

# Londonderry Times

May 5, 2016 ♦ Volume 17 – Issue 18

A FREE Weekly Publication



## Settled In

Owen Boucher, 3, settles in for a morning of fishing at the Londonderry Fish and Game Club's annual Kids Fishing Derby. The club's pond was at capacity with eager youngsters surrounding the perimeter. See more photos on page 10.

*Photo by Chris Paul*

## Volunteer Charges Forward with Cleaning Out Town Forest

KAITLYN G. WOODS  
LONDONDERRY TIMES

It has been about a year since Londonderry volunteer Kent Allen started working to clear litter and natural debris from the floor of the Town Forest.

Countless hours and 40 substantial piles of

debris later, about a third of the Town Common has been cleared for recreational use and Allen has his sights set on the section of the property along Mack's apple orchards.

As the floor of the Town Forest has become increasingly groomed, Allen said he has seen an increase in the area's use

by residents.

"There are a lot more people walking their dogs," he said. "Especially because of the target shooting in the Musquash - it has scared a lot of people out of the woods and they came over here."

Allen has focused his efforts on removing dead

**continued on page 8**

## Restrictions Placed on Dogs in Cemeteries, Rail Trail

KAITLYN G. WOODS  
LONDONDERRY TIMES

After making several minor additions to a proposed "scoop the poop" ordinance, the Town Council passed the amendment with a 4-0 vote. Councilor Jim Butler was not present for the Council's May 2 meeting.

According to the revised Public Health, Safety and Welfare Ordinance related to Animal Control, dogs are no longer permitted in town cemeteries and must be secured by a leash on the Londonderry Rail Trail.

"There are a lot of young children and people riding skateboards on

the Rail Trail, and the dogs are fouling," Councilor John Farrell said of the motivation behind the new restrictions. "I expect there will be some postings that will go up at the Rail Trail to make people aware."

Administrative Support coordinator Steve Cotton additionally committed to removing as soon as possible a sign at Pillsbury Cemetery depicting a squatting dog fouling - restricting dog owners from leaving any dog fouling in the cemetery - and replacing it with a more traditional sign detailing the new restrictions.

Only service dogs will be permitted at any town cemetery, unless confined to a visitor's vehicle.

The Council also revised a restriction defined in the proposed amendment that would have required dogs to be secured by a leash on any town property or public place to allow dogs that are under the direct control of their handler to walk or run unrestrained by a leash in public places, including town trails.

The only exceptions are the Town Common and Town Forest, where dogs must be restrained

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## OHRV Use Picking Up in Musquash Conservation Land

KAITLYN G. WOODS  
LONDONDERRY TIMES

The Conservation Commission is looking at an increase in OHRV (off-highway recreational vehicle) use in the Musquash Conservation area and potentially installing a gate to restrict the vehicles' access from Litchfield Road.

Commissioner Mike Speltz recently encountered riders in the power lines coming from Litchfield Road, near Continental Paving's property.

"Historically, that has been an area of concern," member Deb Lievens said.

Speltz informed the riders they need the permission of the property

owner to ride through the power lines or any other property on an OHRV, and reported the activity to the Police.

"They said they're from Hudson and use the power lines to get to where they ride," he said.

The Commission agreed that installing a gate at the area's entrance, to which the Commission and first responders would have a key, is probably the best solution to the problem, in addition to raising awareness for permitted uses in the Musquash.

"It was clear there's a lot of riding going on when we were conducting monitoring of the area,"

Commissioner Mike Byerly said.

"It had really tapered off there for a while and now it's starting to pick back up again," Lievens said.

Byerly said he installed signs in the area informing riders OHRV use in the Musquash is not permitted.

OHRV use in conserva-

**continued on page 9**

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# Council Considers Upfront Costs of Town-Run Senior Transit

KAITLYN G. WOODS  
LONDONDERRY TIMES

In an update on transportation offerings for Londonderry seniors, Town Manager Kevin Smith said several neighboring communities are providing services to residents at varying costs.

"What we have found in surrounding communities is some have town-run transportation systems for their seniors and some are a hybrid, offering a town subsidy but

having it be privately run," he told the Council at its May 2 meeting.

The Senior Resource Committee has proposed Londonderry enhance transportation offerings seniors are accessing through the Cooperative Alliance for Regional Transportation (CART), which Councilor Joe Green said are not sufficient for the needs of seniors in town.

But Council Chairman John Farrell said he has

not heard from seniors in the community that transportation is an issue and asked that the results from a survey the Senior Resource Committee conducted last year be shared at the Council's next meeting.

According to responses provided in the Committee's 2015 Transportation Survey, most seniors in town travel in their own vehicles, rather than relying on public transportation.

Preliminary data revealed that of 104 seniors who participated in the survey, 77 said they have their own car and only six said they use CART services.

But Green said people who are not satisfied with CART aren't speaking up because they fear losing

the services they have, even though they aren't sufficient to meet their needs.

"People are coming to me," he said. "That type of demographic, they don't like to complain about anything. They try to do it on their own, they're very prideful and they don't want to give up the service they do have."

Smith said the Town could approach enhancing transportation options through a variety of models with varying price tags.

For example, the Town of Windham has cut its budget for public transportation in half since moving to a town-run system. Windham offers transportation Mondays through Fridays from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., with three

on-call drivers who are employed by the Town and paid a little over \$8 per-hour, according to Smith.

Smith said while there are upfront costs to purchasing a bus and insurance, as well as for hiring drivers, Windham has seen its annual budget for transportation halved, from \$14,000 to \$7,000.

"What I have heard from the folks in Windham is it has been widely successful having it be town-run," he said, noting Community Caregivers has helped fill any gaps in service.

Alternatively, Atkinson placed \$5,000 in its capital reserve fund to subsidize the start-up costs of its own transportation program, Smith said.

"The Towns that are doing it seem to be very successful; and it appears in towns like Windham, they are doing it very much on the cheap. In a town like Atkinson, it's a hefty budget item," he said. "Can it be done? Yes. It appears the cost varies depending on how the community does it."

The Council plans to consider responses to the Senior Resources Committee's 2015 Transportation Survey and further discuss transportation options at future meetings.

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### At the Garden

The Londonderry High School Lancer Drumline presented an encore performance for the Boston Celtics home playoff game Friday, April 22 at the TD Garden in Boston. The Lancers last appeared for the Celtics on Jan. 29. This is the 10th year the Lancer Drumline has had the honor to perform for the Celtics.

*Courtesy photo*

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# Council Considers Potential Budget Items in Early Planning Discussion

KAITLYN G. WOODS  
LONDONDERRY TIMES

As the State works to address concerns over PFOA contamination to local ground water, the Town Council discussed with Russ Lagueux of the Londonderry Housing and Redevelopment Authority an updating of the Town's environmental baseline study.

The Committee directed to complete the Town's environmental baseline study sampled between 2001 and 2004 more than 160 private residential drinking wells and collected surface water samples and storm water samples at various locations, primarily in the north end of

town, according to Lagueux.

"The goal was at some future point in time, if we wanted to look back at what it was, any degradation in the quality of the Town's resources, we would have the data to do that," he said. "Across the board, with a few anomalies, the quality of the ground water and surface water was really high. The biggest culprit was arsenic in ground water."

The State level is 50 parts per billion (ppb) or higher, but they are in the process of reducing that to 10 ppb, according to Lagueux.

According to the Londonderry baseline study,

68 homes were found with naturally occurring arsenic levels above the recommended levels. A couple other homes were found to have MTBE, a gasoline additive resulting from poor on-site handling practices.

Lagueux said PFOA, which is a "contaminant of emerging concern," was not on anyone's radar at the time the baseline study was completed.

Council Chairman John Farrell said the purpose of speaking with Lagueux about updating the Town's baseline study was to plan for the item in the Town's FY2018 budget.

"A year from July, we will have the money for

that," he said. "We're trying to start talking about budget items now, while it's still early, so we can figure out what the cost of this program would be and what the program would look like."

The Council additionally considered the engineering costs of extending the sidewalk from Moose Hill School to Devonshire Road, connecting the Kings residential complex.

Farrell said the engineering work for the project was completed several years ago and the cost is estimated at \$180,000.

The Council directed the Town Manager to update them on what the plan for completing the

extension might look like going into the next budget process.

"What stopped us at the time was we underestimated the cost of a bridge over the brook that goes underneath Pillsbury Road. The cost to build a trail along the edge of the bridge was too high, and the way to deal with it at the time was to end at the apple orchard," Councilor Tom Dolan said. "It was always the intention to go all the way to Devonshire. I would support that."

In addition to planning for an update of the Town's baseline study and for the extension of the sidewalk to Devonshire Road, the Council asked for more

information about hiring additional Fire, Police and Public Works staff to address the Town's rapid residential, commercial and industrial growth.

"With development coming on, increased residential and Woodmont looking like it's finally getting off the ground, we need to start at least looking at incrementally increasing staff and include the department heads in the discussion," Farrell said. "What I really want out of this is to engage the community in what they want from this, rather than around the holidays when everyone is busy."

## Seat Opens on Budget Committee with Moskowitz Resignation

KAITLYN G. WOODS  
LONDONDERRY TIMES

Recently elected Budget Committee member Donald Moskowitz has resigned from his seat due to a lack of adequate time to dedicate to the Committee. He was elected at the March voting.

Chairman James Hooey said the Town Council may appoint someone to fill the open position until the next town election, in which a candidate would run for election to a two-year term.

During an organizational meeting on Thursday, April 28, the Commit-

tee voted to nominate Christine Patton to serve as secretary.

