

Londonderry Times

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A FREE Weekly Publication



Londonderry voters moved nearly thirty Warrant Article to the ballot for the upcoming March election. Photo by Chris Paul.

Voters Scrutinize Operating Budget

KATHLEEN D. BAILEY
LONDONDERRY TIMES

A proposed 2018 operating budget of \$32,301,194 will go to voters in the March election, after residents expressed concern about the tax impact in the Feb. 11 town deliberative session.

The budget is \$30,000 lower than the default budget of \$32,331,194, which will go into effect if the original budget fails at

the polls. The proposed budget is 4.58 percent higher than the FY 2017 budget. It includes payments to the TIF District and two grant-funded positions at the Londonderry Police Department. If approved, it would result in a town tax rate of \$4.86 per \$1,000.

Resident Pauline Caron asked what the total tax increase would be if the operating budget and all

continued on page 9

Voters Communicate About Communications Upgrade

KATHLEEN D. BAILEY
LONDONDERRY TIMES

While community members had questions about a hybrid bonding/leasing proposal for a town-wide communications upgrade, it passed the scrutiny of voters in the Feb. 11 Town Deliberative Session and will go on the March ballot for all registered voters to weigh in.

Chilled Londonderry residents battled an early snowfall to get to the Londonderry High School cafeteria, where they reviewed the 28 warrant articles for the March ballot. The item with the biggest price tag is the Communications Upgrade,

which will require a 60 percent majority vote to pass. While several residents expressed concerns, the article passed to the March warrant unaltered.

The proposal has several components including the following: The issuance of bonds or notes in \$1,000,000; To authorize the use of \$1,000,000 from the Unassigned Fund Balance for the bond; A capital lease for \$740,936; and To raise and appropriate \$245,000 for the first year's interest and principal payment on the bond, notes and capital lease. If approved, the proposal would have a tax rate impact of 0.06 in 2018. It would improve communi-

cation issues for Police, Fire and Public Works. Residents had questions, most notably about the cost.

Resident Al Baldasaro, also a State Representative, said, "Look at the cost. Why didn't we upgrade what we have, instead of buying all new?"

Baldasaro pointed out that technology would most likely change over the 10-year life of the bond.

But Fire Chief Darren O'Brien, whose staff did the research on the proposal, said that the current equipment is outdated. "It will not be supported after 2020," he told Baldasaro. "This week one of our radios went down,

continued on page 10

Seniors Transportation Discussed at Deliberative

KATHLEEN D. BAILEY
LONDONDERRY TIMES

After extensive discussion and a modification, voters in the Feb. 11 town deliberative session moved a warrant article on public transportation for seniors and others to the March ballot.

The article, Article 21 on the warrant, asks voters to approve raising and appropriating \$35,000 for creating a town transportation program for seniors to supplement CART, the Cooperative Alliance for Regional Transportation. The article was shepherded through the process by Councilor Joe Green, the Council liaison

to the Senior Resources Committee. While the article was not unanimously approved by his fellow Councilors and was rejected by the Budget Committee, the concept, after amendment, passed voters to the warrant.

In public comment, resident Martin Srugis, also a CART board member, said, "I don't see any numbers. I don't see a report on problems in service."

Green responded that he had heard anecdotally from seniors, many of whom can't make night meetings. "There are a lot of 'silent sufferers,'" he said.

Srugis also reminded the Council and audience

that the \$35,000 for the Londonderry program would be paid fully by the town, while CART is Federally subsidized. He suggested, instead of starting a program, that Londonderry use the money to make CART run more efficiently.

Resident Ann Gaffney said, "Neither the Budget

continued on page 7

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School Requests Pass to Warrant at Deliberative Session

KATHLEEN D. BAILEY
LONDONDERRY TIMES

The Londonderry School District will go to the voters in March with a proposed budget of \$71,150,000, which is \$60,000 lower than the default budget of \$71,210,426.

The operating budget for 2017-18 is \$371,997 more than last year's budget, and if approved would result in a school portion of the tax rate of \$13.15.

The budget was reviewed by voters and passed on to the warrant in the School District Deliberative Session held Feb. 10 in the Londonderry High School cafeteria.

Superintendent Nate Greenberg listed some of the driving factors of the budget, including salaries, which account for 81 percent of the budget "pie."

While the schools saw a drop in enrollment from 2006 to 2016, Greenberg said, they are seeing an increase this year, primarily from the north end of town and primarily in the elementary grades. The proposed budget for next year includes three elementary teachers, one for

each of the district's elementary schools.

"We are projecting 4,023 students in the district for next year, with an additional 95 from new developments," he said. "That will be an increase of 107 students over this past year."

Sixty-five percent of the new students will be at the elementary level, according to Greenberg.

By 2020, according to information from the town planning department, the new developments will generate 398 new students, he said.

Greenberg listed some of the district's accomplishments, including, at the high school, 14 AP classes with 520 students, 25 honors classes with 1,182 students and 16 Running Start classes with 197 students. In addition, several students are pursuing associate degrees with Nashua Community College and two are scheduled to graduate with dual degrees this spring.

Greenberg also stressed the importance of co-curricular activities, with 79 sports teams between the middle and high schools, 55 clubs at the

elementary level, 27 clubs at the middle school and 40 at the high school. At the three levels of education, 1,625 children are enrolled in co-curricular music programs, he said.

Greenberg said revenues are expected at \$20,683,097, including Federal and state money and tuition from Hooksett students. Hooksett students provide a 27-cent "offset" to the tax rate, he said.

In public comment, resident David Ellis asked Greenberg if the expected 400 students would strain the facilities. "That is a 10 percent increase," Ellis said.

"It will provide stress on our facilities," Greenberg responded. There is a strong possibility that another elementary school will be needed, especially when Woodmont Commons opens, he said.

Resident Leslie Schilling urged passage of the budget. She moved to Londonderry from Long Island in 1989, "hoping for a bright future" for her three sons, she said. She knew the school district had an outstanding reputation and believed "there is no limit to what chil-

dren can achieve." Schilling saw her three sons achieve their dreams and went back to school to become an educator, eventually becoming the librarian at South School. "I got to see education firsthand," she said. "The taxpayers have a return on their investment."

She urged residents to vote for the higher default budget.

The budget was moved to the warrant.

The voters reviewed four collective bargaining contracts and passed them to the warrant:

Londonderry Education Association, two years, first year \$790,140, tax impact 0.21 cents;

Allied Health Professionals, two years, first year \$63,921, tax impact 0.02 cents;

Custodians, three years, first year \$63,474, tax

impact 0.02 cents;

Londonderry Support Staff, three years, first year \$114,779, tax impact 0.03 cents.

In addition, the legislative body passed Article 8 to the warrant, accepting School Lunch and other Federal funds, \$3,061,000; Article 9, \$600,000 to the School Buildings Maintenance Expendable Trust Fund, estimated tax impact 0.16 cents; Article 10, Equipment Capital Reserve Fund, \$125,000, tax impact 0.03 cents; Article 11, Special Education Trust Fund, \$50,000, tax impact 0.01 cents; and Article 12, non-lapsing article for \$275,000 for asbestos removal for three of the district's schools.

If the budget and all the warrant articles pass, the district is looking at a 2.17 percent increase and a tax portion of 13.66, Greenberg said.

Voting is Tuesday, March 14, from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. in the Londonderry High School gym.

In other business, the Londonderry High School Marching Band under the direction of Andrew Soucy provided a color guard and accompaniment for the National Anthem at the beginning of the meeting.

Board chair Nancy Hendricks honored Greenberg, who will retire at the end of the school year. "In 17 years, he has led the district to become one of the finest in the country," Hendricks said. "He is laser-focused, and always put the needs of the students first."

Hendricks noted how Greenberg's leadership has resulted in a dropout rate of zero, from 2.6 percent in 2003.

"The board has had a strong, productive and positive relationship with him," she said, adding, "We've had our share of spirited discussions. You always know where Nate stands."

"Your footprint," she told Greenberg, "will forever be on this district."

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Petitioned Articles Get Green Light at Town Deliberative

KATHLEEN D. BAILEY
LONDONDERRY TIMES

Voters in the Feb. 11 Town Deliberative Session expressed their views on four petitioned warrant articles and one article that started out as a petitioned article but was later endorsed by the Town Council.

