

Londonderry Times

September 1, 2016 ♦ Volume 17 – Issue 35

A FREE Weekly Publication



Oh Happy Day

South Elementary School Principal Linda Boyd greets students as they get off their buses and file into their classrooms on Monday morning for the first day of school.

Photo by Chris Paul

LMS Math Teacher Ann Gaffney a Presidential Award Winner

PENNY WILLIAMS
LONDONDERRY TIMES

One of Londonderry's own was chosen to receive a Presidential Award for excellence in math. Ann Gaffney, long-time Londonderry Middle School math teacher, has made

her school and town proud.

On Aug. 22, President Obama named 213 mathematics and science teachers as recipients of the Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching.

"The recipients of this award are integral to

ensuring our students are equipped with critical thinking and problem-solving skills that are vital to our nation's success," President Obama said. "As the United States continues to lead the way in the innovation that is shaping our future, these

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Londonderry Schools Offer Preview with Building Tours

KATHLEEN D. BAILEY
LONDONDERRY TIMES

The sight of a piece of physical therapy equipment in a Londonderry Early Education Program (LEEP) classroom brought back memories for School Board member Leitha Reilly, one of whose three sons went through the LEEP program.

"That is the 'squishy thing,' and it's the best piece of equipment ever," Reilly told fellow board and community members. "It's a great reliever of tension."

School Board and community members toured South, Moose Hill and Londonderry High School last week, before opening day Monday. Earlier that

week, the public and board had toured Londonderry Middle School and North and Matthew Thornton elementary schools. Principals at each school gave updates on their buildings, along with Facilities Director Chuck Zappala. Some of the talking points were new, while others, as with the "squishy thing," brought back memories.

The LEEP classrooms are spacious, light and filled with brightly-colored items that appeal to the senses, including a "tree" in one classroom. The tree is a cylinder covered with brown paper, "growing" out of a wooden circular bench, with paper leaves and a set of wind chimes.

"What a great room," board chair Nancy Hendricks said when she saw the tree.

Director Bonnie Breithaupt oversees both LEEP and the kindergarten program for the district. This year they had to tell the YMCA that it could no longer use a room for its afterschool program because LEEP needed it. "We also had to expand LEEP into the reading room," Breithaupt said, adding, "We are bursting at the seams."

She moved the reading room to a corner of the main office, and said that children still have reading intervention. She's been able to save the library, a cheerful room with hun-

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Conservation Raises Questions About Buffer at Lorden Commons

PENNY WILLIAMS
LONDONDERRY TIMES

Steve Keach of Keach Nordstrom Associates in Bedford detailed phases 2, 3 and 4 of Lorden Commons for the Conservation Commission last week. Lorden Commons is the first Conservation Community in the town and is located at 17 Old Derry Road.

Keach said he had given design review information to the Planning Department for the project to go before the Planning Board but the request for a Conditional Use Permit (CUP) had not reached the Conservation Commission.

Phase 1 of Lorden Common has 50 house lots, and there will be a total of 133 lots with full build-out. There will be 147 acres of open space in phases 2, 3 and 4, with 18 lots developed in phase 2, for a total of 83 lots developed in phases 2, 3, and 4.

The design proposed by Keach Nordstrom Associates reduces the wetlands impact and wetland buffer impact and avoids some wetlands altogether, with the storm water management plan under the Alteration of Terrain Permit designed to minimize the wetland buffer impacts. There are no wetlands impacts under

the conditional use plan.

At the Commission's Tuesday, Aug. 23 meeting, the members discussed at length the design of the road Keach described as "threading a needle" to reduce the wetland buffer impact. Conservation Vice Chair Eugene Harrington objected, saying they

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Annual Blues Concert Draws a Crowd and Helps Vets



The second annual Blues Festival benefiting area veterans took place on the Town Common on Saturday afternoon. All proceeds from the event went to support veterans' needs. Performing were the Rock Rimmon Blues Band, the Rick Shea Band and the concert organizer's band, Dr. Harps Blues. Despite the warm weather, attendance was high and the music appreciated. .

Photos by Chris Paul

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

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- PROVIDER ON CALL - STROKE

Stroke is when poor blood flow to the brain results in cell death. There are two main types of stroke: ischemic, due to lack of blood flow, and hemorrhagic, due to bleeding. They result in part of the brain not functioning properly. Signs and symptoms of a stroke may include an inability to move or feel on one side of the body, problems understanding or speaking, feeling like the world is spinning, or loss of vision to one side among others. Signs and symptoms often appear soon after the stroke has occurred. If symptoms last less than one or two hours it is known as a transient ischemic attack (TIA). Hemorrhagic strokes may also be associated with a severe headache. The symptoms of a stroke can be permanent. Long term complications may include pneumonia or loss of bladder control.

The main risk factor for stroke is high blood pressure. Other risk factors include smoking, obesity, high cholesterol, diabetes, a previous TIA, and atrial fibrillation. An ischemic stroke is typically caused by blockage of a blood vessel. A hemorrhagic stroke is caused by bleeding either directly into the brain or into the space surrounding the brain. Bleeding may occur due to a brain aneurysm. Diagnosis is typically with imaging such as a CT scan or MRI scan along with a physical exam. Other tests such as an electrocardiogram and blood tests are done to determine risk factors and rule out other possible causes. Low blood sugar may cause similar symptoms.

Prevention includes decreasing risk factors as well as possibly aspirin, statins, surgery to open up the arteries to the brain in those with problematic narrowing, and warfarin in those with atrial fibrillation. A stroke often requires emergency care. An ischemic stroke, if detected within three to four and half hours, may be treatable with a medication that can break down the clot. Aspirin should be used. Some hemorrhagic strokes benefit from surgery. Treatment to try recover lost function is called stroke rehabilitation.

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Stroke#cite_note-Donnan2008-2. In 2013 approximately 6.9 million

people had an ischemic stroke and 3.4 million people had a hemorrhagic stroke. In 2010 there were about 33 million people who had previously had a stroke and were still alive. Between 1990 and 2010 the number of strokes which occurred each year decreased by approximately 10% in the developed world and increased by 10% in the developing world. In 2013, stroke was the second most frequent cause of death after coronary artery disease, accounting for 6.4 million deaths (12% of the total). About 3.3 million deaths resulted from ischemic stroke while 3.2 million deaths resulted from hemorrhagic stroke. About half of people who have had a stroke live less than one year. Overall, two thirds of strokes occurred in those over 65 years old.

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on September 13th."***



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www.facebook.com/marty.bove.9?fref=ts

Tours

Continued from page 1
dreds of picture books at kid level.

New this summer was an update to the school's Wi-Fi, according to Breithaupt, who said, "We don't have to look for 'hot spots' in the building."

Other Moose Hill improvements this year included a new roof.

At South School, principal Linda Boyd and assistant principal Chelsea Hunnewell led a tour. "We got new paint, new carpeting, we had a floor tiled and the roof drains fixed," Boyd said. She led

visitors on a tour of one of the rooms of the Friends program, for children with autism. Each student has a portioned cubicle, Boyd said. The room was filled with the expected paper, crayons and blunt scissors, but also with brightly-colored beach balls and a puppet theater.

"Some of these kids are nonverbal," Hunnewell said, and need the props to help express themselves.

The other room housing the Friends program has been expanded, Boyd said, and has an "observation room" where parents can watch their children's

learning.

Boyd and Hunnewell led a tour of the courtyard, a pleasant space with plants, a brick walkway, metal sculpture and a sundial. The teachers use the space extensively, especially for science, they said. New this year is a mosaic mural, done by children under the direction of Epping ceramic artist Rob Rossel.

"Were there any big expenses this year?" Reilly asked Boyd.

"No, we're good," Boyd said.

At Londonderry High School, principal Jason Parent showed off one of

the school's new features, a "Futures Lab" where the old receptionist and check-in spot was located. The renovated space will be the home base for three teachers who will work exclusively with students on career profiles, college applications, college research, the Common App, essays and resumes, all with the goal of having Lancers college- and career-ready.

Parent said they also sponsor Career Breakfasts with professionals from the community, college workshops, and Human Resources seminars where HR professionals discuss what they look for

in a candidate. In addition, the school has about 120 students pursuing career training through Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs at Alvirne High School in Hudson and Manchester School of Technology.

Parent was especially proud of a renovated kitchen and cafeteria. New LED lighting has been installed in both kitchen and cafe, and Food Service Director Amanda Venezia is looking at food options that are healthy and fun for the teens. Café-style signs point to the "Main Lunch," "Sides and More," and "Grab and Go" options.

One of the community

members asked how the lunch service is doing financially since the district pulled the high school out of the federal lunch program.

"There is much less wasted food," Parent said, "We are \$28,000 in the black."

The innovations include a coffee bar and a frozen yogurt stand, Parent said. He's observed students coming in in the morning with Dunkin' Donuts cups, and coming back on campus from a free period with the same. If the school can offer something similar he's all for it, he said, noting, "We want them here, and safe."

Lorden

Continued from page 1

could have reduced the buffer impact further, but Keach said he didn't see how.

After discussion, he said they would look at it again and if they could reduce it a little more, they would. But he said to remove the berm from the buffer entirely would not be possible.

Keach also described the buffer protections provided by the no-cut zone for the lots that touch or are close to the buffer zone. He said the no-cut zone is a buffer but the commissioners were not impressed, noting that most people don't understand that the no-cut zone means no trash or grass debris can be deposited in that zone, not just that no

trees can be cut.

