose Hill Council Chambers, 268B Mammoth Road, Londonderry, NH to consider the following:

### NEW PLANS

- A. Application Acceptance and Public Hearing for formal review of a lot line adjustment between Tax Map 2 Lot 36 at 5 Continental Drive and Tax Map 2 Lot 36-6 at 1 Continental Drive, Zoned Ind-I and Ind-II, Continental Paving, Inc. (Applicant and Owner). *[Continued from March 2, 2016 per Applicant request]*
- B. Application Acceptance and Public Hearing for formal review of a site plan amendment to construct a 2-story office addition, Tax Map 2 Lot 36-6 at 1 Continental Drive and West Road, Zoned Ind-I and Ind-II, Continental Paving, Inc. (Applicant and Owner). *[Continued from March 2, 2016 per Applicant request]*
- C. Public Hearing for review of a "compliance alternative" to the PUD Master Plan related to sign requirements for Annie's Hallmark and the NH Liquor and Wine Outlet at the Market Basket Shopping Center - DeMoulas Super Markets, Inc. (Owner) 34 Nashua Road, Robert D. and Stephen R. Lievens, c/o NAA Associates, Joanne Joyce (Owner), 5 Garden Lane, Tax Map 10 Lot 54-1, Zoned Woodmont Commons PUD.
- D. Application Acceptance and Public Hearing for formal review of a site plan to construct a self-storage facility at 7 Planeview Drive, Tax Map 14 Lot 13-4, Zoned IND-II, Russell F. and Francine Wilmarth Revocable Trust (Owner) and Planeview Self Storage, LLC (Applicant).
- E. Public Hearing pursuant to RSA 231:158 to discuss tree removal in the public ROW of Adams Road, a state designated Scenic Road, associated with the construction of a new house and driveway at 43 Adams Road, Map 6 Lot 81-1, Zoned AR-I, Cross Apple Farm, LLC (Owner and Applicant).



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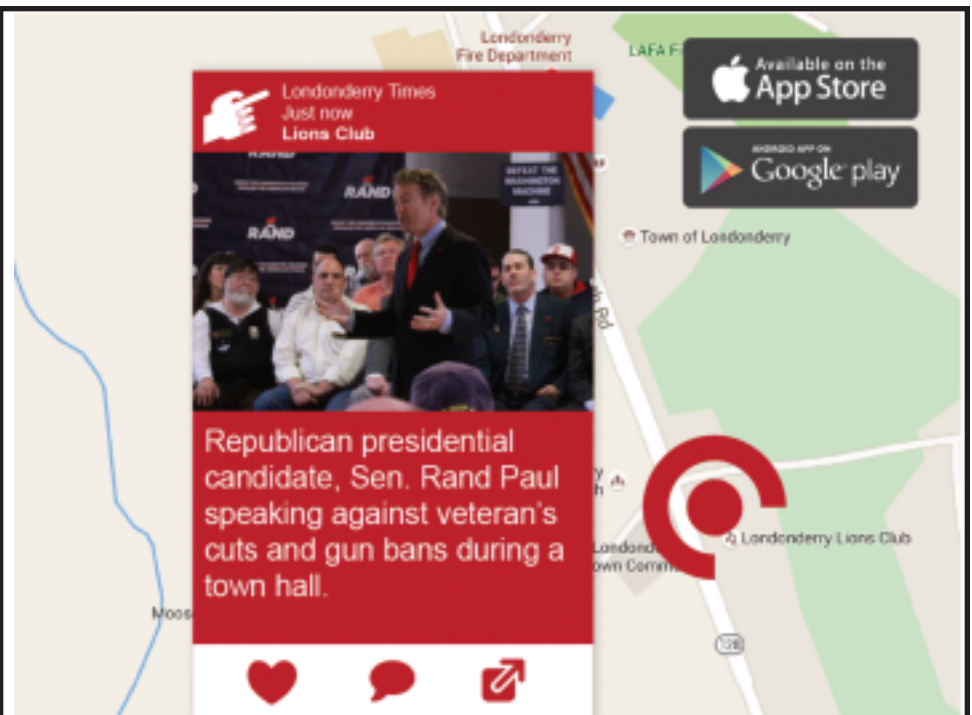
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