Article 24 was created by the Town Council after concerned residents of the Longwood Avenue and Hillcrest Lane presented a petitioned article asking for \$230,000 to connect the neighborhood to the town water system. In public hearings, residents expressed concern about their water pressure and amount after a nearby piece of land was designated a Brownfields site. While town water was extended to neighbors, their streets "fell through the cracks." The original article asked the voters to raise the amount through property taxes. But Councilors, citing the righting of a wrong, sponsored their own article, raising the funds from the Unassigned Fund Balance.

"We are doing the right thing," Councilor Joe Green said.

The residents at the meeting approved moving the Council's article to the warrant, and approved amending the original petitioned article, Article 25, to an amount of zero.

The voters also reviewed Article 23, \$100,000 for litter pick-up along town roadways, amended to \$65,000; Article 26, \$144,000, construction of

Phase IV of the Rail Trail; Article 27, \$115,000 for lights for the Nelson Road softball field; and Article 28, \$138,000 for improvements to the Kendall Pond Road Conservation Area.

Resident and chairman of Beautify Londonderry, Mike Byerly, spoke to Article 23. "I moved to Londonderry for three reasons: the location, the schools and the aesthetics," he said, noting that litter in the street lowers property values. Byerly said in previous meetings that Beautify Londonderry can't keep up with the trash, and suggested that the town bring in a professional crew for the main roads and have the volunteer group take care of the residential areas.

Resident David Ellis said he supported the concept, but that too much money was already being spent for him to approve. And Martin Srugis said it was a duplication of services, and property owners were responsible for their own homes.

Councilor Tom Freda was also wary, noting, "If we have this article approved, will that encourage people to put their trash out and the town will clean it up?"

Byerly proposed an amendment to the article, reducing the number to \$65,000. The amendment was approved and moved to the warrant.

Sandra Lageux, vice-chairman of Londonderry Trailways, spoke to Article 26, saying that the proposal would extend the

trail from North School across Route 28 to the North Village area. The project would include a Pedestrian Hybrid Beacon to facilitate crossing.

The total project is \$219,000, with \$125,000 for the Pedestrian Hybrid Beacon, she said. The group has a \$75,000 matching grant in hand from the Hunt Foundation.

Article 26 was approved after being amended to include language about the grant.

Jim Edwards presented Article 27 for the Softball Organization, saying 27 teams use the Nelson Road fields every night during the season. The Council did not support this article, 3-1 and the Budget Committee rejected it, 6-0.

"This is the low quote," Edwards said.

The item was moved to the ballot.

Sponsor Mike Speltz presented Article 28. The improvements to the Kendall Pond area are part of an initiative after the Council urged the Conservation Commission to promote more use of town conservation land, he said. The improvements were originally in the Capital Improvement Plan but were taken out, he said. The idea is to have a moderate or intermediate-level recreation facility, with stone dust paths that a parent can wheel a stroller or.

The South Londonderry area is "underserved" for conservation land, Speltz said, and it's healthy for people to get



Town Council members and town staff listen to many of the article that were passed to the ballot on Saturday morning and into the afternoon.

outside.

The article proposed taking the money from the Unassigned Fund Balance (UFB), and resident Pauline Caron quizzed

Speltz on why Conservation isn't using its own money?

"We like to reserve that for acquisition of property," Speltz said.

The article was amended to raise the money through taxation instead of from the UFB, and the amended article passed to the warrant.

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Editorial

100th Day of School and Snow Days

It's a big day marking a big milestone in the school year—the hundredth day of school. Usually observed mostly in the elementary schools' early years, this school-day centennial is used as a way of having fun with different arithmetic skills such as counting, measuring, etc. And being more than halfway through the school year, the big kids of the middle and high schools see it as the "Wednesday" of the school year – making it this far, much-anticipated summer break doesn't seem as far away, and there is a light at the end of the tunnel.

However, this big day seems to get pushed back farther and farther thanks to the inclement weather, meaning the light at the end of the tunnel gets that much farther away.

The centenary celebration for the elementary-schoolers is usually met with games, treats, and activities all centering around the big number and youngsters in the first couple of years show off their counting skills by bringing in collections of (literally) hundreds of odds and ends that they had put together as a homework assignment with their parents a day or two prior.

The hundredth day of school is usually observed sometime in February. In a perfect world weather-wise, it would most likely take place in the first week of the second month of the year. Be that as it may, we certainly do not reside in a perfect world in any way, and living in New England, a snowstorm or two is expected and inevitable during the school year, and

with snowstorms come the snow days.

While a snow day may mean a break from tests, quizzes and give you a mulligan for that homework assignment put off from over the weekend, it also means an extra day to get through until summer vacation.

And one or two extra days doesn't seem like much to sacrifice for a brief academic reprieve here and there, but when the going gets tough, they add up quick.

Often when school is called off it is a matter of safety, for students and faculty alike. However, if called off prematurely (crying wolf, if you will), this can mean time better spent in schools.

This past Sunday to Monday storm promised more than a foot of the fluffy white stuff, but the thick of it passed before school hours. Still, many schools were called off the night before, when at the most a delay would have been necessary, rather than having to add on an extra day of the school year.

The decision can be a tricky one to make, as it's said over and over again, "if you don't like the weather in New England, just wait five minutes." You never really know what to expect sometimes, so the mindset is it is better to be safe than sorry.

Regardless of what Old Man Winter has brought, soon students will ring in the hundredth day of school, and hopefully soon the Groundhog's dreaded six more weeks of winter will come to a close, and it can go back to business as usual.

Letters

New Pats Fan

To the editor,

I'm a southern boy from Louisiana and my southern heritage should have had me pulling for the Atlanta Falcons in the Super Bowl. But in the 20 years I've been in New Hampshire, I've changed my NFL loyalty from the N.O. Saints to a die-hard Patriot fan. It was never more evident during the Super Bowl when the Pats Donte Hightower caused Falcons QB Matt Ryan to fumble when attempting to pass the football. I think I scared my neighbors. I had to step back

for a moment to grasp what I had just done. Me, a rabid L.S.U. football fan chest-thumping myself for a former Alabama Crimson Tide football player? Incredible! It's well-known that L.S.U. fans intensely dislike with a passion the Crimson Tide football team who has beaten up on L.S.U. for the last 6 years. To make matters even worse was that the Falcons had three, count them, three former LSU players on their starting defensive unit; Jalen Collens (corner back), Tyson Jackson (defensive line) and Deion Jones (middle line-

backer). Ouch! What's this world coming to when I have to pull against my homies? Oh well, c'est la vie. Did you watch the Pats' parade? Despite snow, spelled sneaux in Cajun, and rain, the faithful were out in force screaming themselves hoarse. I thought LSU fans were rabid. Belichick and Brady; best coach and QB ever, EVER.

Do I see a sixth Lombardi Trophy next year? Very possible with Brady.

Go Pats!
Bob Pitre
Captain USMC
Londonderry

Londonderry Times welcomes letters of up to 500 words on topics of local interest, written by local residents, and prints as many letters as possible. Please e-mail your letters to the Londonderry Times at 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. Deadline is 5 p.m. Monday.

District Takes Steps Toward Asbestos Removal

KATHLEEN D. BAILEY
LONDONDERRY TIMES

The Londonderry School District will ask voters to approve a warrant article to raise and appropriate \$275,000 to remove asbestos in three of its schools.

The article, Article 12 on the March warrant, is intended to facilitate the permanent removal of asbestos in Londonderry High School, North Elementary School and Matthew Thornton Elementary School.

Superintendent Nathan Greenberg emphasized in both a press release and phone interview that there is no health danger to students, staff or community groups who use the buildings. What asbestos there is safely contained, according to Greenberg. But he and the School Board recognized that if the district had to repair a pipe or have a roof leak, "That would be

a bigger deal," he said. The exposure to asbestos during repairs would necessitate student and staff relocation, plus costly mitigation, according to Greenberg.

The district currently spends \$25,000 per year for monitoring the asbestos, inspections and smaller-scale abatements for some repairs, he said.