Additionally, the Committee appointed Tim Siekmann to serve as a member on the Master Plan Implementation Committee and Greg Warner to serve on the Capital Improvement Plan Committee.



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Wednesday, May 25<sup>th</sup> at 5:30PM

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## Editorial

### Room for Both

Big changes are going on at the Londonderry Town Forest, altering it from a forested retreat to a park-like area of trails that are an extension of the Town Common.

Much of that is due to the work of volunteer Kent Allen, who took it on himself to advocate for “cleaning up” the forest and making it more like a park. On the second try, voters this year agreed with Allen’s vision and changed oversight of the Town Forest from the Londonderry Conservation Commission to the Town Manager. Had it stayed with Conservation, it would have continued to be managed as a forest, woody debris and all.

Forests include both an understory and decaying trees and branches, the latter nourishing future growth. Much of that understory has been cleared since the March vote – both of invasive plants and natural debris.

Since the trail clearing, Allen said he has noticed more people walking their dogs in the Town Forest. He thinks it’s because of the target shooting at the Musquash Conservation Area, with dog walkers looking for a safer environment on the trails, and perhaps enjoying the chance to rest on one of the several benches he has built and installed along the way.

Conservation land, and forest land, are by their nature different from cleared and groomed paths through the trees. And they each

meet different recreation needs and interests.

But as Conservation Commissioners have noted, clearing out an area to the degree that has been done at the Town Forest causes small wildlife to move elsewhere – if that elsewhere still exists. Right now, it does. And the need remains for buffers along the pond to filter runoff as well.

The Town is considering putting in an ice skating rink by the Common. That, too, meets a different recreation niche than a forest would.

The changes Allen is creating are clearly attracting more public use, something the Town has sought to emphasize for its open space, but it should be kept in mind that not all open space is for recreation.

And not all recreation is for open space. People who put their own interests over the greater good, for example – by running OHRVs in the Musquash and target shooting across its trails – are misusing public land.

The more improvements made, the more likely public funding will be necessary, and Conservation funding can’t be used for areas Conservation does not manage. As long as voters understand that, there’s no problem. But just as there’s a need for accessible walking trails, there’s a need for places where the woods are preserved in their natural state. And both should have a place in town.

## Letters

### Europe Under Attack

To the editor:

Since World War II, Europe has welcomed tens of millions of Muslims from Africa and the Middle East, who replaced the murdered Jews of Europe.

Germany is leading the way, allowing 1 million Muslims to enter in 2015, and plans to bring in 1 million more in 2016. This will swell its Muslim population to 5 million. France has 6 million Muslims, the UK over 3 million, and Spain over 1 million.

The burgeoning Muslim populations in Europe live in urban depressed and lawless areas, which are spawning grounds for crime and terrorism. Germany recently experienced a night of terror when young Muslim men attacked German Christian women. Sweden has reported a sharp increase in rapes of Swedish Christian women by Muslim men. Great Britain, France and Belgium have suffered terrible Islamic terrorist attacks, killing and wounding many people, and the Muslim influx has

increased anti-Christian and anti-Jewish incidents.

Studies show many young Muslims believe suicide attacks are justified, including 42 percent in France, 35 percent in Britain, 29 percent in Spain and 22 percent in Germany. Surprisingly, the U.S. young Muslims are at 26 percent. As Muslim populations increase due to immigration and high birth rates, there will be increased attacks and calls for sharia law.

The United States should reflect on the European problems and Islamic attacks in Europe and this country, and rethink our immigration policies to help bolster our security by keeping out any people who might conduct Islamic terrorist attacks.

Donald Moskowitz  
Londonderry

### Curbside Collection

To the editor:

Many of our homeowners are very concerned about the new switch to larger curbside

containers and bi-weekly pickup beginning on July 1. And, also some confusion with retaining weekly “trash” pickup as referred to in the town’s Public Works Department newsletter.

Buttrick Village Condominium Association is an over 55 community located on Lincoln Drive with limited garage space and demographics of over 50 percent single women. Receptacles containing two-week’s garbage contents will no doubt be difficult if not impossible for certain homeowners to maneuver to the curbside for pick up.

I am also unsure if alternative sizes of containers are the appropriate solution.

Perhaps a better dialogue with the town is necessary. It seems perhaps “The Town” did not study all contingencies when developing the new policy.

Don Sprague,  
President  
Buttrick Village  
Condominium  
Association  
Londonderry

Londonderry Times welcomes letters of up to 500 words on topics of local interest, and prints as many letters as possible. Please e-mail your letters to the Londonderry Times at [londonderrytimes@nutpub.net](mailto:londonderrytimes@nutpub.net). All letters must include the writer’s name, address and phone number for verification if needed; name and town of residence will be printed. Londonderry Times reserves the right to reject or edit letters for content and length, and anonymous letters will not be printed.

## Local Fire Department Puts Together Duckling Rescue Kit

KAITLYN G. WOODS  
LONDONDERRY TIMES

After responding to numerous calls for ducklings trapped in storm drains, the Fire Department has put together a “duckling rescue kit.”

Battalion Chief Kevin Zins said the new system, which features a long pole with a basket on the end, “is working really well, so far.

“Generally, people call

us when they see the mother standing over the top of the drain,” he said. “We open up the top and scoop them out into a cardboard box, and then release them to her.”

Last week Fire crews responded to the area of Nashua Road in front of the Speedway Mobile at 7:45 a.m. for such a rescue.

Using the net, Probationary Firefighter/EMT Kyle Bigelow rescued

eight baby ducklings from a storm drain, according to Professional Firefighters of Londonderry Local 3160.

Bigelow has already participated in three separate duck rescues, lifting a total of 20 baby ducklings to safety.

Zins said crews have successfully reunited all the ducklings they have rescued with their mothers.

## Londonderry Times

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# Pastor Ken Glasier Named Old Home Day Parade Grand Marshal

KAITLYN G. WOODS  
LONDONDERRY TIMES

The Old Home Day Committee has named Pastor Ken Glasier of Orchard Christian Fellowship as Grand Marshal of the Londonderry Old Home Day Parade.

"I was completely surprised. I'm grateful for the recognition," Glasier said of the honor.

The position was created to honor a standout public servant in Londonderry, someone who has made a substantial contribution to the community through volunteerism.

Glasier, who has been pastor of the local church

for eight years, has frequently and quietly offered his services to the community.

"What we have experienced recently is as we don't offer as many welfare services through the Town, these things behind the scenes are 'miraculously happening,'" said Town Council Chairman John Farrell, noting in addition to helping families who are in need access services, Glasier is the Town's "go-to behind-the-scenes volunteer."

Police Sgt. Glenn Aprile said Glasier has served on the Department's response team as a counselor to fam-

ilies in time of crisis.

"We go to some horrific scenes," Aprile said. "Pastor Ken spends time with the family. He has been a tremendous asset to us."

Roger Fillio said Glasier has "been invaluable" to the Londonderry Historical Society, and Old Home Day Chairman Kathy Wagner said Glasier has served on the Old Home Day Committee and is "a fixture of Old Home Day."

In addition to Glasier's assistance with Old Home Day, Orchard Christian Fellowship has been a Platinum Sponsor of Old Home Day for years, according to Farrell.

As Grand Marshal, Glasier will lead the Old Home Day parade. This year's celebration is scheduled for Aug. 17-21.

When asked what he thinks the significance of Old Home Day is to Londonderry, Glasier said the event "brings the community together around all the things we love," including fun, food and family time.

"It's a chance to celebrate the long history behind us. We have a great future ahead, as well," he said.

For more information about Old Home Day, visit [www.OLDHOMEDAYS.COM](http://www.OLDHOMEDAYS.COM).



Pastor Ken Glasier of Orchard Christian Fellowship was named Grand Marshal of this year's Old Home Day Parade. Courtesy photo

## Conservation Grants Conditional Use Permit for Green Mountain Messenger

KAITLYN G. WOODS  
LONDONDERRY TIMES

The Conservation Commission has voted to recommend the Planning Board approve a Conditional Use Permit (CUP) to construct an access at Green Mountain Messenger's property on Harvey Road.

Proposed site improvements include the construction of 25 parking spaces, four box truck parking spaces and an access drive that provides a complete travel way around the existing 14,565-square-foot warehouse building.

The CUP permit is required because the access drive is to be constructed within the Conservation Overlay (CO) District.

At the Commission's previous meeting on April 12, members expressed concern with an area of approximately 1,000 square feet of impervious surface within the CO District that was grandfathered when the Town adopted the CO District.

Zoning Administrator Richard Canuel has deter-

mined the improvements existing at the time of the adoption of the CO District are exempt from the provisions of the ordinance, but the Commission maintains the grandfathered impervious surface in the CO District should be reconsidered if new improvements are proposed.

"I think for the future, maybe we need to go through this ordinance again," member Deb Lievens said.

Additionally, the Commission asked the applicant to revise the plan to relocate Conservation Overlay buffer placards adjacent to the parking lot and to amend the plan to incorporate plantings for New Eng-

land Cottontail.

George Fredette of SFC Engineering said at the Commission's April 26 meeting that the plan was revised to reflect relocation of the CO buffer placards adjacent to the parking lot, at the top of the slope of the proposed detention basin.

The applicant has also amended the plan to incorporate elderberry and high bush blueberry plantings for New England Cottontail on the rear slope of the detention basin, and updated the plan to reflect a drainage easement at the rear of the site, as well as the green space and building coverage percentages.