The commissioners said that even though the no-cut area would be in the deed, they questioned who would enforce it.

Keach said one alternative would be for the Conservation Commission to request a Conservation Easement for that particular area.

The Commission also was not pleased with being asked to make a decision that evening after not receiving the conditional use permit request, and Keach said they could think about it and get back to him prior to Lorden Commons going before the Planning Board.

The Dredge and Fill permit for Lorden Commons was straightforward, showing minimal wetlands impact, and the members saw no issues

with it. The comments from the Commission included the fact that the CUP had not been received.

The commission would like to see the developer consider reducing the number of units that are near the wetlands buffer zone so that the lots would be kept out of the buffer zone. Member Mike Byerly said it would only take reducing the overall number of lots by seven to accomplish this.

The Commission noted its concern about the no-cut zone enforcement and where the buffer zone markers would be placed. Commissioners said the Town should get permission to go onto the land to conduct enforcement checks so that no-cut zones would remain free of grasses and other debris.

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Editorial

The Missing Link

At a recent Town Council meeting, Town Councilor Tom Freda read a letter from Peter Curro, sent as a private citizen rather than as business administrator for the School District, and citing the “negative impact” of multifamily development in town.

The letter noted that Town officials had said “we don’t want to be in the boat Derry is in,” referring to its massive apartment complexes and not enough business or industry to mitigate the tax impact. And he said apartments impact public school capacity.

Similarly, School Superintendent Nate Greenberg wrote the Planning Board last month to oppose a zoning change for a proposed multifamily development, saying it would put undue stress on the schools.

Curro’s letter urged the Planning Board to be more proactive in bringing in development that “suits” Londonderry needs, and noted that developers are in the business of making a profit, not working for the Town’s best interests.

In response to the letter, Freda claimed Planning Board studies showed multifamily housing has a positive impact, and told the School Board to produce its own studies, rather than asking for Planning Board input on school enrollment.

Both viewpoints have validity. Curro is right about Derry, and right about developers being in the business of making money. If more apartments bring them a higher profit than

a business or a park or single-family housing, it makes sense that they will seek apartments. Asking them to do otherwise is naïve.

And the School District should certainly be expected to do its own enrollment studies.

But in the middle of the mess is a developer who wanted to rezone a portion of the acreage at 280 Rockingham Road from Industrial I to Residential III. He found himself in the wrong place at the wrong time, with the School District opposing the zoning change because of the presumed increase in enrollment at North Elementary School, and the Town Council indefinitely tabling his request.

It’s curious why it has taken this long to get to this point. As Town Council Chair John Farrell pointed out at the meeting when the tabling took place, the Town made improvements to the area in question in 2009, with economic development as the focus. Did the Planning Department warn the developer that economic development was the intended focus of the area, not apartments, when he discussed his plans? Did the Planning Board raise the economic development issue? And when workforce housing reared its head several years ago, where was the School District with its concerns?

All this should have been brought to the table months ago, before leading the developer down a dead end. Simple communication seems to be the missing link.

Letters

Fillio for State Rep

To the editor:

I have known Roger Fillio for many years. Not only is he a dedicated family man, but he is a proven leader and a public servant with a noteworthy list of accomplishments.

Roger served in the Army as a paratrooper and completed his 35 years of service with the National Guard. In his military career, he had many years of command responsibility.

Currently, Roger continues using his leadership skills serving as the President of the Londonderry Historical Society and as a past President of the Londonderry Gun Club.

Roger also volunteers four days a week helping in the “Seniors helping Seniors Program.”

In addition, Roger is a Justice of the Peace and is well respected for services he provides in this capacity. Also, Roger is an active member of the Londonderry Fish and Game Club.

Finally, Roger is a Republican who has served on committees and has been a consistent vocal advocate for conservative causes for the 30-plus years I have known him.

In short, Roger has “walked the talk” as both a “doer” and a vocal spokesman who, in my opinion, would represent Londonderry very well!

Richard Doyle
Londonderry

Re-elect Baldasaro

To the editor:

I am supporting Al Baldasaro for State Repre-

sentative because I am fed up with all the political correctness and the lack of respect for the voters. Many politicians smile, kiss babies and tell you what you want to hear, but never keep their word or honor their commitment to their constituents.

Al Baldasaro is refreshing. He may say controversial things that make people run to their “safe spaces” but personally I find him to be refreshing because it’s not the same old political blah, blah, blah. It sparks dialogue, debate and sometimes controversy, which is healthy for our state and our country.

I look at a politician’s actions or lack thereof to make my decision on who I will cast my ballot for and with Al, I see that he loves our country and does more than just talk, he actually does things to try and make a difference. I have the utmost respect for Al, and his advocacy on behalf of the veterans, his service to our country and our community. He is not only an advocate for our veterans, he is an advocate for our community and our country.

Everyone in town knows Al, and the reason for that is because he’s not just a bureaucrat that comes out at election time. He is always here for us, willing to listen and act on our behalf.

Janet Griffin
Londonderry

Fillio for State Rep

To the Editor:

I am writing to express my support for Roger Fillio, in his run for State

Representative.

I have known Roger for 40 years and he would be a great representative for district #5. Roger is a good friend, neighbor and a wonderful husband and father.

He is a retired veteran, with 35 years of service. He was on active duty with the U.S. Army for three years, where he served as a member of the 82nd Abn Div. He was a member of the Active Reserve for eight years and then part-time reserves for 24 years. He is also a member of the Londonderry American Legion Post 27.

Roger has always been generous with his free time and devotion to his community. He has been a member of Care Givers for Seniors Helping Seniors for the past three years. He is a member of the Londonderry Conservation Commission, Heritage Commission and President of the Londonderry Historical Society.

Roger has always been a staunch conservative with common-sense values; he is the type of individual that would give the shirt off his back to a complete stranger. I hope you will join me in supporting Roger Fillio in his quest for State Representative of District #5.

Larry LeBlanc
Londonderry

Bove for State Rep

To the editor:

Dear Londonderry resident:

My name is Marty Bove, and I am running for State Representative from

Continued on page 5

Londonderry Times

The Londonderry Times is a weekly publication. It is mailed to every home in Londonderry free of charge and is available at a number of drop-off locations throughout the town.

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Election Letters

The Londonderry Times will not be accepting Letters to the Editor pertaining to the Sept. 13 election after its Sept. 1 edition, other than to correct any inaccuracies in previous letters. It is the paper's policy that running election letters that week would not give residents time to correct inaccuracies.

Letters

Continued from page 4

Londonderry. I have been a resident of New Hampshire for 44 years, 33 from here in Londonderry.

I have had the honor and privilege of having served in the New Hampshire State House for one term, 1993-94, but due to work commitments was not able to run again.

I have served on a number of different boards and committees here in Town, such as Town Hall and Police Building, North and South Fire Stations, Solid Waste, Library, Cable, Town Charter Commission and a few others. I have coached soccer, baseball, football and basketball in the recreation leagues.

My wife, Kathy, and I have four children and two grandchildren who have graduated from Londonderry High School.

I have served three terms as a Londonderry Town Councilor, as Chairman, Vice Chairman and Councilor.

I am now retired, and have the time to commit

to serve you in the State office. I would greatly appreciate your vote in the upcoming Primary on Sept. 13 so that I can once again represent you and continue the work that I started so many years ago.

Thank you for your consideration. Remember to vote in the Primary and General elections; your government is run by the people you elect.

Marty Bove
Londonderry

Anyone But Baldasaro

To the editor:

"I was so disgusted over that gay Marine... you want your brothers covering your back, not looking at your back." This was Al Baldasaro's response to a gay Iraq War vet getting booed at a Republican presidential debate in 2011. He went to on say "when they booed the Marine, I thought it was great." This was when the nation-

al media discovered they had a ready-made source of facepalm statements that always end with "(R-Londonderry)."

Of course, he's much better known as the guy who said that Hillary Clinton should be "shot for treason" (in classic Strongman fashion, he bypasses a trial or any due process). He followed that up by insisting a Gold Star family wants to implement Sharia Law and then promoted a despicable blog that claimed their son was killed before he could complete his Islamist mission. Mr. Baldasaro claims to be an advocate for veterans, but evidently only if they're straight and Christian.

Whenever he starts to catch too much heat, he plays the victim card and insists he's being unfairly targeted by Democrats and "leftists." Never mind

that the other six Representatives from town, all Republican, are somehow able to do their jobs without being unfairly targeted or becoming a national punchline.

He excuses all this away by saying he's not "PC," which is straw man. Political Correctness is spelling woman with a y or claiming ski runs have

a gender-bias. It's not waxing nostalgic about the Japanese Internment to justify banning the world's second largest religion.

He also insists he "tells it like it is," which is the excuse people use when they have no other defense for their words or actions.

We like to consider

ourselves a tolerant, educated town that rightfully takes a lot of pride in our schools and quality of life. It's time all of our Representatives reflected that.

Vote Republican. Vote Democrat. Hell, vote for Vermin Supreme. Just please don't vote for Al.

Jason Knights
Londonderry

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Contested Race for State Representative in Republican Primary

PENNY WILLIAMS
LONDONDERRY TIMES

The New Hampshire House of Representatives Rockingham County District 5 has seven seats open this year, and five of the current legislators have filed for re-election. Those five Republicans are Alfred Baldasaro, David Lundgren, Betsy McKinney, Sherman Packard, and Douglas Thomas. In addition, five other Republicans have filed for the seven seats: Martin Bove, Roger Fillio, Franz Honer, Dan Lekas and Bob Rimol.