According to the press release, school officials note the cost associated with monitoring asbestos containment and dealing with small abatement projects has steadily risen in recent years, and they believe it will be more cost-effective to remove the substance.

Greenberg wrote in the press release, "The Superintendent and School Board unanimously agree the cleanup should occur before a maintenance emergency forces a more costly option. Based on estimates, an emergency request for abatement

and cleanup of the hazardous material would cost much more than the proposed asbestos removal plan."

Should Article 12 be approved, Greenberg said, the district will contract with an ACBM management company to develop a multi-year plan for the complete removal of all known asbestos in the three schools.

He emphasized that this would take place during summer vacation.

But if there's a leak that requires costly mitigation, "That is a road down which we do not want to go," Greenberg said.

A fact sheet on asbestos from the Environmental Protection Agency states, "Asbestos that is in good condition and left undisturbed is unlikely to present a health risk. The risks from asbestos occur when it is damaged or disturbed where asbestos fibers become airborne and can be inhaled."

Londonderry Times

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Volunteers Continue to Give Town Forest a Face-lift

KATHLEEN D. BAILEY
LONDONDERRY TIMES

Kent Allen and his wife Meredith anticipated spring by planting close to 300 bulbs in the Londonderry Town Forest this past fall. "They are all daffodils," the local landscaper and steward of the Londonderry Town Forest said. "We didn't plant tulips, they are like 'candy' for deer."

The local landscaper and steward of the Londonderry Town Forest has had a busy year. With scrupulous attention to detail, his first year under

the direction of the Town Manager's office rather than the Conservation Commission saw generous staff and volunteer efforts to maintain a town treasure.

Allen was able to have 60-plus piles of brush removed by the Public Works Department, and 224 tons of RAP (recycled asphalt paving). "Public works," he said, "has been my salvation. They took brush, stumps, and big pieces of trees. Without them, it would be a big mess."

He saw four new benches added to the trail

loop and a host of visitors ranging from Tinkergarten, a nature-play-based educational organization for parents and children, to UNH Cooperative Extension Forester Fred Borman.

Eversource pitched in with an Arbor Day project of taking down trees at the Common and Forest, with no cost to the town.

Orchard Christian Church sent 14 volunteers to help with clean up; an effort Allen called a "godsend." "I went ahead for two weeks and cut all the material, and then they came in

and cleaned it up." While the initial clean up was a one-shot, Allen said, he hopes Orchard will come back. It benefits the church too, he said, as the Forest fronts on their property.

It was easier to work through the winter last year because it was an "open winter," according to Allen. This year the number of snowstorms has slowed him a little.

But the New England winter has given him more time to plan, and one of his projects this spring will be invasive plants in the forest. "We

have two major ones, bit-tersweet and poison ivy," he reported. The bitter-sweet easily forms roots, so "you're better off pulling it than cutting it," he said. "Last year we were able to pull some good-sized plants."

He's had the poison ivy sprayed, and will review the effectiveness in the spring, Allen said.

Allen plans to concentrate his efforts in the southeast area of the Forest, he said. "That's the worst area for downed tress, and also for the bit-tersweet," he said. "Until

you see it, you won't believe it. One piece was like a 'net' hanging above the ground."

Allen has formed a good relationship with Kevin Smith, the current Town Manager. "When I finish an area, Kevin and I do a walk-through," he said. "I tell him what I'd like my next step to be, and wait for him to ok it. That's the only way this will work."

Volunteer groups wanting to pick up brush or take on other tasks may contact Allen through the Town Office.

New Parameters for Working at Home Being Developed

KATHLEEN D. BAILEY
LONDONDERRY TIMES

In recognition of the changing nature of the workplace, the Londonderry Planning Board is continuing to review an update to the zoning ordinance regarding Home Occupations.

In the Feb. 8 Planning Board meeting, the board heard from Associate Planner Laura Gandia on the updates to the regulations, which include both a two-tier system and better definitions.

Gandia said the two tiers of Home Occupations include "by right" and "by special exception."

What it is, what it isn't

"By right" home occupations are those under the following conditions;

- They have no impact on the surrounding neighborhood;
- It is not visible to surrounding properties;
- It is conducted en-

tirely within the residence or accessory buildings, and there is no sign except for one on the mailbox;

- Only the resident's personal vehicle is on the property;
- The business has no employees other than the resident; and
- No clients or customers transact business on the property, and no deliveries are made by large freight vehicles.

Home occupations other than those permitted by right are permitted by the Zoning Board of Adjustment by Special Exception, meeting the following criteria:

- The owner of the property must be the applicant;
- The occupation must be carried on within the home or accessory building;
- Only members of the immediate family may be employed;
- Off-street parking is

adequate for anticipated customers

- Only one non-illuminated sign, not to exceed 3 square feet, is permitted; and
- The occupation must not exceed 25 percent of the living space, or if in an accessory building, not exceed more than 50 percent of the living area.

The ordinance excludes uses that involve hazardous substances, motor vehicle service, maintenance, repair, painting or sales, medical, dental or veterinary practices; kennels; and landscaping.

Children and the elderly

Childcare facilities have their own section, according to Gandia, and she recommended continuing to separate them out. There are special requirements from the state Department of Health and Human Services for childcare licenses, she reminded the board.

The Child Care section includes updated definitions including Family Child Care, up to 6 children for less than 24 hours a day; Family Group Child Care Home, 7 to 12 children for less than 24 hours a day; and Child Care Nursery, any part of a day for 5 or more children under the age of 3. Up to 3 more children in a full-day school program may be added to Family Child Care and up to 5 more children attending a full-day school program may be added to Family Group Child Care.

The draft deleted Adult Day Care Facilities as a Home Occupation from the ordinance. Members questioned why the definition was moved to the "definitions" section when there was no description of the occupation.

"We allow it as a commercial use," Town Planner Colleen Mailloux said, adding that adult day care could still qualify as a home occupation. "If people want to do that, they can go to the ZBA and get a special exception," she said.

But Vice-Chair Mary Wing Soares wondered if there should be more in the ordinance. "I don't want to make people jump through more hoops, but as the population ages, there will be a higher need for this," she pointed out.

"We're not calling it out, making a special criteria for it," Mailloux said.

Member Chris Davies

responded, "Maybe you should."

It is up to the planning staff to determine a criteria, Soares said, adding, "Someone will come to us about this, and in the not-to-distant future."

Member Ann Chiampa asked for better criteria for the point at which adult day care becomes a commercial usage.

"This is an accurate depiction of the spirit and sense of what we wanted," board member Leitha Reilly said.

The staff will continue to tweak the ordinance, including writing criteria for adult day care, with an eye toward Planning Board approval in the near future.

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Chicken Plant Interested in Building in Londonderry

KATHLEEN D. BAILEY
LONDONDERRY TIMES

A poultry company came before the Planning Board this past Wednesday with preliminary plans for a processing plant in the Jack's Bridge Road industrial area.

Jim Petropoulos, an engineer with Hayner/Swanson Inc. of Nashua, appeared before the board in its Feb. 8 meeting along with Bill Conrad, chief operating officer of Poultry Products Northeast (PPNE). The firm is seeking to build a new distribution facility in Londonderry, consolidating the operations of a Hooksett plant and a small Bow facility the company has outgrown.

The hearing was conceptual and non-binding.

The property is at 31 Jack's Bridge Road and is Tax Map 17, Lot 45-3. It is zoned Industrial I. The property is owned by the Evans Family Limited Partnership and is part of several tracts of land owned by the Evans family in the area.

Petropoulos explained that PPNE was started in 1959 and has become the largest locally owned and independently-distrib-

uted poultry processing firm in New England, with 2,000 customers, including hotels, restaurants and the Puritan Backroom in Manchester.

The company currently operates two facilities, one in East Windsor, Conn. and the New Hampshire one, headquartered in Hooksett. "We need to expand the Hooksett plant," Petropoulos said, adding that the firm also has the small facility in Bow.

PPNE offers 4,000 products which are primarily protein, according to Petropoulos. While the company started out focusing on chicken, it has expanded to meat and meat is now the primary product, he said.