"I commend them for

putting in the plantings for the Cottontail," member Eugene Harrington said.

The Commission approved the CUP conditional

upon the applicant's moving proposed snow storage out of a wetland buffer on the property.

The Commission plans

to work with Canuel to clarify how existing pavement in the CO District will be treated as new improvements are proposed.

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# Two Bills in Concord Could Increase Veterans' Tax Credit

KATHLEEN D. BAILEY  
LONDONDERRY TIMES

Two bills currently in the New Hampshire House and Senate, respectively, may change the way towns apportion their Veterans Tax Credits, as well as the amount of credit for which veterans are eligible.

SB 348 if adopted would raise the amount of property tax credit for "certain disabled veterans" to a maximum of \$12,000. "Certain disabled veterans," according to the draft bill, are those totally and permanently disabled from a service-connected disability, as determined by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. Among the sponsors are Dist. 19 Sen. Regina Birdsell, R-Hampstead, who also represents Derry, and Dist. 14 Sen. Sharon Carson, R-Londonderry.

HB 430 contains several components, one of which is changing the eligibility for the Veterans Tax Credit to include "all veterans who have been discharged or all officers who have been honorably separated from service." The RSA, 72:32, currently covers anyone who has served not less than 90 days, their surviving spouses, and anyone who has had Title I training as a member of the National Guard or reserves. But the

current language states that it covers anyone who served "in any qualifying war or conflict." The amendment would allow veterans who served in peacetime to qualify for the Veterans Tax Credit.

The Senate bill has passed the Senate and is now in committee in the House of Representatives.

Birdsell, who is a Coast Guard veteran, said she is cosponsoring the bill because she trusts the bill's sponsor, Dist. 11 Sen. Gary Daniels, R-Milford, and backs almost everything he does.

Daniels' bill if approved would extend the amount of tax credit for which a disabled veteran can apply, assuming the bill is adopted by the legislature. The veteran must be totally and permanently disabled from a service-connected disability, and the bill states that the town can allow them to apply for "any amount up to \$12,000."

Regarding HB 430, Birdsell said, "Most people think you're disabled because you've lost an eye or a limb. But in this day and age, men and women are coming back from the Middle East with PTSD (post traumatic stress disorder) and other disorders not as readily visible."

"This bill is enabling in the sense that it broadens the definition," she said.

State Rep Al Baldasaro, R-Londonderry, said HB 430 also broadens the definition. While he saw combat as a Marine during Operation Desert Storm, he pointed out that those who didn't see combat supported those who did. "Those guys in the rear," he said, "support those in the front."

Baldasaro explained that HB 430 would take care of a so-called "doughnut hole" in which post-Vietnam and pre-Gulf veterans don't get the tax credit.

In regard to SB 348, Derry Town Councilor Richard Tripp, a Vietnam combat veteran and member of the local Veterans of Foreign Wars post, said, "That's a lot of money. And who pays for it? Therein lies the problem."

Derry's Town Council voted to raise the Veterans Tax Credit three years ago. In May 2014, the then-Council voted 5-1 to phase in the increase, with \$50 in 2015 and an expectation of reaching the \$500 allowable by state law in four years. The tax credit had remained at \$300 since 2009.

A fully disabled veteran may already apply for up to \$2,000 off their taxes, Tripp pointed out. And in addition to Derry's current veterans tax credit, that would bring the amount disabled veterans got

credited for up to \$2,400. That's \$2,400 that the non-disabled taxpayers have to make up, he said.

The bill's saving grace is that if it passes, the towns still have to individually adopt it. And, Tripp said, "While Derry's tax rate is high, there are few private property owners that pay more than \$10,000."

"I don't understand the push behind giving up to \$12,000 more," Tripp said.

The town is at \$400 now and he expected the next \$50 increment to be voted on before the end of the fiscal year.

Tripp said disabled veterans already receive up to \$40,000 a year from "Uncle Sam," in addition to free car registration and other town and state services. "I believe we have to take care of our vets," he said. "But I also believe there's a limit to how much."

HB 430 presents a different problem for Tripp. "The way the law currently interprets the tax credit is that you had to have served during a war or a conflict - World War II, Korea, Vietnam, Afghanistan, the Gulf." After 1975 the rules were tightened, he said, and veterans had to have served in a war or conflict and have seen combat.

"This law removes that regulation," he said. "It

allows anyone who has served at any time, which opens it up to a lot of people."

While conventional wisdom has it that those joining the military put themselves at risk, Tripp said that's not always the case. "Believe it or not, most people who go in the military never 'go' anywhere," he observed, citing an acquaintance who joined the Air Force. The base he served at, for his entire military service, was four miles from home, Tripp said.

Another acquaintance bragged of serving on the USS Ticonderoga, but his job was recovering Apollo and Mercury space capsules.

"If the state changes the rules on qualifications, the local residents will have to make up the difference," Tripp said.

In Derry, 917 veterans get the standard tax credit of \$400, totaling \$366,800. Of those, 56 also get the disabled tax credit of \$2,000, for a total of \$112,000. The total amount of tax credit, and the amount other taxpayers have to make up, is \$478,000.

Londonderry allows veterans the full \$500 tax credit along with the \$2,000 offered to those who are permanently and totally disabled. Deputy Assessor Rick Brideau

said that 843 veterans receive the \$500 tax credit. Two surviving spouses of disabled veterans receive the \$2,000 tax credit along with 21 living disabled veterans, for a total of \$467,500.

But Birdsell and Baldasaro said it isn't likely to come to that. Birdsell pointed out that both bills are contingent on being adopted by the state, and then it's up to the municipality to adopt them. Or not.

And, she said, the veteran in question has to be 100 percent disabled. "That means they cannot work," she emphasized.

The \$12,000 was initially a concern for Birdsell and other Senators, but, she pointed out that only a miniscule number of veterans both meet the criteria for being 100 percent disabled - and own property that is taxed that highly.

The \$12,000 is not an issue for Baldasaro, who agreed that "there aren't that many veterans who are 100 percent disabled, there aren't that many that will take the tax credit, and there aren't that many that own property taxed at \$12,000."

But to avoid the appearance of conflict of interest, Birdsell did not vote on SB 348, and Baldasaro said he will not vote on it when it comes to a House vote.

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# Londonderry Photographer is Leach Library's May Artist

KAITLYN G. WOODS  
LONDONDERRY TIMES

Londonderry artist Rick Branscomb discovered his passion for photography by chance, after retiring from a lengthy career as a writing teacher.

"It's really a different kind of creativity," he said of photography, which he decided to study when he couldn't find a local class on videography. "If I hadn't discovered photography, I probably wouldn't have retired because teaching and education was my whole adult life. It allowed me to jump into a new realm and new intellectual and artistic challenges. It was like starting all over again."

Branscomb's captivating urban cityscapes, which he enjoys photographing at night, are featured in an exhibit at the Leach Library this month.

Of photographing cities like Boston, Nashua and Manchester at night,

Branscomb said he likes the contrast of the city lights against the dark night sky.

"I like the way the colors really pop out at you. If you take photos in the daytime, you have to underexpose them to get good color and they're not as interesting. At night, the lights really pop out and there are all kinds of reflections off the sidewalks and buildings. My favorite thing to do is take photographs after a rain storm."

Branscomb first learned to take photos in a class through the New Hampshire community college system after he retired from Salem State University in Massachusetts two years ago.

"I just fell in love with photography," he said, noting his teacher had worked with the renowned photographer Ansel Adams.

In addition to the photography class, Brans-

comb continues to participate in photography workshops to develop his craft, and reads books about photography.

"I'm mostly self-taught," he said. "With photography, there's no motion or sound. It's just straight visual, which is hard because as a writing teacher, I wasn't all that visual. I have had to train myself to respond to the visual impact of things."

And while he acknowledges everyone enjoys their own personal experience when observing a photograph, he said he is not trying to share a story or message through his work.

"If we're talking about verbalizing what a work of art means, I reject that," he said. "I really think a picture or photo or painting should stand alone and have an impact, or show you something you hadn't seen before, or in a different way."

In addition to his cityscapes, Branscomb

said he enjoys photographing landscapes with a traditional approach, including seascapes on Cape Cod.

His metric for a successful photograph - the "gasp principle."

"I like to hear people gasp when they see my photo," he said. "I like to watch them walk by my pictures in a gallery, and sometimes a picture comes up and everyone almost silently gasps."

In the future, Branscomb is interested in trying astrophotography, where a photo features an interesting, well lit subject in the foreground and the night sky in the background.

"I have been seeing some really interesting photographs out there and it goes along with my interest in night photography," he said.

Branscomb's photographs were installed at the Leach Library this week and his exhibit will



Londonderry photographer Rick Branscomb is the Leach Library's featured artist through the month of May. Courtesy photo

remain on display through the month of May.

Branscomb's photographs have also been featured in shows at the public library in Hudson, the Derry Public Library, the

Dark Room Gallery in Vermont and through the Cape Cod Art Association.

For more information about Branscomb and his photography, visit [ebranscomb.com](http://ebranscomb.com).

## Dogs

Continued from page 1

by a leash, and other town properties where dogs are prohibited.

In addition to addressing management of dogs in public spaces, the Council increased the fine the Town may levy for dogs that are impounded from \$10 to up to \$30, and added a provision requiring dog owners to pay any veterinary care expenses incurred while a dog is in the Town's care.

Councilor Tom Dolan

suggested the increase, noting in an event where the Town is required to send a dog to a local commercial kennel, they should have the ability to protect the Town's costs.