The top seven vote-getters in the Sept. 13 Republican Primary will be on the ballot in November, going up against the six Democratic candidates whose Primary is uncontested.

Each candidate in the contested race was asked the following question: "What is the most important responsibility of a state representative?"

Al Baldasaro

Age: 59

Occupation: Retired U.S. Marine and former Human Resource manager.

Years in the District: 16

Answer: "I am a retired Marine, a five-term State Representative. I've sponsored/co-sponsored many laws dealing with liberty, preventing burdensome regulations, fair share education funds, protecting our Constitutional rights, family values and protecting the elderly from abuse. I make sure government is held accountable and doesn't waste tax revenue."

Martin "Marty" Bove

Age: 66

Occupation: Retired

Years in the District: 33

Answer: "You represent all your constituents, attend as many House sessions and committee meetings as you can, listen first, then voice your support or concern in an honorable and respectful manner, become as effective

a legislator as you can, learn the process, be a part of the solution, keep everything in perspective."

Roger Fillio

Age: 72

Occupation: retired

Years in the District: 40

Answer: "I will represent the people of District 5 Londonderry by: Attending all legislative sessions and Committee hearings assigned to me; I will read all bills before voting on them; communicate with and listen to the people of my district; and I will not forget who I represent and work for."

Dan Lekas

Age: 43

Occupation: Small business owner

Years in the District: 14

Answer: "As State Representative, I would bring a fresh, youthful perspective to the issues concerning families in Londonderry, drug abuse, protecting the elderly and our veterans, as well as the education of our children, to name only a few of the challenges ahead."

Betsy McKinney

Age: 77

Occupation: Retired accountant

Years in the District: 72

Answer: "The most important responsibility is to

remember who sent them to Concord. No lobbyist, seatmate or party leader voted for you; their information is valuable but the reason to be there is to represent Londonderry and your constituents, i.e.: those who voted for or against you and maybe didn't even vote. Do the best you can and hope you get it right."

Bob Rimol

Age: 53

Occupation: president, Rimol Greenhouse Systems

Years in the District: 22

Answer: "The most important responsibility as a state representative is to not only have good attendance at session days and committee hearings but also to make positive contributions on policy and proposed legislation and to help move New Hampshire forward with its vision for the future."

Doug Thomas

Age: 66

Occupation: State Representative

Years in the District: 11-plus

Answer: "To protect the rights of the residents of Londonderry and the state in accordance with my principles for which I was elected, including fiscal responsibility, policies

promoting business and protecting those on fixed incomes, supporting local and parental control of schools and reducing governmental mandates on daily lives."

Not responding to the Londonderry Times were: Franz Honer, David Lundgren and Sherman Packard.

Senate District 14

Incumbent Senator Sharon Carson and Ludwig Haken are on the Republican Primary ballot for State Senate. The winner will face Democrat Tammy Siekmann in November.

Sharon Carson

Age: 58

Occupation: Adjunct Professor, Nashua Community College

Years in the District: 27

Answer: "My most important responsibility as a State Senator is to represent all constituents in my district. That means listening to their concerns, bringing their voice to Concord, and helping solve problems. I weigh every vote I take on how it would impact the citizens of District 14."

Haken did not respond to the question or information request, but sent in his campaign brochure.

OBITUARY

James F Greenwood, Jr



James F Greenwood, Jr of Diamond Pond, Stewartstown, NH and Barefoot Bay FL, formerly of Londonderry, NH passed away peacefully on July 29, 2016 with his loving family by his side.

He leaves behind his wife and best friend Joyce Caron Greenwood with 52 years of marriage. He also leaves a brother Gary and his wife Linda of Dalton, his 3 children, Sandra Rowe and her husband Len of Goffstown, son Mark and his wife Mary Jane of Londonderry and son Randall and his loving companion Sandy Daskey of Epping and Londonderry. There are also several grandchildren, great grandchildren, nieces and nephews.

Calling hours will be held on September 24, 2016 at the Lions Hall in Londonderry from 9:00-11:00am. A Celebration of Life will follow from 12:00-3:00. In lieu of flowers please feel free to make a donation to the charity of your choice in James' name.

For full obituary see www.davisseawinds.com.

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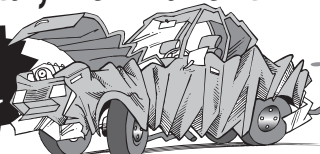
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Gaffney

Continued from page 1 excellent teachers are preparing students from all corners of the country with the science, technology, engineering, and mathematics skills that help keep us on the cutting-edge."

Gaffney said, "I am honored to be a Presidential Award winner alongside other preeminent teachers who contribute to the improvement of mathematics teaching in our nation. To be recognized as one of those educational leaders allows my teaching to impact a broader community. Together we can ensure that every student receives a mathematics education that focuses on understanding mathematical ideas and concepts, and applying those ideas to new situations; we can ensure that all students know and love mathematics."

Gaffney received a certificate signed by the President of the United States, a trip to Washington, D.C., to attend a series of recognition events and professional development opportunities, and a \$10,000 award from the National Science

Foundation.

After her nomination, Gaffney had to complete an application that included a 45-minute unedited video of a lesson; essay responses to questions about the lesson, her teaching, reflective practice, and professional development; and recommendations from peers and supervisors. After she was named a State Finalist, her name was sent to the National Science Foundation and White House Office of Science and Technology Policy, where final selections were made."

Gaffney has taught sixth through eighth grade for the past 19 years at Londonderry Middle School. During that time, she has taught mathematics, science, reading, and enrichment programs; has developed curriculum; and has provided academic coaching to other teachers. She currently works with the school's highest achieving math students as well as those students who need additional math support.

"I am passionate about teaching mathematics, and to be honored for my work in this area is the

most beautiful icing on the most delicious cake," Gaffney said. "It is our nation's highest honor for a math teacher, and I am incredibly proud, grateful, and frankly a bit overwhelmed by this award. To have my service to my students and profession recognized by my country is an incredible honor."

She thanked the National Science Foundation and White House Office of Science and Technology Policy "for recognizing the hard and important work that math and science teachers do every day and honoring quality work in this area." She also thanked the Londonderry School District for supporting her growth and development as a teacher over the last 20 years; and thanked her students, "who are willing to take a journey with me where we think deeply about mathematics, take risks, question each other, and discover some really amazing things about mathematics - and about ourselves as well," she said.

"This award validates my efforts thus far and reminds me that all the hard work to come will continue to make a differ-

ence," she added.

Gaffney said students of all ability levels develop their understanding of math through their experiences with mathematical ideas and problems. Student discourse is a key component of her lessons, she said, noting she challenges her students to present their ideas, critically investigate those ideas, and come up with generalizations based on their findings.

She earned a Bachelor of Arts in mathematics, cum laude, from Wellesley College, a Master's degree in Education in elementary education from Lesley University, and a doctorate in education in leadership and learning from Rivier University. Her research focuses on the professional development of in-service teachers, particularly in the area of math teaching and learning.

In addition to her elementary education teach-



U.S. Senator Kelly Ayotte, R-NH, at right, recognized Londonderry Middle School teacher Ann Gaffney, left, on her Presidential Award during Ayotte's tour of the school Monday. Photo by Chris Paul

ing credential for kindergarten through eighth grade, Gaffney is certified to teach earth/space science in grades 7-12 and holds three mathematics-specific credentials, making her a mathematics content specialist for Kindergarten through Grade 12.

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Trails, Parking Considered at Conservation Areas

PENNY WILLIAMS
LONDONDERRY TIMES

Mike Leach of Stantec visited the Conservation Aug. 23 to discuss his work on potential trails and parking areas for four conservation areas.

Stantec had been retained to develop potential trails and parking areas for the Musquash, Kendall Pond, Little Cohas and Scobie Pond conservation areas.

Leach said he wanted to find out if the proposed developments he has sent to the commission on the Musquash and Kendall

Pond areas are what the commission wants, and sought direction on the Little Cohas and Scobie Pond designs.

He brought information regarding the development of four parking areas in the Musquash Conservation area; Tanager Way Trailhead with five parking spaces, Hickory Hill Trailhead with 16 parking spaces, Sara Beth Trailhead with four parking spaces, and Faucher Trailhead with eight parking spaces. The estimated costs for each of the four parking developments are: Tanager Way, \$36,000;

Sara Beth, \$60,000; Hickory Hill, \$130,000; and Faucher Road, \$25,000.

The detailed trail development and observation sites at Kendall Pond were more expensive, with the total proposed design development at \$780,000.

The Kendall Pond development design was broken down into three areas - North Loop, West Loop and South Trail and parking lot. Leach said the West Loop was the most expensive and difficult because of the terrain and wetlands.

The Commission dis-

cussed the obstacles in the Little Cohas area and said it made sense to look at developing trails and parking where they would connect with the Rail Trail.

Leach said what might be practical would be to look at developing parking at the Delta and Aviation Park Road areas and to develop a bike trail for the Little Cohas area.

As for Scobie Pond, the Commission suggested that the practicality of what to develop there should be the priority. The commission would like to see a parking lot

and a trailhead, but any parking would have to be car, not trailer parking. Members also suggested a fishing pier and observation area.

Leach said he would continue to explore the potential improvements to the four areas and get more detailed designs to the commission in the next few weeks.

In other business at the Tuesday, Aug. 23 meeting:

- The Commission received an updated compilation of the histories of the Musquash Conservation Area cellar holes

from David Ellis.