Petropoulos reassured Planning Board members that no slaughtering will be done on-site. The meat or poultry arrives in boxes, and the staff at PPNE works on portion control, custom cutting and prep work. "We do all the cutting for the Puritan Backroom's chicken tenders," he said.

The New Hampshire operation employs 190 people over three shifts, 24-7, according to Petropoulos. The largest concentration of employ-

ees is on second-and third shifts, he said.

The firm has been looking for sites to expand to and found the Evans site in northeast Londonderry, he said.

Petropoulos said the land in question is undeveloped. It is bordered by Clark Road, which is primarily residential; Harvey Industries: American Tire; and to the north and west, more undeveloped land belonging to the Evans family.

The topography is moderate with a 40-to 50-foot drop to the northwest, he said.

Petropoulos said there are several wetlands in the northern corner and other "pockets" of the site.

The plan is to share a driveway with American Tire, according to Petropoulos.

Petropoulos said there will be two separate applications to the Planning Board. One will be a simple subdivision of one lot into two, with PPNE purchasing 26 acres of the 34 available.

The other is for the facility itself. He said the building will be 11,000 square feet, which he said was "sizable" but not as large as others in the area. There will be a two-story office building and a one-story warehouse and distribution center, he said.

The buildings leave room for the possibility of one day expanding,

Petropoulos added.

Access will be off the cul-de-sac on Jack's Bridge, he said, with a driveway going around the building for fire trucks and other emergency vehicles and a loading dock in the rear. Parking for company vehicles, mostly box trucks, will be to the south and east, he said.

There will be a small fueling island for company vehicles, with an above ground storage tank, he said.

Challenges

Petropoulos listed several challenges involved with the property. It will impact some wooded wetlands, and that will necessitate going through the state permitting process and the local Conservation Commission.

Member Ann Chiampa asked for clarification on the wetlands, and Petropoulos said, "We do have a couple of 'fingers' creeping up into the main body of the property." One "finger" in the southern section receives storm water from American Tire. "We propose picking it up at the head wall and extending the pipe," he said.

Petropoulos said he has a mantra regarding impact to wetlands: Avoid, Minimize and Mitigate. He and the owners are trying to avoid impacting wetlands, minimizing impact by steeper slopes, and will discuss mitigation when they

appear before Conservation.

The building will be 30 to 40 feet high with a flat roof, according to Petropoulos. Here the topography works for them, he said, explaining that because the grade falls off, the building will sit in a "down" area behind American Tire and will not be visible from the highway, though it will be partially viewable from Jack's Bridge Road.

Petropoulos also listed several steps that have to be taken next, including appearances before the Conservation and Heritage commissions and a traffic study.

Vice-Chair Mary Wing Soares observed that Harvey Industries and American Tire also have workers coming and going and asked how PPNE was planning to mitigate traffic. "Could you stagger your shifts?" she asked.

"We will address this and do the best we can," Petropoulos said.

John Trottier, assistant director of public works, also noted that traffic will discharge from Jack's Bridge through Symmes Road to Rockingham Road, and that the staff and applicants have "started the conversation" with the Department of Transportation.

Planning Board member Chris Davies observed that there are a lot of impermeable surfaces. For the possible expansion, he asked, "Will you pave the entire area or wait till you expand?"

Petropoulos responded, "We will probably do the earth work now, and come back in the future to

pave."

Member Ted Combes asked about snow storage and Petropoulos observed, "There is ample room for that." Snow will be piled around the edges of the parking lot until it gets too high, and then the company will bring a loader in to remove it, he said.

Jim Butler, Town Council representative to the Planning Board, asked about waste bi-products from the meat cutting. There are bi-products, Conrad said, and the company tries to make efficient use of them, selling bones to restaurants for soup and practicing other efficiencies. Sometimes trash is just that, he said, and the unusable parts are stored in a freezer until a licensed disposal company comes to get them.

Combes also asked about employees, and Conrad said the current facility employs 190. Due to efficiencies practiced in the plant, he doesn't see the total going higher than 230 or 240, he said.

Soares asked about amenities for employees, such as picnic tables, and Conrad said that is part of his concept. "We want to make this a better place for employees to come to work," he said.

Conrad added that he likes to hold barbecues for the employees in the summer, observing, "We have plenty of meat."

In other business, the board agreed unanimously to continue the public hearing on the Lorden Commons project until March 1.

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Landscape Company Looks to Move Into Penny Fence

KATHLEEN D. BAILEY
LONDONDERRY TIMES

The property on which a longtime Londonderry company operated may pass to a new firm with similar interests.

Kyle Segal and James Gebo, principals in Sweet Landscaping, approached the Planning Board this past Wednesday for a conceptual and non-binding hearing on moving their business from an outgrown facility in Hudson to the Penney Fence property in Londonderry.

The property is Tax Map 002 Lot 007 and zoned Commercial I, with Joseph and Tina Jean as the owners.

Gebo said the firm is the result of two companies merged two years ago, both owned by experienced landscapers. The company currently operates out of a facility on Route 111 in Hudson, he said, but has outgrown that facility. The company also does some fencing, he said, and "the Penney Fence property would be a nice fit."

Gebo said he and Segal are not looking to add on to the buildings or change the footprint of the site. The biggest change, he said, would be adding some bins to store their materials, including wood mulch, stone and sand. The company also does

winter maintenance for clients, he said, and would like to create a salt storage area to the far right. "We chose that area," he said, "because in the 1980s there was an outcrop of ledge there. They blasted it down, and it is still an impermeable surface." Also, he said, vegetation in the area provides a "natural screening" that would hide the salt from view.

"This has been a fencing company for 45 years, and we are looking to continue the usage," he told the board.

John Trottier, assistant director of public works, said that if Sweet Landscaping takes over the property, there still

might need to be a change of use permit. Building Inspector Richard Canuel would make the determination, he said.

"What is there is there," he said. "If they add more parking and impervious surfaces, they will have to bring it up to current standards."

"The existing parking is okay," Trottier said. "If they add more, that could be an issue." The Planning Board expressed concern about the salt storage, with member Rick Bridreau observing that it would be "right up against a wetland."

Gebo responded that not all the bins are for salt and that some were for other materials.

Member Scott Benson asked, "Don't they have pallets and fencing there now?"

They do, Gebo said, but it's more of a catch-all.

"We want to keep it neat and orderly," Segal said. "That is important to us."

Member Ann Chiampa asked what the property would look like from the street. Gebo said, "There is an existing 8-foot-high fence. We would have bins that are also 8 feet high, but no higher than the fence." In addition, Gebo said, "Right now the fence is not 'slatted.' We will put in slats. I don't think people will see them from the road."

Member Leitha Reilly

urged the team to "do anything you can to block the view." She added that she liked their plan for organization.

"I do not want to see mountains of mulch," she said.

"I want to see the front stay green, with no parking," Vice-Chair Mary Wing Soares told the owners. "I don't want to see more impervious surfaces, and I want to see a picture of what the bins will look like."

Reilly also asked about employees, and Gebo said they would bring approximately 15 full-time employees over from Hudson.

"We look forward to having you in town," Soares said.

Seniors

Continued from page 1

Committee nor the Council supported this fully. I would like to hear from the Budget Committee and the Council."

Councilor Jim Butler told Gaffney he was the "no" vote on the Council's 3-1 approval. "It was a difficult decision," Butler said. "My problem is that we've worked so hard on these budgets. There is no proposal, no business plan, and I don't want to throw money at something. I couldn't support it from a fiscal standpoint."

Butler listed the things he wanted to know before he endorsed the program, including maintenance of

vehicles and training of drivers. But, he said, "Joe did a good job" in getting the proposal in front of the people.

Tom Dolan, who was away for the original 3-1 vote, later gave his stance on all the articles and voted no on the transportation item. "Joe has done an outstanding job," he said of his colleague. He also commended Ford of Londonderry for donating a handicapped-equipped van. But Dolan shared Butler's concern over lack of details. "This apple," he said, "is not ready to be picked."

If a business plan is created, Dolan said, he could see himself voting for the program next year.

"I voted for it," Coun-

cilor Tom Freda said. "When CART came to us to explain their program, they said they felt a need for additional services. I realize there is a lot of concern, but there is a need."