Councilor Joe Green requested the amendment be revised to raise the penalty for habitual offenders of the Ordinance from a \$25 fine to a misdemeanor offense. But Police Chief Bill Hart said, "In the most strong language, I advise against turning people whose dogs run at large into

criminals.

"A person guilty of a misdemeanor is a criminal. These folks shouldn't be them," he said. "However, I would agree on a fine up to \$1,000. I have seen a certain number of times where the prosecutor had the ability to raise the fines up to \$2,000."

Hart recommended a better way "to deal with the legitimate concerns the Council has" would be to keep the fines for violating the Ordinance in line with those of the State.

With the amended ordinance in place, Hart said the Department will focus on educating the public about the new regulations.

Signs will be posted around town in places where dogs are restricted and the Town plans to post the amended Ordinance on the Town's website at [www.londonderry-nh.org](http://www.londonderry-nh.org).

Hart encouraged members of the public who experience issues with an irresponsible dog owner to contact police.

"We're all in on this thing," Hart said. "We'll do everything we can to

ensure compliance with this."

"Community policing is all about presence, it's about showing up," Farrell said. "And once we start showing up, I think this will be effective because no one wants to see the guys with the blue lights showing up."

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# Head Shaving Event to Benefit Local Firefighter's Cancer Fight

KAITLYN G. WOODS  
LONDONDERRY TIMES

The Londonderry Fire Department has organized a "head shaving event" to raise money for Firefighter Zach O'Brien, who was recently diagnosed with Hodgkin's Lymphoma.

The Department has also started selling T-shirts to show their support for O'Brien, whose father is Fire Chief Darren O'Brien, and to raise

money to help him with the costs of treatment.

O'Brien was diagnosed in February at the age of 22.

The head shaving to raise funds for O'Brien is to be held on Monday, May 16 at 280 Mammoth Road at noon.

A hairstylist has volunteered to shave participants' heads for \$10, with all the money raised to help pay for O'Brien's treatment.

The Department also plans to "auction heads" to be shaved, with a list of dignitaries who will part with their locks to support O'Brien.

"We will also gladly take funds for people that you

don't want to have shaved," Battalion Chief Mike McQuillen said in an email announcing the event.

If the Department raises \$5,000, Town Manager Kevin Smith has volunteered to shave his head

in support of O'Brien.

Those who wish to participate in the shaving event may email Mike McQuillen at mmcquillen@londonderrynh.org. Those who wish to purchase a T-shirt to show

support for O'Brien should contact Chris Schofield at ChristopherASchofield@gmail.com.

The T-shirts are also available at [www.squareup.com/store/nutfieldfire](http://www.squareup.com/store/nutfieldfire).

## MEMORIAL SERVICE

### Hank Peterson

Henry "Hank" A. Peterson of Londonderry died Dec. 23, 2015.

Memorial services will be held Saturday, May 14 at 11 a.m. in Orchard Christian Church, Pillsbury Road, Londonderry. A reception will follow in the Londonderry Grange Hall. Those attending are welcome to bring a dish to share. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to New Hampshire Agriculture in the Classroom, c/o Debbie Cox, 295 Sheep Davis Road, Concord, NH 03301. The Peabody Funeral Homes and Crematorium, Derry and Londonderry is assisting the family with the arrangements. To send a condolence or for more information, visit [www.peabodyfuneralhome.com](http://www.peabodyfuneralhome.com).

He was born on June 15, 1932 in Hurley, Wis., son of John "JB" Peterson and Gertrud (Matila) Peterson.

He is survived by his wife, Anne, and son, Wayne; brother John G. Peterson of Ironwood, Mich.; a sister, Helen Peterson of Ironwood, Mich.; stepbrother Dennis Nolan of Duluth, Minn.; a step-sister, Jean Martin of Duluth, Minn.; nephews Todd Peterson of Denver, Colo., Scott Peterson of Hurley, Wis., Clint Peterson of Vail, Colo., and Nicholas Peterson of Grand Lake, Colo.; and nieces Nan Peterson of Madison, Wis. and Chris Peterson of Madison, Wis. He was preceded in death by his brother Richard Peterson of Vail, Colo., and stepbrother Jack Nolan of Ironwood, Mich.

## Forest

Continued from page 1

debris and pulling out invasive plant species, leaving small understory plants to continue regenerating the forest. He has also built and installed several benches along the trails, including benches at the Orchard Overlook, which offer visitors a place to rest and enjoy a scenic view of Adams Pond.

The area he plans to clear next spans from the edge of the Town Common along Mammoth Road, about halfway back into the Town Forest toward Glenwood Cemetery.

Allen said he is motivated to push forward with

his work in the Common when he sees the area he has finished clearing.

"The reward is seeing the people out here," he said.

Town Manager Kevin Smith, who assumed responsibility for management of the Forest when voters approved a warrant article transferring responsibility from the Conservation Commission, said management of the forest has had no cost impact to the Town, so far.

Crews from the Department of Public Works have been slowly removing Allen's debris piles as time permits.

"Going forward, we will have to determine if

there are cost items for maintaining the Town Forest and how to pay for them," Smith said. "Kent has been unbelievable. He's an amazing volunteer and he has done a wonderful job."

Members of the Conservation Commission have said they are not opposed to the Town Common's being used as a recreational area, as long as the property is under management of the Town Manager; but Chairman Marge Badois said there are concerns with removing large amounts of debris from the floor of the Town Forest.

And while the "frog pond" near the bandstand is not a vernal pool, Badois said "it is a sensitive area."

"They should leave a buffer along the edge of the pond because it serves as a natural filtering system for runoff and it gives wildlife that live in the pond shelter from predators," she said.

Of the substantial clean-up of the forest floor, Badois said, "yes, small animals will have to move."

"Snakes and salamanders, people forget about the small animals and critters. Everyone thinks of deer, but most animals are too small to really notice," she said. "Those

animals will suffer. They will need to move or perish. Fortunately, the pace they're clearing at gives the animals time to migrate. If they make it across the apple orchard towards Adams Pond, that could be a good thing."

As long as Allen continues to take the lead on maintenance of the Town Forest, Smith said he will support his efforts.

"It will evolve over time," he said, noting Allen's work has significantly increased accessibility to the Town Forest for all residents. "This fall I'd like to see if we can put in an ice skating rink just behind the rock wall. It's not very costly and it's something people have been saying they want."

According to Smith, additional volunteers in town have said they would help with installing the skating rink, and the Town may be able to find funds in the Recreation budget to subsidize the project.

Compared with the Master Plan's vision for a more urbanized Town Common, Smith said he thinks the improvements Allen has made in the Town Forest are more in line with the traditional look and feel residents have said they would like the property to have.



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# Fire Crews Call in Help to Fight Saturday Brushfire

KAITLYN G. WOODS  
LONDONDERRY TIMES

Londonderry firefighters responded last weekend to another substantial brush fire on Kitty Hawk Landing, which took crews more than two hours to completely extinguish.

Fire Battalion Chief Jim Roger said although crews were able to quickly knock out the fire, which was contained to an approximately 200-foot

by 200-foot area, they had to spend a significant amount of time soaking the ground to prevent materials from rekindling.

"Unfortunately, those types of fires are labor intensive. We want to make sure we get it right the first time," he said. "That's why we use Class A foam, because it helps the water to do a better job. That ensures we won't have to go back later on for a rekindle."

The brush fire was reported at 6 Kitty Hawk Landing on Saturday, April 30 at 1:10 p.m.

Litchfield provided mutual aid on the scene, sending a tanker and Litchfield Forestry.

Crews accessed the brush fire using a road at the top of a rocky ledge on the far end of the property, according to the Professional Firefighters of Londonderry, Local 3160.

With the fire progress-

ing rapidly and the Department short-staffed, Londonderry requested additional engine companies from Derry and Auburn, as well as a Derry medic for standby, Local 3160 wrote on Facebook.

Hudson and Bedford provided station coverage while Londonderry was working at the scene.

Fire crews also responded earlier that day to a small brush fire at 23 Priscilla Lane.

Roger said the brush fire was sparked by discarded ashes from a chimney fire at the home the night before.

"They thought the ashes had totally cooled and they put them by a wooded area," he said. "They burned underneath. By luck, the homeowner looked out the window and saw the smoke. They called right away and we were able to keep that fire small."

Rainfall on Sunday helped quench what has been a dry spring.

"The good news is the rain we're getting now will green everything up," Roger said. "Usually, brush fire season in New England is pretty short."

Roger said the lack of snow cover and rainfall have contributed to the high number of brushfires in town and throughout the state this spring.

## Council Suggests Development Agreements Over School Impact Fees

KAITLYN G. WOODS  
LONDONDERRY TIMES

In response to the School Board's request for information about re-instating School impact fees, Town Council Chairman John Farrell said the process to establish the program would be lengthy.

"In order to reinstate impact fees after the disassembling of it and setting up of legal agreements, we're looking at 12 to 18 months to resurvey and

rework the entire impact fee analysis and pass proper resolutions to put all that back in effect," he said.

According to Farrell, the Town has had greater success mitigating future impacts to the Town from commercial and residential development through development agreements.

He said the Council would be happy to work with the Board to demonstrate how development

agreements would prove more effective in accomplishing its objectives rather than reinstating School impact fees.

"Impact fees may be one solution, and development agreements may be another solution," Councilor Tom Dolan said. "If the problem is framed correctly, we can put a myriad of solutions forward to solve the problem, where impact fees may be one of the solutions, not the only

solution."

In other business at Monday night's Council meeting:

- The Council adopted an energy systems exemption for solar and wind-power installations in Lon-

donderry.