In the updated book, Ellis said he was able to identify at least one resident for each of the dozen or so cellar holes that remain testament to earlier inhabitants of Londonderry.

He gave two copies of the book to the Conservation Commission and said the commission was the owner of the book and the original files on CD, and could get them printed to make money for the commission. He also will put a copy of the book in the Leach Library.

Bradley Tree Service Plans Reviewed by Conservation

PENNY WILLIAMS
LONDONDERRY TIMES

The Conservation Commission reviewed plans for Bradley Tree Service's proposal for 47 Rockingham Road last week.

During a design review, the members checked to see what was to be planted in buffer zones and approved the choices, as well as reviewing

snow storage plans, which appeared to be sufficient.

One member had sent an email questioning the number of parking spaces planned and complaining that the building looked more industrial than commercial but the board members decided the number of parking spaces seemed appropriate.

The board voted unanimously that they had no

comments.

In other business at the Tuesday, Aug. 23 meeting:

- The commission heard from Jim Taylor, who wishes to buy the 1-acre town-owned property at 68 Hall Road, taken by the town several years ago for unpaid taxes. Taylor said there is an abandoned trailer on the property. He said the waiting period for owners to have paid up the tax lien has expired and he wanted to declare his intentions to

the commission members and get their approval.

Taylor said he plans to clean up the lot and put one small house on it. He said there would be no wetland impact.

The commission decided to visit the property before offering any comments, and scheduled a visit for Aug. 28, after which the commission will advise Taylor of what they decide.

- Member Michael Noone reported that a monitoring action noti-

cation letter is to be sent out on the Cooper parcel for violations. Member Michael Byerly said he plans to complete the monitoring of the power line along the Musquash conservation area on the weekend.

- The members discussed the budget briefly and the comment made several times was that the Conservation Commission is charged with the responsibility of managing, protecting, preserving and improving thousands of acres but has a miniscule budget to accomplish the task.

The members want to determine what they need to do this year and even though it will exceed what the Town likes to see in a budget, they want to raise

the amount they ask for so that they can provide proper stewardship of the land.

- The members discussed the issue of trees down on conservation trails. Byerly said a chainsaw is needed to remove them, and the members discussed the liability issues of allowing volunteers to use chainsaws for work for the commission. They decided they had no access to town staff for help in this area and the best way to go was to join forces with Londonderry Trailways, whose members have chainsaws. Members added that the two groups should discuss what equipment volunteers can and/or should use.

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Ayotte Pays Visit to Middle School on First Day of Classes

KATHLEEN D. BAILEY
LONDONDERRY TIMES

Not many eighth-graders get a civics lesson from a United States Senator on their first day of class.

U.S. Senator Kelly Ayotte, R-NH, came to Londonderry Middle School on Monday to honor teacher Ann Gaffney, who has received the Presidential Award for Excellence in Teaching Math and Science (see related story page 1). Ayotte took a tour of the school, dropped in on two eighth-grade Social Studies classes, and took a few minutes to explain how the government works, in hopes of raising up future Senators and Representatives from the Granite State.

Ayotte was greeted by Superintendent Nate Greenberg, Assistant Superintendent Scott Laliberte and Principal Richard Zacchilli, before going to

the classroom where Gaffney was dismissing a group of eighth-graders. "We have been together as a class for three years," Gaffney said.

While the students admitted they didn't practice math over the summer, they also said they were glad to be back.

Gaffney's next small group was all new and all sixth-graders. Ayotte sat at the work table with Gaffney, two girls and two boys.

Gaffney and the children showed Ayotte around their sixth-grade pod. "Who can open their lockers?" Gaffney asked, to which all four pairs of hands shot up. "We're going to take a tour of the school, and you can show us how much you know."

Ayotte said, "In my job I have to talk a lot. I used to be nervous. I still get nervous sometimes." But she encouraged the children to work on their pub-

lic speaking, noting, "When you've finished a speech you say to yourself, 'I can't believe I did that!'"

They escorted Ayotte to the school library and the children sat in front of laptops. One girl said, "This is the biggest library I've ever seen!"

"It's a good place to come to pick out books," Ayotte said, encouraging the students to read.

She also visited two eighth grade Social Studies classes. In Bob MacLellan's class, the students were drawing pictures of the world. Ayotte gave a brief overview of the Senate and House, using George Washington's analogy when he was asked why America needed two legislative bodies.

"He compared the country to a cup of tea," Ayotte said. "The saucer is the Senate and the cup of tea is the House." The



U.S. Senator Kelly Ayotte, R-NH, right, chats with one of Londonderry Middle School teacher Ann Gaffney's math groups before heading out on a tour of the school on Monday. Photo by Chris Paul

House is "hot tea" and the Senate's purpose is to "cool them down," like a small amount of tea in the saucer, Ayotte said.

The House is large enough to make sure the big states get a voice, Ayotte pointed out. But the Senate, with two Senators for each state, gives smaller states an equal voice, according to Ayotte.

She pointed out that she was from nearby Nashua, and that what she had achieved was in

reach for them. "When you go to Washington on your eighth grade trip, I hope you will think, 'This is my government,'" she said.

"Someone sitting in this class could be a Senator or Representative," MacLellan said.

Ayotte expanded on the message in Ryan Barry's class, where she said, "We wouldn't want California telling us what to do."

Back in the lobby,

Ayotte took a few minutes to discuss "The Every Child Succeeds Act," the bipartisan federal education law following No Child Left Behind. Components of "Every Child Succeeds" include doing a better job supporting teachers and improving STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics), with an emphasis on attracting girls and other under-represented groups to STEM study and careers.



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Leach Library Art Exhibit Features Work of Laura Dionne

PENNY WILLIAMS
LONDONDERRY TIMES

September's Leach Library artist, Laura Dionne, isn't just a career artist. She is also a mother, homemaker and

full-time art teacher, and is working on becoming New England's Young Careerist.

"I was named Young Careerist by the Greater Londonderry Business

and Professional Women's Foundation in April 2016 and Young Careerist by the New Hampshire BPW in May 2016," she said. "I am competing for the New England title this September."

While this endeavor is exciting for her, she said her first love is art. She primarily paints in an expressive, abstract style.

"I love to use bright colors and bold patterns," she said. "I use my paintings to exaggerate patterns or details I find in nature. I paint with acrylics and love to experiment with mixed media, such as handmade papers and acrylic mediums that I can layer into my paintings."

Dionne has an advantage some artists don't in that as an art teacher, she is dealing with art on a daily basis in her chosen career, as well as getting to enjoy her artistic endeavors on her own time.

"I teach art full time, work on my own paintings, and regularly take classes and workshops," said Dionne, who teaches art at Pennichuck Middle School in Nashua. "I always love to learn something new. This will be my ninth year teaching art in New Hampshire."

"My artwork is an expressive outlet for me and very freeing," she added. "I love to paint and I want my viewers to feel

the joy that went into creating my artwork. I have been creating art since I was a young girl. I knew in high school that I wanted to continue on to art school and have a career in the arts."

Dionne works in her home studio but often photographs something that catches her eye, such as images of flowers or landscapes, and brings the photographs to her studio to work into her paintings.

"I love being surrounded by beautiful artwork and artwork that challenges you to think about things differently," she

said. "I love seeing my students create and am always inspired by their fresh take on ideas."

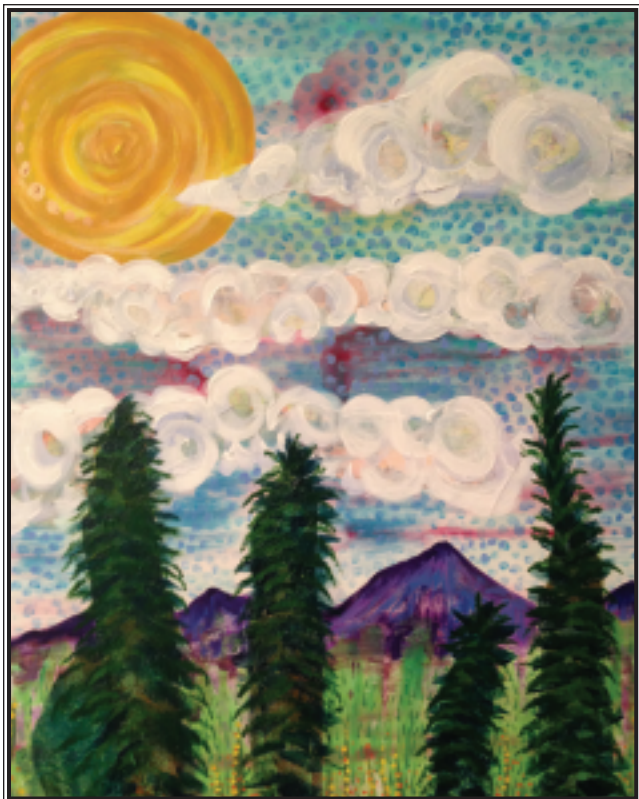
Dionne's Leach Library exhibit includes landscapes as well as flower-inspired paintings. Most of the paintings include some form of mixed media.

In her "Mountain Landscape," for example, she uses collaged paper as well as one of her watercolor paintings. "The scene was inspired by a photo I had taken," she said. "I pushed the expression, adding the pattern in the sky and exaggerating the size of the

sun to give a sense of a big space you could get lost in."

She said exhibits such as the ones offered at the Leach Library are important because the arts are essential in today's changing world. Earlier this summer she exhibited two paintings at Manchester City Hall.