Freda theorized that one option could be letting CART use the new Londonderry van.

Green countered, "Till we have the numbers in place, we can't make a plan."

Budget Committee Jay Hooley said, "Just speaking for myself, there are too many unanswered questions."

"It is not a 'want,'" Susan Haussler, a member of the Senior Resources Committee, said. "It is a tremendous safety need." A woman she knew drove her

car into the carriage corral at Market Basket, Haussler said, adding, "It took 6 young men to get her out."

Doug Thomas, a Senior Resources member and Republican state rep, said he and Haussler have gone around to Londonderry's 10 over-55 communities and found transportation a concern.

Amending the article Could the money be used for transportation vouchers or to enhance CART? Attorney Michael Ramsdell said it could. "The stated purpose," he said, "is to provide transportation for seniors in town."

The amendment would eliminate the phrase "maintenance costs" from the article. It would change

the phrase "funding drivers, insurance and costs of providing transportation" to "funding drivers, insurance, or the costs of providing transportation."

Gaffney asked if CART was open to everyone and Srugis said it was primarily for seniors, but that handicapped people and low-income people with jobs to go to could use it.

Resident Debra Paul observed that just doing this for seniors, maybe discriminating to some

residents like ones with disabilities. She would like to see the service open to non-seniors. "This is discrimination," she said. "You are opening yourselves up to a lawsuit."

The Londonderry article was written specifically for seniors, Dolan said. "Should we amend it?"

The article was also amended to include the words, "and other services of the CART program," and was approved to go on the warrant.

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Comcast Gets Good Report Card from Residents, Staff

KATHLEEN D. BAILEY
LONDONDERRY TIMES

The Londonderry Town Council, staff and residents gave Comcast a good report card, with an emphasis on effort, during a public hearing this past Monday night.

The occasion was a public hearing on the renewal of the town's cable television license with Comcast, which is up for renewal May 31, 2019.

Brian Christiansen, Comcast manager of regulatory and government affairs for New Hampshire, spoke in the meeting along with Drew Caron, local director of cable services. Erin Brodman, training coordinator for the station, was also on hand.

The hearing was held in compliance with the federal Cable Act and also the New Hampshire RSAs, Chapter 53-C:3.

"The ultimate outcome," Council Chair John Farrell said, "will result in a decision to renew or deny renewal."

Farrell said additional hearings would be sched-

uled if needed.

Farrell said he had a long-standing relationship with Christiansen as the point person for Comcast. "When a citizen calls me because their cable is not working, I call Brian," he said.

Caron said during his 13 years working in the cable station, the "relationship has never been stronger. When I call Comcast, the problem is almost immediately rectified."

It's particularly important for his job and Brodman's, Caron added. The meeting Monday night was sparsely attended, in part because of the snowstorm that had ended just hours earlier. But residents have another option, watching the meeting on their local cable station, he said.

"We need to stream media, as much as we can get, as often as we can get," Caron said.

Caron listed two of his goals. One is replacing the coaxial cable with fiber, which will streamline communication. "Currently, when we send out a signal from this room, it can

get interrupted," he said.

He would also like to acquire another piece of equipment called a "radiant," which he admitted was expensive but could send out sharper signals.

Caron read a letter from former Cable Director Dottie Grover, who is still a Londonderry resident and still involved as a volunteer. In her letter, Grover complimented Comcast's CSMs or Customer Service Managers as being "courteous, professional and eager to serve."

But Grover wrote that Comcast management does not always anticipate problems in the roll-out of a new product or service, and that leaves the CSM and the client frustrated. She urged Comcast to make CSMs part of the "vetting process" and reduce both CSM and customer frustration.

Grover added that she is proud of what Londonderry Cable has accomplished. "For 31 years we have set the standard," she said. "Cable television is the most direct route to find out what's happening."

Grover wrote that she would like to see the next franchise agreement keep the technology updated, and she wants to see financial support and adequate staffing for the station.

Caron noted that of all the cable offerings, "Town Council meetings are the most watched."

Town Manager Kevin Smith noted that the town supports five channels through the Access Center: two government, two public access, and one operated by the School District. "Do we have enough programs to fill all

five channels?" he asked.

Caron said they did. But he added that he would be willing to drop one as part of the bargaining process, "depending on what we get in return."

Smith said he has had several requests from residents regarding Wi Fi, particularly for the Town Common and the Nelson Road playing fields. He asked if that were a possibility in the next contract.

"We can ask," Caron said. He observed that Comcast is "disliked" among many residents because of the cost, but that they are also good at community relations.

Resident Al Sypek took the microphone to say that he was satisfied with Comcast, both personally and as a Londonderry Cable volunteer. "I am

happy with the contract, and we are fortunate to have the cable department we have," he said. He noted in particular the number of channels.

"The customer service has improved tremendously," resident Mary Wing Soares said. "Now it's quicker, and there are not as many problems."

Smith asked Christiansen if there was any discussion about more of an a la carte type service, instead of bundling. Christiansen said, "There is not a conversation going on at this time."

While Farrell is happy to run interference, he told residents, "You've got to be your own advocate. You don't know until you ask."

Caron and Christiansen will continue to work on the contract.

Back-To-Back Snowstorms Has Very Little Impact to Community

KATHLEEN D. BAILEY
LONDONDERRY TIMES

Londonderry survived two almost, and a teaser in between, with no serious accidents or extended power outages.

The first storm came in Wednesday night and lasted through Thursday.

Londonderry Police Det. Chris Olson wrote in a e-mail. "We did pretty good for the size storm we had. We didn't have

any major accidents. Most of our calls were minor accidents and vehicles off the road. I am sure that not having school was a big factor in that as we didn't have a lot of cars on the road."

Snow flurries Saturday morning didn't deter residents from going to the Town Deliberative Session or storming local supermarkets to prepare for Sunday's blizzard, which came in around

noon. Schools and the town office building were closed in the daytime, though the Town Council still met in the evening.

Police were kept busy in that third storm of the week, which began on Sunday afternoon and wrapped up late Monday afternoon. Police responded to accidents or other vehicle issues at Rockingham Road at Stonehenge, two incidents; Rockingham Road at Exit 5; Pillsbury Road; High Range at Litchfield; Mammoth Road at CVS; Mammoth Road at Otter-son; Highlander Way and Sparks; Nashua Road at Exit 4; Nashua Road at

Garden Lane; Gllcrest Road at McDonald's; and Orchard View Drive at Shaw's.

Four officers responded to a call from 11 Harvey Road for a domestic dispute. They arrested Benjamin M. Harrison, 35, and charged him with Domestic Violence/Simple Assault, Reckless Conduct/Placing Another In Danger, Criminal Threatening/Use Of a Deadly Weapon, and Criminal Mischief/Vandalism.

The Londonderry School District closed schools from Thursday of last week until Monday of this week.

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Budget

Continued from page 1

warrant articles were approved. Town Manager Kevin Smith said it would be 78 cents on the tax rate and \$228 per year on a \$300,000 house.

"I'm a senior," Caron said. "I don't know if I can afford it."

Caron said, "In the past the Council has been good about the budget so there has been no spike in taxes. This year, you have been remiss." She urged the voters to vote "no" one everything except Item 24, extending town water to two neighborhoods (see related story).

Town Moderator Bob Sauer asked Caron to limit her discussion to the current article.

Resident Christine Perez said she had originally heard that if the budget and all items passed, the tax impact on a \$300,000 home would be \$500. In the deliberative session she heard it was \$228, and she asked for clarification.

Council Chair John Farrell said the earlier number was an estimate. "We made multiple attempts to work with the school district, but they didn't share with us," he said. After the School District deliberative the previous evening (see related story), he learned that the school budget if approved will bring an increase of \$52 per \$1,000 to a \$300,000 home, and combined with the town warrant of \$228, "If everything passed in both school and town, the impact would be \$282," he said.

But Farrell said that he doubted if all the items

would pass. Some are citizens' petitioned warrant articles and were not endorsed by the Council or Budget Committee, he said. Farrell said, "Is it a need or a want?"

Resident Ann Gaffney asked about the \$30,000 difference between the operating and default budgets.