Town Manager Kevin Smith said the amendment would allow the Town to provide residents with a tax exemption for the entire value of a solar panel installation.

- The Council approved the expenditure of \$6,815 from the Expendable Maintenance Trust Fund for plumbing repairs at North Fire Station and repairs to a boiler at the Police Station.

## Musquash

Continued from page 1

tion areas creates sediment, according to Speltz. "When it rains, the sediment moves and it creates rutting and erosion," he said.

"Once a channel forms, water can move the whole subsoil away. So not only do the plants under the tires suffer, but plants on either side of the tracks suffer because water rushes by them instead of soaking into the soil," he

said.

While OHRV use is restricted in all the Town's conservation areas, snowmobiling is permitted because the tracks pack down snow, rather than digging into soil.

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# Local Children Flock To Fish and Game Club for Annual Derby



The Londonderry Fish and Game Club invited area children for their annual Kids Fishing Derby on Sunday morning, with the opportunity to win prizes by catching fish in the freshly stocked pond. Pictured from left to right, Jack and Eric Collins display their 14 inch catch; Larissa Dillon casts off; Brodie and Daylan Henry show off their first catch of the day; and Jasmyn Weber waits patiently for her first catch.

Photos by Chris Paul

# Scout Replaces Handrails at Grange Hall for Eagle Project

KAITLYN G. WOODS  
LONDONDERRY TIMES

**A** Londonderry Boy Scout dedicated his April vacation to building new handrails at the Grange Hall, a substantial community service project he has completed to earn the rank of Eagle Scout.

Noah Carey, a junior at Londonderry High School, said the previous handrails at the Grange were deteriorating and are no longer up to code.

"It's such a great opportunity for the boys to give back," said Scoutmaster Bill Perry, who serves as building manag-

er to the Grange. "Their projects are not just for the community and the Town, but also for the heritage of the Grange."

Before moving forward with his project, Noah presented plans for the new handrails to the Londonderry Historical Society and the Grange Hall.

"After showing them the basic ideas, my dad and I worked on a plan," he said.

Noah's dad, Glenn, helped out with construction.

Noah held two bake sales, one at Mack's Apples on Halloween and another at the Grange Hall during Old Home

Day, to raise money for his Eagle project.

Cyr Lumber and Home Center gave Noah a discount on the materials he needed, which cost about \$700.

Any remaining funds are to be donated to the Grange Hall.

In addition to completing several significant renovation projects at the Grange, including to the bathrooms, plumbing, kitchen and office space, the Boy Scouts spend hours each year cleaning up the grounds, raking leaves and completing other maintenance work in the fall and spring.

With a new kitchen, working bathrooms and a

space that can accommodate 75 people, the Grange started renting its hall for a maximum donation of \$100.

Perry said the money generated from rentals is used "to keep the building alive and active."

The Hall would be best for small events, such as baby showers, bridal showers, birthday parties, retirement parties and small concerts, he said.

Anyone who is interested in taking a tour of the Grange Hall may contact Bill Perry at 425-9889, or email Cherylann Pierce at cherylannbp56@gmail.com for a rental agreement.



Noah Carey and his dad, Glenn, worked much of vacation week rebuilding the railing at the Grange Hall in the center of town. Photo by Chris Paul

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# LONDONDERRY SPORTS

## Londonderry High Baseball Stumbles in Two States

CHRIS PANTAZIS  
LONDONDERRY TIMES

The New Hampshire high school Division I baseball standings are tight, and there's no reason to think that they'll be loosening up anytime soon.

So the fact that the Londonderry High baseball squad stepped into this week having lost three consecutive games - two of the D-I variety and then a contest against a Massachusetts opponent - wasn't the best news for longtime Lancer hardball coach Brent Demas and his boys.

The Lancers lost a 7-4 decision to a Merrimack High Tomahawks' troop in Londonderry on Friday, April 29, and then got

bested by the slimmest of margins by the host Andover (Mass.) High School nine just across the Granite State border the next day.

The 6-3 Londonderry crew headed into the Merrimack contest facing an opponent that had lost three of its previous four battles, including its last two in which it was outscored by the combined margin of 18-5.

But the Tomahawks had their offense going well enough to plate seven runs and their defense and pitching were solid enough to hold the locals to just four runs of their own. As a result of the outcome, the Tomahawks became 6-3 in the division.

The Saturday trip to Andover sent the Lancers into a game that didn't start particularly well against an opponent seeking its third win in a row.

Andover plated four runs in the first inning and later added another and managed to hold off Londonderry's valiant comeback effort in snagging a 5-4 victory.

The Lancers bashed out a dozen hits while holding their hosts to one less than that, with Ricky Perry smacking three hits for the locals and Cam Fennell, Jonny Meskeil, and Tim McEachern each tallying two.

The local team then took aim at busting its modest losing skid this past Monday night, May 2,



Young Lancer Ricky Perry ranges from second base to make an acrobatic defensive stop during his squad's game vs. Merrimack. Photo by Chris Paul

on the road at a Nashua High South squad that held a sub-.500 record at 3-5 but was 2-1 in its previous three games. But

Mother Nature wouldn't have it, and that contest was rained out and rescheduled for May 11. That left the locals look-

ing forward to a Wednesday, May 5 game at Salem, after Londonderry Times press time.



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# Lady Lancers' Lacrosse Team Jumps Back Onto the Winning Path

CHRIS PANTAZIS  
LONDONDERRY TIMES

In the wake of recent losses to both the Bishop Guertin Lady Cardi-

nals and the rival Pinkerton Academy Lady Astros, the Londonderry High girls' lacrosse squad needed to right itself and

return to the winning path in an effort to maintain pace in extremely tough Division I last week.

And the Lady Lancers' 19-1 walloping of a Nashua South Lady Panthers' team in the Gate City on Friday, April 29 was a dose of the kind of medicine veteran coach Bob Slater's bunch needed. The win made the LHS crew 4-2 in D-I and pointed it toward this Monday's rescheduled match

with Manchester Central with a distinct head of steam.

In the slamming of South - which had defeated Dover in its previous match - the Lady Lancers received four goals apiece from Breda Holland and June Cranmer, three each from Gabby Morris and Dominique Breault, two from Emily Holland, and one apiece from Erika Tsetsilas, Kirsten Hoglund, and Camille Lamont.

Two assists each were notched by Hoglund, Emily Holland, and Camille Lamont, and Emily Davison, Sarah Duarte, and Caty Derhak each doled out one helper.

"The team is surely working extremely hard this season," said Slater.

"We still have not peaked at this time, but I believe we are close, as it showed in the Pinkerton game. This year's team is very driven and has

shown they can play with anyone in our division. And I believe with their work ethic and dedication they can be one of the top four teams. I am excited to see how these ladies continue their journey to our ultimate goal of the final four. And then anything can happen."

Slater's squad then had its Monday, May 2 match with 1-3 Manchester Central postponed by inclement weather.



Battle-tested veteran Breda Holland has been a solid force, as expected, for the LHS girls' lacrosse squad this spring. Photo by Chris Paul

## Lancer Spikers Get Warm, Move to 4-2

CHRIS PANTAZIS  
LONDONDERRY TIMES

Coming into the season, two of the hallmarks of the Londonderry High boys' volleyball squad were expected to be youth and inexperience.

But as things have been working out for coach John Vaughn and

his Lancers, dealing with a clean slate and working right from the ground up are giving significant reasons for excitement in the LHS camp.

The LHS guys bumped their season record up to 4-2 with their fourth win in their previous five matches, besting the visiting Keene High Blackbirds by a 3-1 tally at home on Wednesday, April 27.

The Lancer spikers won games one and two by tallies of 25-18 and 25-19, saw Keene come flying back to life in winning game three by a lopsided 25-9 score, and then put the match to bed by winning game four by a 25-19 score.

"We keep winning

through hustle, determination, and a won't-lose attitude," said Vaughn. "It's a lot of fun coaching these kids."

The victors received 21 assists from Mike Vivian, 15 kills and five digs from Nick Anderson, 11 kills and seven digs from Riley Treanor, 12 digs from Ryan Crowley, and seven digs from Danny Bears.

The team stepped into this week knowing it would have its hands quite full on Monday, May 2, when it played host to the undefeated defending state championss from Timberlane Regional High of Plaistow.

And the Timberlane troop bounced its season

record up to 7-0 with a 3-0 blanking of the Lancers, although the locals made things tougher on the champs with each passing game.

The Owls won game one by a 25-14 score and the second by a 25-18 tally.

But Timberlane needed to go right to the wall to collect a match-ending 25-23 victory in game three.

The Lancers received 13 assists and three service aces from Vivian, 10 kills and three digs from Anderson, 11 digs and four kills from Crowley, six digs from Tarik Dalahi, and a total of five kills and four digs from Treanor.

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# Lady Lancers Bounce Back From Seacoast Defeat with a Vengeance

CHRIS PANTAZIS  
LONDONDERRY TIMES

One of the most desirable qualities for a sports team to have is resilience. And the talented and determined Londonderry High softball squad recently showed longtime coach Wayne MacDougall that it certainly has resilience among its many desirable qualities.

After suffering a tough 4-3 loss to the Exeter High Lady Blue Hawks - which ended a six-game winning

streak - on the seacoast on Monday, April 25, MacDougall's mob rebounded nicely for a resounding victory over the Merrimack High Lady Tomahawks late last week and stepped into this week looking to drive its Division I record still further beyond an impressive 7-2.