Dionne is a native of New Hampshire who grew up in Londonderry and now lives in Litchfield with her husband and two young sons. She added that when she is not painting, she loves to bake.



"Mountain Landscape," Laura Dionne



Bill Signing

State Senator Sharon Carson, R-Londonderry, at podium speaks on behalf of her bill, SB 330, involving licensure of medical imaging professionals and radiation therapists, during the ceremonial bill signing recently. She said the bill will benefit not only medical imaging technicians across New Hampshire, but patients they are serving. "This bill ensures that medical imaging technicians attain an important high level of expertise in the field and are practicing the correct techniques and using appropriate safety precautions with every patient they examine," she said.

Courtesy photo

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LONDONDERRY SPORTS

Annual GDTC/Mack's Apples 5K Race Continues Success



The Mack's Apples Race 2016 winner was Jeff Allen of Litchfield.



Concord teen Jennika Mannesto was the female winner of the Mack's race.



A strong and competitive field of 129 runners took part in the annual 2016 Mack's Apples Road Race in Londonderry last Sunday. Photos by Chris Paul

CHRIS PANTAZIS
LONDONDERRY TIMES

It's hard to imagine how the 2016 Mack's Apples 5K Road Race could have gone any better than it did this past Sunday afternoon, Aug. 28.

The weather was nothing short of magnificent, the crowd of 129 finishers marked the highest turnout for that annual event in several years, and a big bunch of teens showed plainly what the combination of youth and athletic skills can accomplish in Mack's orchards in Lon-

donderry.

The annual race is co-sponsored by Mack's and the Greater Derry Track Club (GDTC), and it's directed by longtime Londonderry resident and GDTC co-founder Eldon Burkinshaw.

Fifteen-year-old Litchfield resident Jeff Allen took over from Deerfield teen Forest MacKenzie as the race's champion, out-running runner-up MacKenzie by 22 seconds in winning the 2016 event in a time of 16 minutes and six seconds. MacKenzie

was second in 16:28, his fellow Deerfield residents and teenagers Ryan Devine (16:39) and David Cook (16:44) took third and fourth respectively, and Londonderry 13-year-old Matt Griffin claimed fifth place overall (17:39).

The fastest female was Concord 16-year-old Jennika Mannesto, who crossed the finish line 14th overall in 20:06.

Forest MacKenzie won the 2015 race with a time of 16:50, and ran for a considerably better time this time around. But Jeff

Allen was not to be beaten.

Three females from Londonderry won their respective age group titles in the race, with Emily Powers finishing first among the 13-16 girls in 24:52, Cassie Cronin proving unbeatable among the 17- to 39-year-old

females in 26:18, and 26:18 was also the time that allowed Kristen Cronin to win the ladies' 50-59 division crown.

Runners from Derry also did themselves more than a little proud in this year's race, with a trio of them winning age division titles. Those three includ-

ed Rich Moran in the males' 17 to 39-year-old grouping (17:58, sixth overall), Nichole Reimer in the ladies' 40-49-year-old class (23:56), and longtime GDTC member and office-holder Jim Peters in the men's 60-99 division (22:22).

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Mix of Positives and Negatives Leave Lady Lancer Booters a Mystery

CHRIS PANTAZIS
LONDONDERRY TIMES

The Londonderry High girls' soccer squad came a shoot-out round success short of a state championship last autumn. But the mix of key losses to graduation, several daunting injuries, a transfer to a prep school, and an influx of talented freshmen have veteran coach Derek Dane wondering what kind of success his 2016 contingent will be able to enjoy this fall.

"We lost three starters to graduation, two to ACL injuries, and one transferred to a prep school," said Dane, who has com-

piled an excellent 103-37-9 record in eight years at his post. "We had a very talented freshman class come in this year, and we are a good mix of youth and experience and have team speed that we haven't had in a few years."

The two important losses to anterior cruciate ligament injuries - even before the new campaign got started Tuesday, Aug. 30 at Spaulding High in Rochester, after Londonderry Times press time - were junior forward Laurel Goding and sophomore defender Isabella Bourque. The transfer student was senior mid-

fielder McKenzie Donovan.

"All three were starters last year," lamented Dane. "Laurel was our striker and third leading goal scorer. Izzy played right back, is very athletic, an excellent shut-down defender, and a part of the reason we only conceded nine goals in 20 games. And McKenzie was tied as our leading goal-scorer and was our assist leader."

Also gone is graduated standout goalie Jackie Luckhardt. So the Lady Lancers have a big number of holes to fill in vital spots all over the pitch.

That, as they say, is the bad news. But the good news for Londonderry is also quite considerable, thanks to the returns of seven starters, five other returnees with important varsity experience, and those impressive newcomers to whom Dane eluded.

The returning starters include seniors Hailey Lal-

iberte (a middle), Gretchen McGrath (defender), and twin sisters Ali (middle) and Andi Nelson (defense).

The returning junior starters include Erin Barnes (forward) and Halle Hamilton (defense), and sophomore middle Sammi LeClair is also back to return to a starting role.

The other returning letter-winners - all 12th graders - include goalie Ryann Boudreau, middies Sarah Desmarais and Kat Rivard, and defenders Laura Doherty and Sammi Lecaroz.

The team's talented newbies include senior forward Devyn Enwright, junior forward Lauren Misiasek, sophomore midfielder Emily Dumaresq, and freshmen Gwen Barnes, Lea Baum (both defenders), Darby Dupuis, and Olivia Stowell (both middies).

McGrath, Andi Nelson, and Hamilton will serve as the squad's tri-captains during what they hope



Senior goalie Ryann Boudreau will have her hands full as she tries to replace Jackie Luckhardt as the LHS girls' soccer keeper. Photo by Chris Pantazis

will be an even more memorable campaign than the 2015 one was. The Lady Lancers will play their first home match this Friday afternoon, Sept. 2, against the visiting Winnacunnet High School Lady Warriors from Hampton.

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LHS Golfers Start 2016 With a Third Place Finish

CHRIS PANTAZIS
LONDONDERRY TIMES

The 2016 season didn't start in the best possible fashion for the Londonderry High golf squad on the links at Campbell's Scottish Highlands in Salem Wednesday, Aug. 24, with new varsity coach Dan Grant's Lancer group finishing a distant third out of three

contingents.

The Keene High Blackbirds won the match by shooting a top team score of 192, with the host Salem High Blue Devils second with a 217 and Londonderry third with a 230.

The Londonderry effort was spearheaded by Brian Boyle with his top individual score of 42.

Nick McCann shot a 44, Ryan Montibello had a 47, Tom Marcantonio tallied a 48, Anthony Cavallaro and Kyle McEachern each bagged a 49, Tommy Dutra claimed a 50, and Sam Seibert finished with a 53.

Grant's group entered this week facing a couple of home matches at the Passaconaway Country

Club in Litchfield, with the first being Wednesday, Aug. 31 against the Dover High Green Wave and the Nashua North Titans (after Londonderry Times press time) and then this Friday, Sept. 2 against both the Exeter High School Blue Hawks and the Merrimack High Tomahawks.

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Lancer Boy Booters Slammed by Graduation, Look to Start Fresh

CHRIS PANTAZIS
LONDONDERRY TIMES

Coach Todd Ellis' 2015 LHS boys' soccer team had an exceptional season before losing a hard-fought, 1-0 decision to the Concord High Crimson Tide in the Division I championship match in November.

Ellis' senior-heavy Lancer contingent went 15-3-2 in what wound up being a storied campaign that ended with the locals falling just short of a state crown.

On graduation day this

spring the varsity team had more than a dozen players collect their diplomas, and Ellis enters his fourth season as the LHS boys' soccer mentor needing to acclimate 13 athletes with no previous varsity experience to that challenging level of play.

"We graduated 13 seniors last year, nine of whom started," lamented the coach. "And unfortunately, our starting center back and captain also tore his ACL. So we are young, and our goal is to put in the effort and con-

tinue to get better as the season goes on. Hopefully, we are playing our best when the tournament comes around."

The Lancers' lone returning starter is senior midfielder Jayden West, who will also serve as a tri-captain along with the injured Nick Vanini and returning letterman and senior goalie Cam Wheeler.

Other returning lettermen with important varsity experience are senior middies Brian Frechette and Nalen Iarribino and

juniors Owen Creed (mid-die), Josh Rutina (striker), and Luke Cava (back).

The long list of varsity newcomers includes seniors Eric Brown (goalie) and Nick Daileanes (back) and juniors Luca Amerena (middle), Nolan Bartlett (back), Jake Croteau (mid-die), Nick Dawe (middle), Zack Deleo (middle), Denis Geiger (middle), Will Houghton (back), Ryan Johnson (back), Josh Ryan (striker), Chris Stanley (middle), and Mike Di-Mambro (middle).

Ellis - who thinks that

the Bedford High Bulldogs will be a team to watch closely in Division I this autumn - saw his Lancers officially begin their 2016 campaign with a 2-0 loss to the visiting Hanover High Marauders at LHS last Friday, Aug. 26.

The first half of the match was scoreless, but the Marauders managed to get two shots past Lancer goalie Wheeler in half number two to bag the win. Wheeler finished the match with seven saves on nine shots on net, and his teammates

smacked four shots on the Hanover keeper.

"I thought we were slow to start in the first, and then started to pick it up as the half went on," said the coach. "We were optimistic about our chances in the second half, however I thought we came out and remained flat. We have work to do. It's our goal to get better as the season goes on. This game should help us. There are things we need to work on, and we can do it if the effort is there."