Smith responded that voters this past March passed an article for \$50,000 for a drug treatment program for Londonderry resident. The amount automatically became part of the default budget, he said. The town's contracted service for mental health, Community Health Services, came back with a \$10,000 contract that would cover the program, Smith said. "We encumbered the \$40,000, and were able to cut this budget by \$30,000," he said.

Every increase in the working budget was a contractual increase, Smith said.

Resident Martin Srugis asked for clarification on the TIF District. Smith said the district is set up for the town to reimburse developers for certain improvements to infrastructure. "If there was not a TIF district, those buildings would not be there," he said of industrial growth in the area.

"The town never went in the read, and there was no up-front money," Smith said.

The voters present approved moving the budget to the warrant.

Other items approved for the warrant include:

Article 4, Police outside details, \$506,306, no tax impact;

Article 5, Sewer Fund,



Town Councilor Tom Freda will not be seeking re-election and was chosen as this year's "Citizen of the Year" by the Town Council.

\$5,246,992, no tax impact;

Article 6, Roadway Maintenance Expendable Trust Fund, \$650,000, \$487,000 of which will come from the Unassigned Fund Balance;

Article 7, Capital Reserve Fund for Fire Department Equipment, \$164,000, \$123,000 of which will come from the Unassigned Fund Balance;

Article 8, Capital Reserve Fund for GIS Systems, \$28,000, \$21,000 of which from Unassigned Fund Balance

Article 9, Expendable Maintenance Trust Fund, \$180,000, \$135,000 from Unassigned Fund Balance.

Article 10, Pillsbury Cemetery Capital Reserve Fund, \$100,000, \$75,000 from Unassigned Fund Balance. The cemetery is running out of room, Administrative Support Coordinator Steve Cotton said. There are 125 plots left, he said. "We have seen a dramatic increase in plot sales," Cotton said. Three acres adjacent to the current cemetery

\$247,571;

Article 13, Executive Employees, three years, first year \$21,169;

Article 15, Police and Fire management and professional, three years, first year \$43,213;

Article 17, Firefighters, five years, first year \$106,107.

Farrell said that if the contracts are approved, all six of the town's collective bargaining units will have current contracts. "The Town Manager and Attorney Michael Ramsdell and the negotiating team spent hundreds of hours on this," Farrell said. Two contracts were approved in September during the primary election, leaving four for March.

"The towns didn't get everything they wanted, the unions didn't get everything they wanted," Farrell said. "But everyone came to the table looking for what is fair and what is best for the taxpayers."

Two other personnel

items moved to the warrant include Article 19, \$198,545 for adding two officers to the Londonderry Police Department and Article 20, \$158,070, adding two truck drivers to Public Works.

Voters approved moving Article 22, \$35,000 for an engineering study for the Central Fire Station.

Article 21, asking voters to raise and appropriate \$35,000 for a town senior transportation system, generated extensive discussion before being approved for the warrant (see related story).

The voters also reviewed four petitioned warrant articles, Article 23, \$100,000 for litter pick-up along town roadways, amended to \$65,000; Article 26, \$144,000, construction of Phase IV of the Rail Trail; Article 27, \$115,000 for lights for the Nelson Road softball field; and Article 28, \$138,000 for improvements to the Kendall Pond Road Conservation Area.



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Upgrade

Continued from page 1

and the company we deal with found a replacement." But, he said, he doesn't know how long replacements or parts will be available.

Councilor Tom Freda referenced Gordon Gecko in the sequel to the first "Wall Street" movie. "He gets out of jail after eight years, they hand him his belongings, and there's a huge cell phone," Freda said. The communications tech in question will not change that fast, he said.

Resident Christine Perez expressed concern that many seniors cannot afford the tax hike that goes along with this and other warrant items. "People on a fixed income can't afford to stay here," she said, citing in-

creases in both the town and school side of the tax rate.

Perez said the only area towns that had actually purchased the system in question were Nashua and Manchester, though other towns were looking into it.

Perez had an alternate plan. She suggested taking \$1 million from the UFB this year, putting it in a special non-lapsing fund, appropriating another \$1 million next year, and rounding it out with a warrant item in 2020. That way the town would not get hit with it all at once, she said.

Perez proposed an amendment to that effect, but the amendment did not pass.

Baldasaro asked, "Did we look at the cost to replace a repeater, rather than purchasing a whole new system?" Baldasaro

added that he would "support this in a heartbeat," but that he doesn't want to drive seniors out of town.

O'Brien told him that the proposal will not get rid of all current equipment. "We'll keep some of the towers we have, and make them higher," he said. "We're also looking at property the town owns, and will erect new towers there."

While Fire, Police and Public Works personnel have told the town that communication service is spotty in some parts of town, Perez said that buying the new system would not guarantee service. "I have a cell phone that doesn't get service everywhere in town," she pointed out.

But Budget Committee member Christine Patton said that's why the project is important. "We're not replacing the whole system, we're just replacing what we absolutely need to now," Patton said. "It's important to have full coverage." She lives in an area where she can't get a signal, she said, and she worries about what would happen if her husband had a heart attack while shoveling snow. "I would hate to not be able to get a signal," Patton said.

Christine Perez said she had heard that the upgraded communication system would equate to a \$500 increase in taxes "That is an exorbitant



Resident Christine Perez suggested an alternative plan to the Communications Article, but it was not passed by the voters. Photo by Chris Paul.

increase," she said.

Council Chair John Farrell said that the original price tag for the system was \$4.4 million. "The Council pushed back very hard," he said, noting that most people aren't willing to pay that much for something that they can't touch or see.

"Tom Dolan and I met with the staff members and the vendor and we said, 'We are not spending that amount,'" Farrell recalled. "Within an hour, the price had dropped."

Is it a lot of money? Yes, Farrell said. But it's necessary for public safety. "There are times our police can't communicate with dispatch, times our fire personnel can't communicate with command."

Councilor Jim Butler recently took a ride-along with members of the police department. "Our first call was at Exit 4 at the Burger King," he said. "There was an accident. The officer got out to investigate, and his communication equipment did not work."

It works both ways, Butler said. "People can't complain that their road is not plowed if they can't get through to Public Works."

Butler said, "Safety comes first, and this is our first step. We don't want to wait until 2020."

If the money is voted in this March, the equipment and infrastructure still need to be ordered and produced, Butler pointed out.

But resident Al Sypek was curious as to why this was never brought up before. "Every year FEMA requires us to have a hazard mitigation plan," he said. He's chaired that committee and said its purpose is to identify issues in the town.

"The equipment is old," he said. "But the bottom line is, nobody brought it up."

Sypek referenced a police officer who was called to a house for an issue. "He or she should be able to call for assistance from their portable radio and not have to run out to their car," he said.

"I know it's necessary," resident Debra Paul said. "But it baffles me how we were negligent to address this sooner. Who dropped the ball?"

O'Brien said his first priority upon becoming chief in 2013 was to get

the budget under control. But the department has seen a 12.4 percent increase in call volume, he said.

"I'm a taxpayer too," O'Brien said. "I get it. But this is a creative way to finance this."

Dolan reminded the voters that this year's warrant is a pick-and-choose prospect. Not all the items will pass. "And it's important that voters understand the cost of this article," he said. The communications upgrade along will result in \$18 on a \$300,000 house, or \$9 twice a year, he told Perez.

Councilor Tom Freda said that if everything on the warrant passes, the total increase in taxes on a \$300,000 home would be \$228.

"We can only talk about one article at a time," Dolan said. "In the Council's view, this is one of the most important ones. If you have to pick and choose, pick this one."

Councilor Joe Green agreed. This year's operating budget and warrant articles are an "a la carte" proposition in regards to what residents want to spend.

Like Farrell, Dolan said the Council cut costs everywhere it could to come up with the final figure.

Freda said, "We're all concerned about safety. But if you set that aside, the question is, should we spend today instead of tomorrow? There may be other concerns in two or three years. You say, 'We can defer this.' How do you know?"

With all due respect, Freda said, "The way we arrived at this decision was not willy-nilly. We put a lot of effort into it."