In the 13-8 besting of Merrimack on the road last Friday, April 29, the Lady Lancers reacted to an early 2-0 deficit by plating three runs in the third, fifth, and sixth innings,

and then a decisive four in the top half of the seventh frame in tallying their lucky 13 markers.

The 2-7 Lady Tomahawks showed plenty of fight, but ultimately didn't have quite enough pop in their offense to walk away from their home field victorious. It was the Merrimack crew's third straight

loss and the sixth in its last seven contests.

The hosts bagged a 2-0 lead in the latter half of the second inning, but Londonderry put its first three-spot on the scoreboard in the top of the third to take a 3-2 lead.

The Lady Lancers' advantage became 6-2

with the three-run fifth frame, but the hosts responded to that offensive outburst by tallying four runs in the bottom of the inning to make the score 6-6.

However, MacDougall's mob scored three more times in the top of the sixth and four times in the top of the seventh to make it a 13-6 match, and a full Merrimack comeback suddenly became far less than likely.

Londonderry bashed out 13 hits in scoring its 13 runs, with multiple hits (two apiece) being smacked by Anna Mag-

gio, Sarah Fawcett, Ilana Brown, Elizabeth DeVoss, and Rachel Simkevich.

Brown, who was also the winning pitcher, drove in three runs, Maggio smacked in a pair, and Fawcett, DeVoss, and Simkevich each tallied one run batted in.

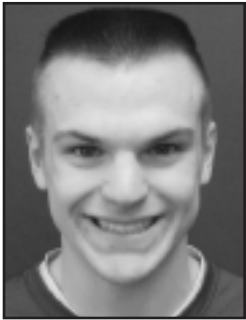
And after placing itself back on the winning path in the wake of the earlier Exeter loss, the Lady Lancers bounded into this week looking at facing a Monday afternoon game against a winless Nashua South team at LHS. But Mother Nature said no, and the game was rained out.



Cassidy Raza and her LHS softball teammates had the ball all lined up against Merrimack recently.

## Athletes of the Week

For the Week of April 25



Ryan Crowley, Senior, Boys' Volleyball

This talented 12th grader is the Lancers' libero, and he is averaging 12 digs per match and is a co-captain. He is also serving at a great 90 percent success rate.



Gabby Morris, Senior, Girls' Lacrosse

This battle-tested veteran is a force for her Lady Lancers on draw controls, and she is also the squad's leading goal-scorer to this point in her contingent's successful 2016 season.

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# Lancer Laxmen Scuffle Against the Top Division I Contingents

CHRIS PANTAZIS  
LONDONDERRY TIMES

An old sports adage states that "If you want to be the best you need to play - and beat - the best."

Well, the Londonderry High School boys' lacrosse team has gotten the chance to test its mettle against the metal of Division I recently, and second-year coach Sean LeBlanc has seen his 2016 Lancer crew struggle against the likes of the Bishop Guertin Cardinals, Pinkerton Astros, and Exeter Blue Hawks over the last several weeks.

The LHS crew's losses to Exeter and then Pinkerton last week were the locals' third and fourth defeats in a row, and they deepened the Lancers'

season record below the .500 mark to 2-5.

In the 12-9 loss to Exeter on the seacoast Tuesday, April 26, a good Londonderry first-half effort was followed by a strong Exeter second half as the Blue Hawks claimed their fourth consecutive win. They moved to 7-2 in tough D-I.

The Lancers led by a 5-3 score at halftime, but the Blue Hawks came busting out of the break to score the first five goals of the third quarter and six of the seven netted in that stanza.

LeBlanc's legion showed its toughness and skill in the waning seconds of the game, trailing 12-7 in the final minute but scoring twice in the last 20 seconds.

But the Londonderry bunch had far less success against the arch-rival and defending Division I champion Pinkerton Astros in Derry Saturday, April 30.

The Lancers, who lost a 16-3 decision to the undefeated state champs exactly a week earlier at LHS, were drubbed by a 17-2 count in the more recent battle.

Pinkerton bumped its 2016 record up to a perfect 9-0 by building up leads of 5-0 after one quarter, 12-0 at halftime, and 16-0 after three periods had been completed.

The two Londonderry goals were potted by Sean Snyder and Casey Park, with Dave Wiedenfeld notching one assist. LHS goalie Alex Fawcett work-

ed hard to keep the ball from getting behind him, and as a result he finished the tough match with 18 saves. Pinkerton had two keepers combine for nine stops.

The Lancers then aimed to right their course this past Monday, May 2, when they traveled to Amherst to take on a Souhegan Sabers' squad which began the week with a 7-2 record and five straight divisional wins.

And Londonderry bagged the victory, snaring a 9-7 decision against its tough host to harness some important positive reinforcement for its hard work and pick up momentum.

The Lancers will host Merrimack on May 5, and will face Souhegan for the second time on May 7.



Sean Snyder and the LHS boys' lax squad snagged a big win over Souhegan early this week.

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COPD is usually caused by smoking. Over time, breathing tobacco smoke irritates the airways and destroys the stretchy fibers in the lungs. Other things that may put you at risk include breathing chemical fumes, dust, or air pollution over a long period. Secondhand smoke is also bad. It usually takes many years for the lung damage to start causing symptoms, so COPD is most common in people who are older than 60. You may be more likely to get COPD if you had many serious lung infections when you were a child. People who get emphysema in their 30s or 40s may have a disorder that runs in families, called alpha-1 antitrypsin deficiency. However, this is rare.

The main symptoms are a long-lasting (chronic) cough, mucus that comes up when you cough shortness of breath that gets worse when you exercise. As COPD gets worse, you may be short of breath even when you do simple things like get dressed or fix a meal. It gets harder to eat or exercise, and breathing takes much more energy. People often lose weight and get weaker. At times, your symptoms may suddenly flare up and get much worse. This is called a COPD exacerbation. An exacerbation can range from mild to life threatening. The longer you have COPD, the more severe these flare-ups will be.

The only way to slow COPD is to quit smoking. This is the most important thing you can do. It is never too late to quit. No matter how long you have smoked or how

serious your COPD is, quitting smoking can help stop the damage to your lungs. If there is a chance you could have COPD, it is very important to find out as soon as you can. This gives you time to take steps to slow the damage to your lungs. Your doctor can prescribe treatments that may help you manage your symptoms and feel better.

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# Sonshine Soup Kitchen Buys 6 Crystal Ave., for its New Home

PENNY WILLIAMS  
LONDONDERRY TIMES

Phase Two has been a long time coming but is now on the drawing board for the Sonshine Soup Kitchen, which announced earlier this month that it has purchased a new home for its services in downtown Derry - right next door to its current location.

Sonshine is now the owner of 6 Crystal Ave., the former home of Fred Fuller Oil.

Sonshine Executive Director Cynthia Dwyer said, "As we undergo renovations and fitting up our new home, we're thrilled our entire operation, from offices, storage

and more to the kitchen and dining room, will finally be under one roof."

Board Chairwoman Linda German added, "This entire three-year search has been a marvelous team effort. Board members past and present, staff, volunteers, and our great friends at the Town of Derry have made this dream come true. Best of all we've been guided on this amazing roller coaster ride by commercial real estate broker Ralph Valentine. For us, every day has been Valentine's Day!"

At the annual meeting of the Sonshine Soup Kitchen, Dwyer said, "With the encouragement of the Town and with our

own unflagging determination, we searched for a long, long time. Stubbornness has paid off - at last. Now that we have a 'bricks and mortar' reality in sight, we'll be launching Phase II of Build to Feed, our fund-raising campaign."

In 2013 the organization raised \$50,000 in 50 days to match a challenge grant for Phase I, she said, adding, "We fully expect wonderful support from all sectors of the Greater Derry community and beyond: individuals, civic groups, religious institutions, businesses, foundations and more. To help us reach our goal, we are expanding our Board (with) five new mem-

bers."

The kickoff for meeting the challenge grant was spearheaded by volunteers Jean Roalsvig of Derry and Joanne Packard and Jean Manley of Londonderry, and took place in the First Baptist Church lower level at 6:30 p.m. Feb. 7. They had 185 donors and reached their financial goal, and had on hand, according to figures discussed at the annual meeting, \$215,340.

At the annual meeting it was announced that Brenda Bach, Bill Carlisle and Janice Mobsby were retiring as members of the board of directors. Unanimously voted in as returning board members were Cyndy Cleary and

Margie Ives, both of Derry.

New members to the expanded board with a view to dealing with Phase II are Londonderry residents Diane Swinarski for a two-year term, Jean Manley for a two-year term and Dennis Braje for a three-year term; and Marilyn Olbricht of Derry for a three-year term.

The start of Build to Feed Phase II will require increased fundraising. Dwyer pointed out that over the course of the prior 26 years, the Sonshine Soup Kitchen has served 287,395 dinners to anyone in need in the Greater Derry area. While numbers have dropped slightly in the last year,

with many seeking assistance in other towns with more resources, others who have died or been incarcerated, the need for Sonshine Soup Kitchen's services remains constant in service to single parent families, veterans, minimum wage workers, the elderly, homeless teens and adults.

Those served by the kitchen range in age from 6 to 91.

The 6 Crystal Ave., building will allow Sonshine to have everything under one roof - kitchen, dining room, ample food storage, offices, free clothing cupboard and handicapped accessible bathrooms.

## Recess Academy Unites Young and Old Students

Matthew Thornton Elementary School students had a chance to play with older students recently during the second annual Recess Academy. Londonderry High School athletes, Pay It Forward Club members and National Honor Society members were invited to spend time with the elementary students to establish recess rules and fair play when it comes to playing sports and other active games.