Lancer Gridders Aim to Minimize Mistakes, Rebound in Division I

CHRIS PANTAZIS
LONDONDERRY TIMES

It's a good bet that very few folks will remember the 2015 Londonderry High School football season fondly, and with good reason.

And because that's the case, Lancers' head coach Jimmy Lauzon enters his third year of running the program with a good amount of veteran talent and the explicit messages that smart play and minimizing mistakes will be vital for the LHS gridders as they aim to climb back into the intense Division I fray after finishing at 3-6 last autumn.

"Our keys to a successful season are to use our experience to our advantage and not make the same mistakes we made last season," said Lauzon. "We have to play better in all three phases



Minimizing mistakes and playing hard sit right at the heart of the LHS football team's hopes going into the 2016 season.

of the game. The schedule will be tough, so we will have to stay healthy and be consistent all year."

Lauzon was dead-on in mentioning that his Lancers' 2016 schedule will be tough, and it couldn't start a whole lot tougher than with a road contest

against the defending Division I champion Goffstown High Grizzlies on that opponent's home field this Saturday, Sept. 3.

Battle-tested, returning veterans with starting experience on this fall's LHS squad include quarterbacks Jake Stevens (a senior) and Ben Johnson (junior), and Stevens' fellow seniors Cam MacDonald (wide receiver), Pete Navarro (wide receiver and safety), Zac Garside (guard and linebacker), Nick Scarfo (guard/LB), Chris Komst (lineman), Eric Doran (LB), Brandon Radford (WR/defensive end), and Seth Cormier (defensive tackle). Also back in the fold and boasting starting experience is junior lineman Jake Mullin.

Other returnees - who all gained some key varsity experience during the

tough 2015 campaign - are seniors Ed Upton (DT), Mark Bickford (guard), and Ian Harris (tackle).

Lauzon's list of promising newcomers for the 2016 season is packed with skilled seniors and juniors, including 12th graders Xavier Cora (LB) and John Michael Hughes (WR/DE) and 11th graders Connor Dubois (WR/cornerback), Adam Wilkinson (WR/safety), Mike

McAlister (QB/DB/WR), Shane MacEachern (WR/DB), Jake Dionne (running back/LB), Pat Zepf (tight end/DE), and Jack Connors (WR/DE).

When asked to cite which Division I teams concern him most coming into the new campaign, Lauzon responded. "Merrimack seems to be the team everyone is talking about, but there are a lot of factors that go into a

season of success, so it's tough to predict."

The way the 2016 schedule breaks down for Lauzon and his Lancers, they will play their South Division adversaries Pinkerton at LHS on Sept. 23, Merrimack on the road on Oct. 7, Salem on the road on Oct. 14, and then Timberlane of Plaistow in Londonderry on Oct. 28 in the locals' regular season finale.

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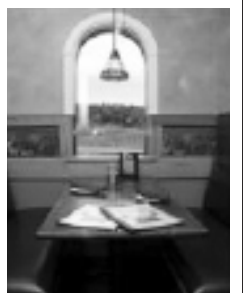
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With Loads of Returnees Back, LHS Field Hockey Ready to Roll

CHRIS PANTAZIS
LONDONDERRY TIMES

After making it all the way to the Division I tournament semi-

finals before being eliminated last fall, the members of the Londonderry High field hockey squad and their veteran coach



Newcomer Nicole Chames is aiming to contribute to more Lady Lancer field hockey success this season.

Laura Federico were able to derive quite a bit of solace from the facts that they made it so far and that they would be having a slew of battle-tested veterans back in the fold for the 2016 campaign this autumn.

When she glances up and down her 2016 roster, Federico sees nine returning starters and 17 total returnees with varsity experience under their belts.

Add to that impressive number four promising newcomers, and you have a Lady Lancer contingent that might even be able to do better than the 7-5-2 regular season record it compiled last fall - tallying the seventh seed in tough Division I - on the way to the final-four finish.

The returning starters include seniors Val Shay

(a defender), Sophia Poulin (defense), Gabby L'Hereux (midfielder), Alison Whitehead (forward), and Olivia Pumbo (forward), and juniors Caroline Russell (defense), Ellen Kester (defense), Katie Meuse (middie), and Maeve McPhail (forward).

The Lady Lancers' other returnees include seniors Laura Batchelor, Lexi Mayo (both middies) and Paige Potvin (defense), juniors Chase Vanini (defense), Kiera Wright (middie), and Krista Fletcher (forward), and sophomores Hunter Langley (defense) and Alivia Proulx (forward).

The quartet of impressive varsity newcomers includes seniors Danielle Ziv (goalie) and Nicole Chames (middie) and juniors Alli March (middie) and Lauren Mullen (forward).

Federico - who sees the Keene High Lady Blackbirds, Pinkerton Lady Astros, Timberlane Lady Owls of Plaistow, and Bishop Guertin Lady Cardinals of Nashua as being potentially the toughest D-I squads this



Veteran midfielder Lexi Mayo hopes to help the LHS field hockey squad get deep into the 2016 tourney again this fall. Photos by Chris Pantazis

autumn - thinks her own squad's keys to success this season being "Working together as a team at practice and on game days, and being mentally prepared as well as physically."

And the Londonderry High team has jumped right into the fire with bat-

tles against two of those tough teams in this, week one of the 2016 season. The Lady Lancers played host to Guertin Tuesday, Aug. 30 after Londonderry Times press time, and they face their first road match this Friday, Sept. 2, against Timberlane in Plaistow.

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Senior Center Offers Plenty to Entertain Residents

PENNY WILLIAMS
LONDONDERRY TIMES

The Londonderry Senior Center is always busy, whether in the midst of a craft show or just an ordinary weekday. And even with a building expansion in progress, Senior Affairs Director Cathy Blash said the temporary move to the Londonderry Lions Club Hall building is pretty much all set.

"We expect to make

the move starting Sept. 12," she said. "I have tried to keep all the programs the same. We will be open at the Lions Hall Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays. I have made some moves to accommodate the lost Friday time slot. The Bone Builders on Friday is moved to Wednesday afternoons and bingo will meet just Tuesday afternoons. The art class will be at noon on Thursdays.

"We anticipate being back in our newly expanded building by the middle of October or the first of November," she noted. "The men are making such rapid progress, we know it will happen."

The center provides its members with a monthly blood pressure, hearing and diabetic support check, and every other month offers a foot clinic. In addition, Panera Bread and Hannaford

Supermarket provide the center with leftover bread and pastry products, something many members look forward to.

Every day different programs are offered. Mondays start with the Panera delivery, followed by a Zengevity class, where seniors do gentle movement exercises and use their brains to answer questions while moving. This is followed by a Bone Builders class, where the

emphasis is on balance and strength training. Cribbage and Mah Jongg games are offered in the early afternoon, followed by a ceramics class.

On Tuesdays members can take part in a chair exercise class, Wii games, a knitters group and a poker group, with Bingo in the afternoon.

Wednesdays features aerobics, a Pilates group and Bingo in the afternoon.

Thursdays bring more Bingo, the Rockingham Nutrition Meals on Wheels lunch program, and an afternoon of line dancing.

A flu clinic will be held Sept. 28 from 8:30 to 10:30 a.m., followed by an LSCI (Londonderry Senior Citizens, Inc.) luncheon at 11:30 a.m. catered by Sabatino's. Sign-up for the meal is required; cost is \$4 for members and \$14 for non-members.

Londonderry Man Graduates from College at Age 76

PENNY WILLIAMS
LONDONDERRY TIMES

Gene McGraw dropped out of high school within one semester of graduating and enlisted in the United States Army. In doing so, he never experienced wearing a cap and gown.

But in 2014, the Department of Veterans Affairs increased his service-connected disability to a level that qualified him for educational benefits, and on Jan. 10, 2015, he started classes at the Springfield College, School of Professional Studies at its Manchester campus.

He received his Bachelor of Science degree cum laude in Human Services last week, on Aug. 27, in ceremonies in Manches-

ter.

Looking back, McGraw said, "Shortly before I dropped out of high school, I was told by one of my teachers that I should learn a trade because I was not college material. The Army recruiter said they would send me to Automotive Mechanics School. Unfortunately for my plans to become an automotive specialist, the Army felt my mechanical aptitude scores were too high, and as such I was denied the chance to receive the automotive mechanics training I was promised by the recruiter. On-the-job training was all that was required for the job the Army had in mind for me after basic training - packing Jeep wheel-bear-



Gene McGraw

ings by hand.

He said that not seeing any future in that position, he spent the rest of his enlistment on the boxing team, and when his enlistment ended, he went to work for his father.

It was about that time that he remembered something another of his

high school teachers had told him - that if he wanted a good job, a good education would get a good 9-to-5 job, but if he wanted to make money, he should find someone who makes money, and do what they do.

So in 1972, he received his Life and Health Insurance Agents License from the State of California. In 1983 he became an Independent Managing General Insurance Agent with agencies in Arizona and Oregon, and was able to retire comfortably by the time he was 51.

But he couldn't just do nothing and decided to go back to school and get the chance to wear that cap and gown.

"Being the oldest student was a real hoot,

attending classes with individuals much younger than I," he said. "While they were reading about history, I was able to give them an eyewitness account on a wide variety of topics that had taken place in the last 70 years.

Going back to school was one of the most enjoyable things I have ever done. To accomplish something you were told was not possible is extremely satisfying. Now, my wish is to work with abused and neglected children - to let

them know it's okay to tell someone if they are being mistreated."

As an aside, McGraw noted he was part of the last graduating class for the Springfield College Manchester campus.