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LONDONDERRY SPORTS

Lancer Icemen Win a Pair, Then Drop One to Bedford

CHRIS PANTAZIS
LONDONDERRY TIMES

Lopsided successes against Exeter and the Nashua North/Souhegan contingent last week left the Londonderry High hockey squad contemplating its eminently solid 10-4 record.

However, the locals were then dealt a shutout defeat by tough Bedford.

Coach Peter Bedford's LHS bunch shut out the pesky Exeter contingent on its home sheet of ice during the middle of the snowy week, and the locals were some three goals better than the Nashua crew on the Lancers' home ice at the end of the week.

The locals put forth an extremely pleasing performance in a 5-0 defeat of the host Exeter High Blue Hawks at The Rinks at Exeter on the afternoon of Wednesday, Feb. 8.

Senior goalie Cody Baldwin turned aside 19

Exeter shots to help his 9-4 team to its second shutout of the 2016-17 campaign. And his team pelted some 31 shots on Blue Hawks' sophomore goalie Alex Warr, getting five of them past the keeper.

Londonderry potted the only goal it would wind up needing to bag this win just 2:47 after the opening face-off when Jared Tuccolo tucked home a rebound.

The locals enjoyed an 11-6 advantage in shots on net during that stanza, and they'd do precisely the same in the second period when they upped their advantage to 3-0.

Veteran defenseman Merrill Neiman handed his side an insurance goal with 6:20 left in the period when he was set up by his fellow back-liners Dom Federico and Danny Bears.

And the Lancers' lead bulged to 3-0 with 2:45 to

go in that period when Patrick Murphy scored on a breakaway.

Londonderry put the final touches on its 5-0 win with third-period markers from Federico on a rebound during a power-play with 8:08 remaining, and when Ryan Watts was set up by Mike McCormick and Sean Cotter with just 24.9 ticks of the clock left.

"We came out pretty flat in the first period, and I let the guys know that. But in the second period they responded. And they played a good third as well," said LHS coach Bedford.

Bedford's bunch then played host to the scuffling Nashua North/Souhegan icemen at the Tri-Town Arena in Hooksett on the evening of Saturday the 11th.

The Nashuans entered that contest having lost 10 consecutive games and contemplating a 1-11

record. And things went another step downhill for that crew in a 6-3 loss to Londonderry.

Patrick Murphy potted two markers for the victors, his brother Bryan scored once, and Patrick McKinnon, McCormick, and Tuccolo each netted single goals on a winning night for the LHS bunch.

The Londonderry High icemen saw their season record move to 10-5 following a game played this past Monday, Feb. 13 at the Tri-Town rink despite school closings.

The Lancers dropped a 3-0 decision to unbeaten Bedford High (14-0-1) that evening, but that outcome was an improvement over the locals' 8-0 defeat at the hands of Bedford back on Jan. 2.



LHS Lancer Sean Cotter looks for a rebound to come rolling out of the pads of the Exeter goalie during his team's shutout of the seacoast side last week. Photo by Chris Pantazis



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After Slim Title Win, LHS Gymnasts Experience a Slim Title Loss

CHRIS PANTAZIS
LONDONDERRY TIMES

After collecting the 2016 state championship by defeating the defending champs from Pinkerton Academy by mere percentage points last February, the Londonderry High girls' gymnastics squad found out what it feels like to lose a state title by just percentage points to those Pinkerton Lady Astros in Derry last Saturday, Feb. 11.

Coach Heather Tuden's Lady Lancers held a tiny lead after completing their final event, the floor exercise. But after putting forth lackluster efforts on both the uneven bars and the balance beam, the Lady Astros performed extremely well on floor and managed a total team tally of 138.65 to barely best the defending state champs from LHS and their team score of 137.925. The Pelham High Lady Pythons finished a distant third with a 127.425.

All in all, 17 teams and 16 individual gymnasts competed in two sessions at Pinkerton that Saturday. The Lady Astros and Lady



The Londonderry High girls' gymnastics squad narrowly missed out on a repeat of its 2016 championship in Derry last weekend. Photos by Chris Paul

Lancers both competed in the afternoon session.

After seeing her talented squad finish up in the floor exercise and before Pinkerton started its floor work, LHS coach Tuden addressed her athletes.

"We hit everything we needed to hit. And I told the girls that no matter what happens you had a great season and I'm proud of you," she said.

None of the contingents knew who had won the team title until the very end of the awards ceremony, and when the scores were announced

the tiny margin of Pinkerton victory came to light.

Coaches from PA and LHS agreed that the PA victory came down to "less than two falls on the beam."

Where individual scoring was concerned, the Lady Lancers had 10 top-six finishers to the Lady Astros' eight.

Sophomore standout Maddie Croteau was nearly omnipresent for Londonderry, claiming top-six finishes in every event as well as the all-around despite the fact that she was dealing with a hyper-extended elbow from which she hadn't yet fully recovered.

The talented 10th-grader tied for third place on the beam (9.05) and took third place on her own on vault (9.05), she placed fourth all-around (35.275), fifth on bars (8.425), and sixth in the floor exercise (8.75).

Also making big contri-

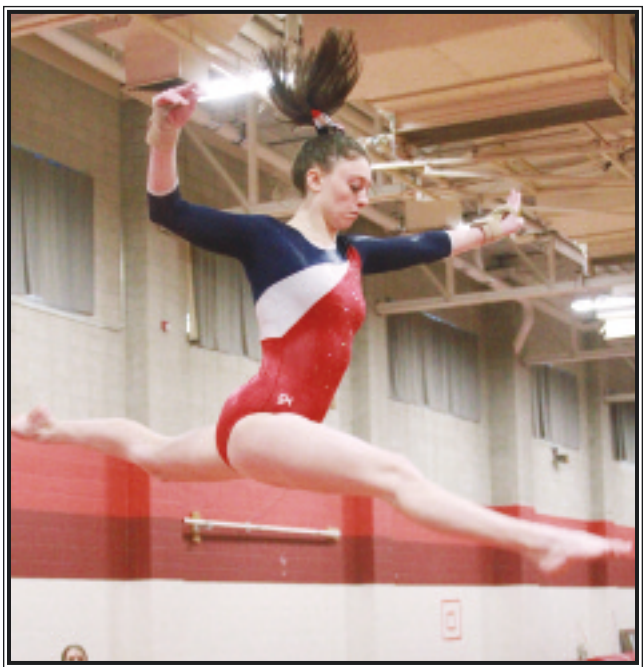
butions to the LHS effort was battle-tested veteran Mira Kutney, who placed second on beam (9.2) and fifth on floor (8.9).

Londonderry also received a fourth place on vault (9.025) and a sixth on bars (8.4) from young Cassidy Williams, and Seana Kelly was good for a fine fourth on bars (8.525).

The Lady Lancers had closed out their 2016-17 regular season the previous Monday night, Feb. 6 - starting with a senior night celebration for 12th graders and beloved captains Camille Lamont and Taylor MacKenzie - by besting four opposing squads handily in their own LHS gymnasium.

The hosts tallied a team score of 130.55 and defeated Pelham (124.35), Nashua South (117.35), Spaulding of Rochester (115.25), and Nashua North (102.05).

Kutney won on uneven bars (8.5) with Williams



LHS standout Mira Kutney collected an extremely strong second place on the balance beam at the 2017 championships.



Maddie Croteau had a highly-productive day for her Lady Lancers at the state championships last Saturday.

second (8.3) and Kelly MacKenzie, Seana Kelly and Tyla Kelley also had great beam routines, and Taylor MacKenzie, Tara Nigro, and Seana Kelly put up solid scores on floor."

Lamont was victorious on floor (8.3) and Suzie Moore bagged third (8.15) in that event, Williams and Moore tied for second on beam (8.75), and Moore ended up second all alone in the all-around (32.35).

"We had great vaults from Camille Lamont, Chelsea Pinet, Suzie Moore, and Taylor March 11.

The Lady Lancers are now heavily engaged in preparing themselves to compete at the New England Regionals at Woodstock Academy in Woodstock, Ct., on Saturday, March 11.