*Photos by Chris Paul*



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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 \$40.00/week per paper. All Around Town/Calendar Items will be held to 100 words maximum; anything over will incur a charge of \$40.00/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).

## Art in Action

Art in Action returns from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. May 14 and 15 at Mack's Apples, 230 Mammoth Road. The show includes participants working in pottery, metal-smithing in gold and silver jewelry, collage on glass, woodworking, oils, pastels, acrylic, watercolor, colored pencil and pen and ink. Two

student artists will demonstrate their work, and Londonderry High School students will perform as "Living Statues." The event is free. Local artists are: Ingeborg Seaboyer and Wendy Wetherbee of Derry, and Tom Abruzzese, Debbie Curtin, Susan Hanna, Barbara Scott and Mike Wallace of Londonderry.

## Blood Drive

The Knights of Columbus Saint John Newman Council 6949 of Saint Jude Parish sponsor their annual Spring American Red Cross Blood Drive on Friday, May 20 from 1 to 7 p.m. at Saint Jude Parish Hall, 435 Mammoth Road. As always, home-baked goodies and perhaps chili from Chef Jim will be served. Make an appointment at: [www.redcrossblood.org](http://www.redcrossblood.org) or call 1-800-RED-CROSS. The Rapid-Pass system allows donors to log on to the Red Cross website and complete the health survey ahead of the donation. For more information on the drive, contact Vinny Curro at 867-7472 or [vincurro@comcast.net](mailto:vincurro@comcast.net).

## Cakeless Bake Sale

The Friends of the Londonderry Leach Library hold their ninth annual Cakeless Bake Sale fundraiser, with all proceeds used to sponsor library programs and services. The Friends will be seeking a donation, but not a cake or cookies. Donors should figure out how much they would spend on baking and buying supplies, and send a donation for that amount to support the library. Donations should be made out to "Friends of Londonderry Leach Library" and mailed to Friends of Leach Library, 276 Mammoth Road, Londonderry, NH 03053, or placed in the box at the library. Gifts are tax deductible.

## HU Chant

A Community Eckankar (Eck) HU Chant takes place Sunday, May 8 at 9:30 a.m. and Sunday, May 19 at 7:30 p.m. at the Holiday Inn, 2280 Brown Ave., Manchester.

## Eckankar Worship

Eckankar (Eck) worship takes place Sunday, May 8 at 10:30 a.m. at the Holiday Inn, 2280 Brown Ave., Manchester. Eck worship con-

sists of a discussion of the current theme, which this month is "Dreams: Keys to a Higher Reality," and a short HU chant. Music is often included.

## Free Meals

The Community Meals Program provides free meals to all, with no residency or income requirement. Dates are: May 15, Etz Hayim Synagogue, 1-1/2 Hood Road, Derry, dinner, 5 to 6:15 p.m.; May 19, West Running Brook Middle School, 1 West Running Brook Lane, Derry, 5 to 6:30 p.m.; May 21, St. Luke's United Methodist Church, 63 East Broadway, Derry, dinner, 5 to 6:30 p.m.; May 22, Church of the Transfiguration, 1 Hood Road, Derry, breakfast, 9 to 10 a.m.; and Mondays through Fridays, 4:30 p.m., dinner, Sonshine Soup Kitchen, Derry.

## Head Shaving

The Londonderry Fire Department holds a "head shaving" to raise money for Firefighter Zach O'Brien on Monday, May 16 at 280 Mammoth Road at noon. O'Brien, 22, was recently diagnosed with Hodgkin's Lymphoma, and proceeds will go toward his treatment. A hairstylist has volunteered to shave participants' heads for \$10. To participate, email Mike McQuillen at [mmcquillen@londonderrynh.org](mailto:mmcquillen@londonderrynh.org). If the Department raises \$5,000, Town Manager Kevin Smith will shave his head. The Department is also selling T-shirts to show their support for O'Brien. To purchase a T-shirt, email: Chris Schofield at [ChristopherASchofield@gmail.com](mailto:ChristopherASchofield@gmail.com) or by visiting: [www.squareup.com/store/nutfieldfire](http://www.squareup.com/store/nutfieldfire).

## Toy Swap and Sale

Londonderry Women's Club's 14th annual consignment Toy Swap and Sale is Saturday, May 14 at Matthew Thornton Elementary School's gym. Registration is 7:30 a.m. to 9 a.m. sale day, with the sale 9:30 a.m. to noon. The event offers children's and baby's clothes, toys and baby equipment. Stuffed animals, cribs, car seats and regular clothing cannot be accepted. The price is set by the owner, who receives two-thirds of the sale price. The Women's Club keeps the rest, with proceeds benefiting Community Alliance for Teen Safety (CATS) in Derry. Registration forms are at the

Leach, Derry Public, Taylor and Chester Public libraries.

## Plant Donations

The Derry Garden Club is in need of donations for its annual plant sale, set for Saturday, June 4 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Masonic Temple, 58 East Broadway, Derry. Anyone with a plant in need of thinning to donate to the sale is invited to call Wanda Desaulniers at 434-6681.

## Grange Plant & Craft Sale

On Saturday, May 7, the day before Mother's Day, Londonderry Grange No. 44, 260 Mammoth Road, holds its annual Mother's Day Plant Sale and Craft Fair from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., rain or shine. This year, Kona Ice is featured, along with free face painting, balloons and traditional "Plant a Marigold for Mom" inside the Grange Hall for kids. Juried crafters will offer their wares, and hanging planters as well as perennials, including shade lovers, will be sold, along with tomatoes in patio pots. Troop 521 Boy Scouts will help. Proceeds go to the Grange Building Renovation Fund.

## World War II Music

On Thursday, May 19 at 7 p.m., the Leach Library will host a free musical performance of "Songs of World War II: Wartime Songs and their Stories You Didn't Know" by "Ramblin" Richard Kruppa. In this hour-long performance, Kruppa presents stories about and sings some of the most beloved American songs from 1939 to 1945. He also provides accompaniment on guitar, five-string banjo, and baritone ukulele. The program is sponsored by the Friends of the Londonderry Leach Library and will be held in the library's lower-level Meeting Room. Light refreshments will be served.

## Book Bingo

Students in grades 6 through 12 are invited to the Leach Library on Thursday, May 12 from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. for a Young Adult Spring Book Bingo event. All participants will win books from the special selection tables. Snacks and drinks will be served and there will be a raffle for door prizes. No sign-up is necessary.

## Lions' Yard Sale

The Londonderry Lions' hold a yard sale Saturday,

May 14 from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Lions Hall, 256 Mammoth Road (Route 128), across from the Town Common. No early birds. Donations of goods are accepted May 2 through Friday, May 13 at the Londonderry Lions Shelter. No large kitchen appliances, couches, skis, air conditioners, computers or TVs can be accepted. People can rent spaces to sell their own goods by calling Tom at 548-5011. Proceeds from donated goods and rented spaces benefit local Lions' charities and eye care.

## Paving Projects

Now through May 13, the Town of Londonderry will be paving a section of High Range Road between Pillsbury and Elwood road, and will also pave a section of Old Nashua Road between Route 102 (Nashua Road) and Bayberry Road. For both projects, expect delays and seek alternate routes. For questions, contact the Department of Public Works at 432-1100, ext. 193.

## Beautify Londonderry

Beautify Londonderry runs through May 22. This town-wide effort uses volunteers to clean litter from roads and neighborhoods and beautifies Town properties by mulching and planting flowers. Bags, gloves, safety vests and water are provided to volunteers. To volunteer or learn more, visit [beautifylondonderry@londonderrynh.org](mailto:beautifylondonderry@londonderrynh.org).

## Football Social

The Londonderry Lancer High School football program hosts a Lancer Football "Social" at the Tavern in the Executive Club, 1 Highlander Way in Manchester on Thursday, May 12 from 7 to 9 p.m. for food and drink and a talk by Coach Jimmy Lauzon and the Lancer Gridiron Club about plans for the upcoming season. The program is sponsoring several new ideas that will continue to bring the community together: a Londonderry carnival June 9-12, a family-style pig roast prior to Mack Plaque Weekend, and a Lancer Alumni Golf Tourney June 24 at the Windham Country Club.

## Garden Club

The Derry Garden Club meets Friday, May 6, at the Birchwood Winery, 199

**Continued on page 18**



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## Around Town

### Continued from page 16

Rockingham Road, Derry. The business meeting is at 11 a.m. Cost of the luncheon is \$30, and pre-registration is required. The program will be “Fabulous Ferns for your Garden” presented by Donna Simpson of Lee. A raffle is planned.

### ServiceLink Benefit

Friends of Rockingham ServiceLink, an aging and disability resource center, hosts its second annual Derby Day on Saturday, May 7 at Rockingham Park in Salem to create awareness of the services of ServiceLink and to benefit Friends Helping Friends, a program that helps recipients with a one-time need who have exhausted all available funding resources. The event includes: ladies best hat contest, live and silent auctions, bourbon tasting, live betting, and a buffet dinner. For more information or to order tickets, contact Connie Young at cyoung@rockinghamservice-link.com.

### Road Construction

Now through May, the Town is working on two projects: reconstruction of a section of Commerce Avenue from Ray Wieczorek Drive to the cul-de-sac, and Litchfield Road near the cemetery. The Litchfield work will be followed by the paving of the finish coat on Litchfield Road from High Range Road to Yellowstone Road and Maureen Drive. Expect delays; seek alternate routes. For questions, call Londonderry Department of Public Works at 432-

1100, ext. 193.