"I owe a great deal of gratitude to the entire faculty and staff at Springfield College for all the help and encouragement they have so graciously provided me these past two years," he said. "Knowing them has enriched my life."

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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. Please send items to calendar@nutpub.net.

Fall Bulb Sale

The Friends of the Londonderry Leach Library are holding their Fall Bulb Sale, now through Friday, Sept. 23. New this year are color-themed gardens and 60 days of tulips. Purple alliums are also for sale, along with many other flowers. Come to the library to view all the selections in the catalogue. Orders can be placed at the library's main desk.

Supervisors of Checklist

The Supervisors of the Voter Checklist will meet at Town Hall on Tuesday, Sept. 6 from 6 to 7:30 p.m. to correct the checklist and register new voters. Voters

should bring proof of citizenship, such as a birth certificate or passport, a photo ID, and proof of residency. Affidavits are available for missing documents. This is the last day to register to vote before the State Primary on Sept. 13. No party affiliation changes will be accepted before the Primary. Registrations will be accepted on Election Day with proper documents, but lines could be long.

Chamber Nominations

The Greater Derry Londonderry Chamber of Commerce seeks nominations for its annual Citizen of the Year and Business of the Year awards. The Citizen

award recognizes a resident who has contributed to the betterment of the community through volunteer service and civic leadership; the Business award recognizes a business or organization demonstrating outstanding leadership and contributions to growth of the business community and dedication to community service. Nominations close Tuesday, Sept. 6 at gldchamber.org/awards. Nominees or nominators need not be Chamber members. The awards will be presented Oct. 6.

Senior Center Construction

The Senior Center will be closed Monday, Sept. 5 through Friday, Sept. 9. Seniors will relocate to the Lions Hall starting Sept. 12 for the duration of the construction project at the Senior Center, and will use the Lions Hall Mondays through Thursdays in September and October. The facility will also be closed Sept. 29 and Oct. 10 and 11.

Girls Lax Boosters

The Londonderry Quick Sticks Girls Lacrosse Booster Club will be holding its annual Board of Directors election at its monthly meeting at 6:30 p.m. Sept. 13 at Londonderry High School. All members all welcome.

Search for Town's Oldest Citizen

The town of Londonderry is searching for town's oldest citizen to be presented The Boston Post Cane. The Boston Post Cane tradition started in 1909 when the Boston Post newspaper delivered the cane to 700 towns in New England for them to be presented to the oldest citizens. Candidates must be the oldest known citizen in town documented by birth certificate, passport or voter registration; a resident of Londonderry for at least 25 years; and a U.S.

Citizen, Naturalized or registered voter. For more info contact: Kay Webber, Londonderry Historical Society, 24 Peabody Row, Londonderry. Call 432-2886. Deadline is Sept. 30.

Road Paving

Continuing into the fall, the Town of Londonderry will begin paving the following roads: Boyd, Harvey near #22, Harvey from the Reserve Center to Pettengill, Industrial Drive from Pettengill to Commerce Way, and portions of Kendall Pond Road, King Arthur Drive, McAllister Drive, Merlin Place, Pettengill from Planeview Drive to Industrial Drive, Stokes, West from Wiley Hill Road to Quarry Drive, and White Plains Avenue. For questions, call the Department of Public Works at 432-1100, ext. 193.

Women's Club Scholarship

The Londonderry Women's Club is accepting applications for an adult female scholarship in the amount of \$500. The requirements are: must be a female at least 25 years of age and a current resident of Londonderry; and must be currently enrolled at an accredited post-secondary institution and have completed a minimum of half of the time or credits toward the named graduate degree, certificate or licensing program. Applications will be accepted through Sept. 30, and are available at the Leach Library and online at www.londonderrywomenclub.org.

Coffee Chat

Rabbi Peter Levy of Etz Hayim Synagogue and the Reverend Ray Bonin of the Church of the Transfiguration, both in Derry, host an open discussion on Thursday, Sept. 8 and again on Thursday, Sept. 22 from 6:30 to 8 p.m. at Coffeeberries in the Apple Tree Mall, 4 Orchard View Drive, Londonderry. The event offers a place for respectful discussion with no agenda, no proselytizing and no converting. For information, call 432-0004 or email rabbi@etzhayim.org.

Poetry Reading

Midge Goldberg of Chester will give a poetry reading at Etz Hayim Synagogue, 1-1/2 Hood Road, Derry, at 8 p.m. Sept. 17. Her reading will be preceded by

a short Havdalah service and followed by an open mic. Free cake and coffee will be served. Goldberg's most recent book of poetry, "Snowman's Code," was the recipient of the 2015 Richard Wilbur Poetry Award. She is a member of the Powow River Poets.

Garden Club

The Derry Garden Club meets Friday, Sept. 9 at 10 a.m. at the Boys and Girls Club of Greater Derry, 40 Hampstead Road, Derry. The program will be "Gardening is Murder!" with Neal Sanders, the author of 10 mysteries, several using garden club settings. He offers a husband's humorous point of view on gardening and will discuss horticulture advice on gardening with humor. The luncheon will be provided by the committee. Members are asked to bring items for the food pantry. This meeting is also the 81st anniversary celebration of the club.

Holiday Closing

The Leach Library will be closed Monday, Sept. 5 for Labor Day.

Reptiles & Amphibians

"Scales and Skins: Reptiles & Amphibians of New Hampshire" will be presented by MacLane Audubon at the Leach Library on Monday, Sept. 12 from 4 to 5 p.m. to compare the similarities and differences between reptiles and amphibians. Live animals and props will demonstrate characteristics of these cold-blooded creatures. Live animal visitors may include a corn snake, box turtle and frog. Advance registration is required and begins at 9 a.m. Tuesday, Sept. 6. To register, call 432-1127 or stop by the Children's Room.

Pirates

On Monday, Sept. 19 from 4 to 5 p.m., the Leach

Library celebrates International Talk Like a Pirate Day. During this celebration, children will hear stories of pirates and learn pirate words and maybe a pirate jig. The event includes a search for buried treasure. Each participant will leave with a bag of pirate treasure. Advance registration is required and begins at 9 a.m. Monday, Sept. 12. To register, call 432-1127 or stop by the Children's Room.

Model Railroading

Seacoast Division of the National Model Railroad Association continues its Derry Fun Night programs the second Friday of each month from 7 to 9 p.m. at Marion Gerrish Community Center, 39 West Broadway, Derry. Seacoast Division members will offer their expertise in model railroading to explain how to get into the hobby. The series theme is "So, you want to...." The Sept. 9 meeting will cover "So...What did you do trackside this summer?" Bring photos and stories about the hobby. One presentation will be of a train trip on the Cass Scenic Railroad in West Virginia. For details, visit: seacoastnmra.org/calendar.

Family Workshop

The Granite YMCA and The Upper Room partner to present a free, four-part workshop for parents, grandparents and teens to promote family communication. The program kicks off Thursday, Sept. 15 at 6:15 p.m. at Londonderry Middle School, 313 Mammoth Road. The series is designed to promote safe and open communication in families and practice of communication skills. Topics include distracted driving, depression, understanding one's digital footprint, and making choices about drugs and

Continued on page 17

OBITUARY

Chester "Chet" Harold Hall Jr.



Chester "Chet" Harold Hall Jr. died peacefully at his home in Londonderry, NH on August 23, 2016. Chet was 82 years old.

Born on April 2, 1934 in Somerville MA of Chester H. Hall Sr. and Dorothy (Laird) Hall, Chet grew up in Medford MA, where he attended Medford High School and graduated in 1952. He later attended and graduated from the Massachusetts College of Art (MassArt) in 1960. Shortly after graduating from MassArt, Chet took a job as an art teacher at Rindge Technical High School in Cambridge MA, where he worked for many years until his retirement.

Chet is preceded in death by his son Chester H. Hall III. Chet is also survived by his wife, Valerie W. Hall and his children, daughter Valerie Samuels and her husband, Wayne; son Clifton Hall and his wife, Elena; daughter Lesa Hall; daughter-in-law Sheila Hall; and son Mark Phillips and his wife, Dianne. Chet is also survived by his brothers William and his wife, Sonja; Frank and his wife, Lori; Arthur and his wife, Mary; Albert and his wife, Janis; John and his wife, Dorothy; and by his sisters Dorothy Hall and Gwen Sheehan. Chet also leaves behind 12 grandchildren, four great grandchildren and many nieces and nephews.

A private service will be held for family members.

— PAID OBITUARY —

Around Town

Continued from page 16

alcohol. Other session dates are Dec. 1, and Jan. 19 and March 23, 2017, all from 6:15 to 7:30 p.m. at Londonderry Middle School. Advance reg-

istration is requested at 437-8477.

Interfaith Choir

The Interfaith Choir invites all former members and potential new members to join them for their 50th anniversary season. Re-

hearsals begin Sunday, Sept. 11 at 7 p.m. in St. Luke's United Methodist Church, 63 East Broadway, Derry. The first rehearsal will be an "Open Sing" to give new members a chance to give the choir a try. There are no auditions, no dues and no

prior experience required. Anyone who is at least high school age is welcome to join. To learn more about the choir, e-mail ifcderry@gmail.com or call 329-6047.

Hyla Brook Series

The Robert Frost Farm's

Hyla Brook Reading Series wraps up the 2016 season on Thursday, Sept. 8 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at the farm, 122 Rockingham Road (Route 28), Derry. The reading will feature Boston-area poet Johnny Longfellow and Hyla Brook poet Marti Noel

of Goffstown. An Open Mic follows the readings, and all audience members are invited to share their work. For further information, email hylabrookpoets@gmail.com or visit www.frostfarmpoetry.org or facebook.com/

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Londonderry Police Log

Selections from the Londonderry Police Logs

Friday, Aug. 19
5:06 p.m. Tristin Manson-Herdt, 34, 19 Stonewall Terrace, Atkinson arrested for Domestic Violence Simple Assault.

Tuesday, Aug. 23
12:29 a.m. Overdose investigated on Kendall Pond Road.

2:23 p.m. Overdose at Elliot Primary Care/Urgent Care, Buttrick Road.

4:33 p.m. Neighborhood dispute on Granite Street.

8:06 p.m. Criminal mischief on Chase Road.

Wednesday, Aug. 24

10:15 a.m. Brett Kyle Trudel, 28, 41 Meeting House Lane, Manchester served warrant for Criminal Trespass, Criminal Mischief (vandalism) and Littering-Unlawful Activities.

8:50 p.m. Jeffrey Francis Champlain, 24, 126 Capitol Hill Drive arrested for Receiving Stolen Property and Theft/Shoplifting

Thursday, Aug. 25
4:16 p.m. Dean Martin Pitore, 24, 34 Fulton St., Hyde Park, Mass., arrested following motor vehicle

accident on Old Derry Road for Conduct After an Accident.

Saturday, Aug. 27
5:12 p.m. Overdose reported on Chase Brook Road.

Sunday, Aug. 28
2:17 a.m. Christopher Arthur Stringfellow, 27, 58C Auburn Road, Londonderry arrested for Criminal Mischief (vandalism) and Possession of Controlled/ Narcotic Drugs.

1:06 p.m. Criminal mischief on Sherwood Road.

Londonderry Man Guilty of Federal Drug and Firearm Charges

PENNY WILLIAMS
LONDONDERRY TIMES

Christopher DeCoste, 20, of Londonderry, pled guilty in United States District Court for the District of New Hampshire to federal charges of possessing over 400 grams of fentanyl with intent to distribute and being a felon in possession of a firearm, United States Attorney Emily Gray Rice announced last week.

The report from the U.S. Attorney’s Office states, “According to court documents and

statements at the plea hearing, on April 14, 2016 law enforcement officers executed a search warrant at the defendant’s residence in Londonderry, to search for evidence of the defendant’s drug trafficking activity. During the search, approximately 800 grams of fentanyl were recovered, as well as \$42,850 in United States currency. Officers also found a .22 Walther handgun with a magazine and two rounds of ammunition hidden in a wall. DeCoste later admitted that he intended to sell the drugs that were seized and that he had the gun for protection in case he was robbed.”

U.S. District Judge Joseph DiClerico scheduled sentencing for Nov. 30.

Multiple departments and agencies were involved in the investigation and prosecution, including the Manchester

Police Department, the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration, and the Londonderry Police Department. However, Londonderry Police Detective Chris Olson said there is no record of his department’s being involved in the search.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Seth Aframe.

According to statistics maintained by the State of New Hampshire, over half of the drug overdose deaths in New Hampshire in 2015 were related to fentanyl. Because a single gram of heroin or fentanyl can be used to create multiple individual dosage units that can be sold “on the street,” the quantity of fentanyl involved in this case could have generated a large number of individual doses of fentanyl, each of which had the potential to cause a fatal overdose.

Around Town

Continued from page 18

HylaBrookPoets or twitter.com/HylaBrookPoets.

Writing Workshop

In September, the Hyla Brook Poets’ monthly writing workshop will meet on the third Saturday of the

month at 10 a.m. at the Frost Farm, 122 Rockingham Road (Route 28), Derry before moving to the Derry Public Library for the fall and winter months. For further information, email hylabrookpoets@gmail.com or visit www.frostfarmpoetry.org or facebook.com/HylaBrookPoets or twitter.com/HylaBrookPoets.



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Local Democrats Gather for Annual Barbecue



Democrats from Londonderry and surrounding towns gathered Saturday at Mack's Apples orchard for their annual barbecue. Candidates for office spoke at the gathering and addressed the crowd about the importance of the upcoming Primary and presidential election. Two of the most noteworthy speakers were Gov. Maggie Hassan, who is seeking the U.S. Senate seat currently held by Republican Kelly Ayotte, and Carol Shea-Porter, who hopes to regain the post of Congresswoman in the 1st District of New Hampshire.

Photo by Chris Paul



Presidential Politics in Londonderry

SANDY DAHLFRED
LONDONDERRY HISTORICAL
SOCIETY

Phew! The Primary madness is over for another four years. The telephone and doorbell have stopped ringing. No one wants my opinion anymore.

Annoying as it can sometimes be, the attention that's focused on our state during presidential election years is important for us and for the rest of the country, and we New Hampshire take it seriously.

New Hampshire has been holding a presidential primary since 1916, making the year 2016 the 100th anniversary of the event. Ours is the first primary held in the country, but the second party contest after the Iowa caucuses. Independents here are allowed to vote, unlike in some other states, but we don't meet the definition of an "open primary" because those registered

with a party are not allowed to vote outside of their party.

Because of its first-in-the-nation status, the New Hampshire primary attracts so much media attention that it has become a testing ground for the candidates, despite the relatively few number of delegates at stake.

Londonderry's involvement with presidents and would-be presidents goes back much further than the institution of the primary. In 1833, newly re-elected Andrew Jackson passed through town during his famous tour of New England. Although Jackson, a Democrat, had carried only the two New England states of New Hampshire and Maine, it was an improvement over his 1828 election, when he'd carried none. Among other things, the tour was meant to strengthen the Democrats' new popularity in the Northeast.

This visit occurred during the stagecoach days and several New Hampshire taverns claimed that Jackson spent a night at their establishments. Here in Londonderry, that claim was made by White's Tavern on Mammoth Road in the northern part of town. According to the Londonderry Historical Society's web site, Presidents James Polk and Franklin Pierce also visited White's.

In 1872, Horace Greeley was a candidate for President. Although born in Amherst, his parents were from Londonderry and he spent many summers at his grandparents' home on High Range Road, where he attended Schoolhouse #4. Greeley endured so much criticism during this campaign that he remarked that he didn't know if he was running for "the presidency or the penitentiary."

What made the 1872 election particularly noteworthy, however, is that Greeley died - after the popular election was held but before the Electoral College had cast its votes. Ulysses Grant handily won the election but it still stands as the only presidential contest in which a candidate passed away during the electoral process.

Candidates have traditionally attempted to get to as many areas within our state as possible, and Londonderry is usually one of the stops. Sometimes we're taken by surprise, as in 2008 when Bill Clinton appeared at the polls in support of Hillary. Usually, however, the visits are planned in advance so that folks can attend the events and ask questions of the candidates.

Speaking directly to presidential hopefuls about their plans and ideas is important to New Hampshire citizens. In

1952, a Londonderry farmer did not let the fact that he had just finished cleaning his chicken coops stop him from attending a rally for Robert Taft, the Ohio senator who was vying with Eisenhower for the Republican nomination. When interviewed by a reporter, this farmer stated firmly that he would vote for Taft simply because Eisenhower had not visited the state and "I ain't never voted for a man that don't ask me." It seems that candidates since then have heeded this unintentional advice

and made a point of stopping in Londonderry, and elsewhere around the state, to ask for our votes.

To learn more about local history, visit our website at www.londonderry-history.org or attend a meeting, held on the third Tuesday of the month at 6:30 P.M. at the Leach Library. If you value Londonderry's history, consider becoming a member. A family membership is \$25 a year and will help us to fulfill our mission of preserving the town's past. We look forward to meeting you!

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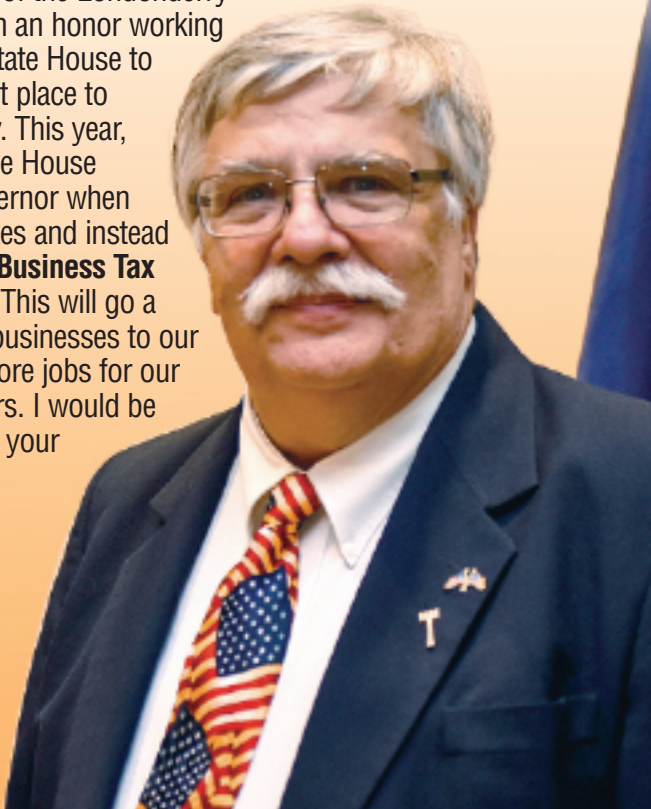
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VOTE *Sherm* PACKARD

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— *Sherm*



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