### Legion Meeting

The monthly general meeting of American Legion Post 27, 6 Sargent Road takes place May 9 at 7:30 p.m.

### Legion Bingo

American Legion Post 27 plays bingo with patients at the Veterans Administration Hospital in Manchester on May 23 from 7 to 8:30 p.m. The Post will serve pizza and diet soda as well as providing \$150 in prize money. Anyone interested in helping out can sign up at the Post.

### Eric Carle Stories

On Monday, May 9 from 4 to 5 p.m., the Leach Library presents a program on the works of children's author Eric Carle. Children will hear the story of “The Very Hungry Caterpillar,” count to 10 with ducks, and see if they can move like animals. Participants will have a chance to try a Brown Bear matching game. All participants will be entered into a raffle to win one of two Eric Carle prize bags. Advance registration is required. To register, call 432-1127 or come by the Children's Room.

### Friendly Pirate

Children are invited to the Leach Library on Monday, May 16 from 4 to 5 p.m. for a musical visit with Rockin' Ron the Friendly Pirate. Participants will be singing and dancing, will hear jokes, and play games, with lots of audience participation. Advance registration is required and begins at 9 a.m. Monday, May 9. To register, call 432-1127 or come by the Children's

Room. This program is sponsored by The Friends of the Londonderry Leach Library.

### Summer Enrichment

Londonderry School District offers enrichment opportunities to Kindergarten-Grade 12 students this summer. The program promotes academic strengths and exposes students to new areas. Offerings are “Let your words speak,” “Adventures in Elementary Engineering,” “Promote your Movie Camp,” “Fun with Fairies” for grades 1-3 and “Science Inquiry & Design” for grades 6-9. Classes are held in schools throughout the district from June 20 to July 22. Find details about offerings, fees, and registration at www.londonderry.org or school newsletters, participating teachers, school offices, town hall, and Leach Library. Registration deadline is Friday, June 1. For questions, contact Daralyn Melone at 432-6920, ext. 1110.

### Renew

Renew, which offers free, gently-used clothing, opens May 14 from 8 to 10:30 a.m. at Calvary Bible Church, 145 Hampstead Road, Derry. Arrive by 10 a.m. Derry residency is not required. Each household is limited to 20 of the newest items, plus a reasonable number of older items. Enter at the church marquee sign. Donations of good condition, modern clothing may be placed in the donations bin by the door at any time. No donations of money are accepted. For details, search for “Renew Derry” on Facebook, email renewclothing@yahoo.com, or call the church secretary at 434-1516.

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# Two Londonderry Women Arrested for Drug Possession

KAITLYN G. WOODS  
LONDONDERRY TIMES

**A** Londonderry woman was arrested last week for allegedly using intravenous drugs with a friend in a convenience store bathroom while her 8-year-old waited alone in the store.



Stacy Aresco



Tracey Blashock

Police Det. Chris Olson said Tracey Blashock, 30, of Boulder Drive and Stacy Aresco, 38, also of Boulder Drive, are alleged to have purchased syringes at the Rite Aid on Nashua Road (Route 102) and used what Police suspect was heroin and cocaine in the men's restroom.

Officers responded to the call at 3:45 p.m. Thursday, April 28.

Olson said the child's grandfather picked her up at the Police Station.

Blashock, the child's mother, was charged with possession of controlled narcotic drugs and released on \$3,000 personal recognizance bail.

Aresco was charged with possession of controlled narcotic drugs and possession of drugs in a motor vehicle. She was released on \$5,000 personal recognizance bail.

Both women will face their charges in Derry's 10th Circuit Court on June 7.

## Londonderry Police Log

Selections from the Londonderry Police Logs

### Monday, April 25

**8:24 p.m.** Illegal dumping on Mammoth Road.

**12:15 p.m.** Theft reported on Noyes Road.

**2:06 p.m.** Caller on Capitol Hill Drive reports neighbor broke caller's phone.

### Tuesday, April 26

**10:15 a.m.** Mailbox damaged couple of different times on Royal Lane.

**3 p.m.** Illegal dumping reported on Longwood Avenue.

### Thursday, April 28

**7:53 a.m.** Caller reports mother duck and babies crossing Nashua Road

and were hit; some babies fell in a storm drain and Londonderry Fire was called to rescue them.

**8:52 a.m.** Londonderry Fire responding for appliance fire on Olde Country Village Road.

**10:19 a.m.** Anonymous caller said woman was hiking in Conservation area on Kendall Pond Road and male subject in biker vest pulled gun on her. She left area.

**3:35 p.m.** Manager of Rite-Aid on Nashua Road reported female subject in men's room with needle and drugs. Said female

had young child waiting for her on sales floor. Stacy Elizabeth Aresco, 38, Boulder Drive, Londonderry arrested for Possession of Controlled/Narcotic Drugs and Possession of Drugs (in a motor vehicle). Bail set at \$5,000 personal recognizance with Derry Circuit Court date of June 7. Tracey L. Blashock, 30, Boulder Drive, Londonderry arrested for Possession of Controlled/Narcotic Drugs. Bail set at \$3,000 personal recognizance with Derry Circuit Court date of June 7.

**6:04 p.m.** Shed doors forced open on Owl Road.

**7:19 p.m.** Theft reported on Haley Court.

### Friday, April 29

**12:23 a.m.** Joseph Poirier, 26, Constitution Drive, Londonderry arrested for Disobeying an Officer and Driving After Revocation or Suspension. Bail set at \$1,000 personal recognizance with Derry Circuit Court date of June 7.

**11:06 a.m.** Report of accidental gunshot wound to hand on Anderson Lane.

**11:52 a.m.** Report of stolen medication from Winding Pond Road.

**1:46 p.m.** Three credit cards and \$100 reported stolen at gym on Highlander Way.

**2:16 p.m.** House on Mammoth Road egged last night.

**4:15 p.m.** Andrew S. Saulnier, 29, 15 Spring Drive, Apt. A, Derry arrested for Possession of Controlled/Narcotic Drugs, Falsifying Physical Evidence and two bench warrants.

Employee had reported possible activity in restroom and parking lot. Saulnier held on \$5,000

cash bail with May 2 arraignment.

**5:04 p.m.** Subject reports ATVs (all-terrain vehicles) tearing up fields and other vandalism involving private property on Auburn Road and at the landfill.

**7:23 p.m.** Bicycle reported stolen on Nashua Road.

**8:01 p.m.** Thomas Michael Ash, 46, 54 Fieldstone Drive, Londonderry arrested for Domestic Violence Simple Assault, and Simple Assault. He was released on \$1,500 personal recognizance bail with Derry District Court arraignment May 2.

**10:43 p.m.** Londonderry Fire toned out for chimney fire on Matthew Drive.

### Saturday, April 30

**10:43 a.m.** Londonderry Fire responding for brush fire on Anthony Drive.

**1:11 p.m.** Londonderry Fire responding for brush fire on Kitty Hawk Landing.

**4:22 p.m.** Caller on Ash Street reports target shooting behind home. Officer out with subjects

shooting in field behind Ash Street; they were shooting safely and following guidelines.

**6:16 p.m.** Report of fireworks, gunshots or explosions coming from direction of Wilson Road.

**6:31 p.m.** Four or five loose cows north of Poor Boy's on Rail Trail. Owner thinks they are secure but will check.

### Sunday, May 1

**6:27 a.m.** Report of mailbox knocked over and house egged on King Arthur Drive.

**Noon.** Gunshots in power lines on Wiley Hill Road.

**9:28 p.m.** Needles found near propane tanks outside RMZ Truck Stop, Rockingham Road.

### Monday, May 2

**12:16 a.m.** Bradley Clark, 43, Barre, Vt., arrested for Receiving Stolen Property at Park and Ride North, Symmes Drive. No bail information available. Bouse Anderson, 59, Off Brook Road, Warren, Vt., arrested for Unauthorized Use of Propelled Vehicle. Bail set at \$1,000 personal recognizance with June 14 Derry Circuit Court date.

## Robbery, Assault Reported Monday

KAITLYN G. WOODS  
LONDONDERRY TIMES

**L**ondonderry Police are investigating a robbery that occurred on May 2 between 8 and 8:15 p.m.

Det. Chris Olson said a young male in his early 20s was robbed at knife-point on Capitol Hill Drive.

The victim told police he was approached by a dark-colored vehicle with two men inside, a white male and a Hispanic male, both in their early 20s, wearing hooded sweatshirts and baseball caps.

Olson said one of the men allegedly demanded the victim's wallet while holding a knife to his throat.

The victim told Police he had about \$400 cash in

his wallet. He sustained minor scratches to his neck.

Police continue to investigate the robbery and urge anyone with information to call Londonderry detectives at 432-1118.

Not long after the robbery on Capitol Hill Drive, Police responded to Devonshire Road for a reported assault at 9:05 p.m.

Olson said a 17-year-old male told Police he was approached by a white SUV occupied by two females and a white male and an Hispanic male described as wearing hooded sweatshirts and baseball caps.

The victim said the two men jumped out of

the back of the SUV and struck him with a baseball bat at least one time.

Olson said his parents took him to the hospital, where it was determined he sustained minor injuries.

"He shielded the bat with his forearm," he said. "An X-ray confirmed it's not broken."

Police continue to investigate the assault and again, ask that anyone with information contact Londonderry detectives at 432-1118.

Although the descriptions of the suspects in both incidents are the same, Olson said they don't believe the same suspects are responsible for both the robbery and assault.

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