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Pinkerton Outlasts Londonderry in Girls' Hoop Loss at Home

CHRIS PANTAZIS
LONDONDERRY TIMES

A superb fourth quarter performance pushed the Pinkerton Academy girls' basketball squad from a three-point lead after three quarters to a double-digit win over the rival Londonderry High Lady Lancers at LHS this past Sunday afternoon, Feb. 12.

The Lady Astros bounced their 2016-17 record up to a glittering 13-1 with their sixth consecutive victory - a 63-49 success - over a Lady Lancers' crew which slipped to 7-6 with its third loss in its last four battles.

Both local contingents survived a previous week which was littered with cancellations, and the Pinkerton side managed to maintain its winning ways with that fourth quarter effort during which it outscored its scuffling host by a 20-9 tally.

Pinkerton led through most of the game, but its advantage was at a mod-

est three points (43-40) as the fourth period began.

However, the Lady Lancers - playing without senior star Kelsey Coffey until late this week - then ran out of gas while the Pinkerton crew put the proverbial pedal to the metal in tallying the 14-point win.

"I wasn't happy with our rebounding until the fourth quarter," said Buskey. "Londonderry is a really scrappy team, and they got lots of second (scoring) chances in the first three quarters. But we stepped it up in the fourth."

The absence of Coffey - a key LHS player since her freshman year - was felt by the hosts keenly during the contest, and especially during that decisive fourth stanza.

"The kids were gassed," lamented LHS coach Nick Theos. "There are lots of minutes being played by young kids, so our bench is shorter than usual, and that showed in the fourth quarter."

Pinkerton received a great performance from

senior captain Tori Overko, who netted a game-high 22 points including several big three-pointers. Amanda Lemire contributed 13 points, and Brooke Kane was good for 10.

LHS had numerous individual performances by freshman Courtney Shay notching a Baker's Dozen of 13 points, senior stalwart Amanda DeAngelis tallying 12, and Michaela Downing adding eight.

Pinkerton began the contest by sprinting out to a sizable lead, netting 10 of the first 11 points and forcing LHS coach Theos to call a time out to rally his girls.

And seconds after Theos challenged his girls to defend their home court much better than they were, the Lady Lancers rose to that challenge and climbed back into the fray.

Despite the fact that PA hit eight of the 14 shots it attempted from the floor in the first quarter, the visitors' lead sat a modest seven points at 22-15.

Pinkerton wouldn't hit a single shot from the field in the second quarter, going 0-for-10, while Londonderry outscored it by a 12-8 tally in that stanza as the PA lead sat at just three points at 30-27 at the halftime break. Overko had 13 of the Pinkerton points, and Shay had 11 of the hosts' points.

Continuing to battle intensely, the youthful LHS crew claimed its first lead of the day at 37-35 on an Emmy Dumaresq bucket with exactly four minutes left in the third stanza. But the Londonderry lead would never get bigger than two points, and the Lady Astros regained the upper hand as the third quarter closed. They rolled into the final period with a slim, 43-40 advantage.

However, the Lady Astros basically put the game away by scoring the first 10 points of the fourth, with Londonderry not managing even a single point until 3:48 remained on the game clock.

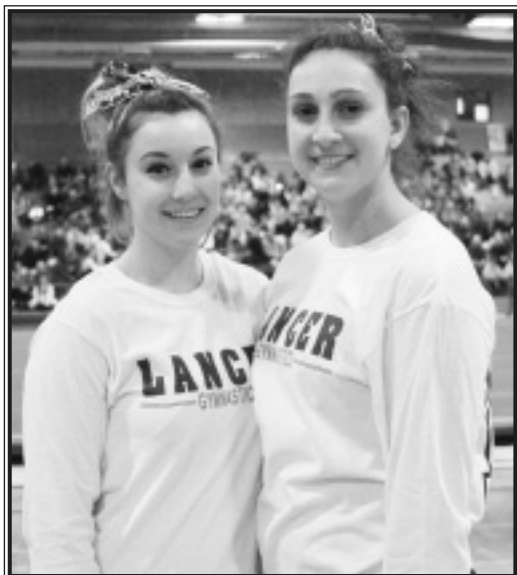
Rebounds became easier to snag for the Pinkerton crew as the Lady Lancers began to drag,



Young standout Courtney Shay showed why she has been a force for her Lady Lancers recently with a strong game against Pinkerton. Photo by Chris Paul

and before the teams Alvirne this Tuesday the knew it the final buzzer 14th, after Londonderry Times press time, followed by a home game against Manchester Central this Friday the 17th.

The Lady Lancers stepped into this week hoping to play a pair of contests - snow not withstanding - with a short bus trip to Hudson to face Key player Coffey is expected back in uniform for that one.



Senior Salute

Battle-tested senior standouts Taylor MacKenzie and Camille Lamont were honored by their teammates, coaches, and fans during senior night recently. Lamont then went right on to contribute some important points to the home-standing Lady Lancers' team victory that evening, and MacKenzie did some strong work for the locals as well.

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Londonderry High Swimmers Compete in State Championship Meets

CHRIS PANTAZIS
LONDONDERRY TIMES

Londonderry High School's girls' swim team finished ninth and the boys wound up 12th at the Division I championship meets at the University of New

Hampshire in Durham last Saturday, Feb. 11.

Veteran coach Chrys Ewen saw her Lady Lancers collect a half-dozen top-six finishes, and her Lancer males had stalwart Nick Byrne contribute to several top-10

performances.
BOYS

Veteran Nick Byrne was a part of the Lancer males' top three finishes, taking a 10th on his own in the 500 free and contributing to the strong work of the eighth-place

200 free relay quartet and that of the ninth-place 400 free relay crew.

Byrne's teammates on the 200 relay squad were Brian Parrott, Minsoo Kim, and Jack Stuart, and his fellow swimmers on the 400 team were Stuart,

Mike Hession, and Parrott.

GIRLS

The LHS ladies got their top individual finish from Emily Buttafuoco in the 100-yard backstroke (a fourth). Buttafuoco also claimed a sixth in the

200-yard freestyle, in which Anna Gruchot finished fifth. Gruchot also claimed a fifth place in the 100-yard freestyle.

The Lady Lancers also notched a fifth place in the 400 free relay and a sixth in the 200 free relay.

Lancer Boy Cagers Fall Hard to Undefeated Portsmouth High



LHS senior big man Brandon Radford tears down a rebound while guard Ethan Garofalo looks for a pass during the Lancers' loss to Portsmouth.

CHRIS PANTAZIS
LONDONDERRY TIMES

Coming into its home game against the undefeated Portsmouth High Clippers last Saturday, Feb. 11, the Londonderry High boys' basketball squad knew there would be exactly nothing easy about dealing that opponent its first loss of the Division I season.

And that expectation proved to be precisely right, as the home-standing Lancers saw their D-I record slip to the .500

mark at 5-5 with a 59-39 defeat at the hands of that 13-0 seacoast powerhouse.

Only one team - the Bishop Guertin Cardinals of Nashua - have managed to lose to the talented Clippers by less than 10 points. And that defeat was by nine points several weeks ago.

Talented guards Ethan Garofalo and Jake Coleman paced the LHS effort by each scoring a dozen points, with big man Brandon Radford tallying nine in a losing effort.

Portsmouth won every quarter, leading 16-13 after one, 27-21 at the half, and 40-27 rolling into the final stanza.

Snow notwithstanding, the Lancers were looking at a slate this week which had them hosting the Alvirne High Broncos of Hudson Tuesday Feb. 14, after Londonderry Times press time, followed by a short road trip in to the Queen City for a game at Manchester Central on Friday Feb. 17.

LHS Seniors Receive State Scholar/Athlete Awards

CHRIS PANTAZIS
LONDONDERRY TIMES

The Londonderry High School community was given a slew of reasons to puff out its collective chest with pride on Monday, Feb. 6, when some 16 Lancer student/athletes received New Hampshire Interscholastic Athletic Association (NHIAA) and New Hampshire Athletic Director's Association (NHADA) Scholar/Athlete Awards for the 2016-17 school year at a celebra-

tion at The Capitol Center for the Arts in Concord.

NHIAA Division I high school student/athletes from throughout the Granite State were recognized for achieving both academic and athletic excellence at that gala event.

Award recipients are nominated each year by their school principals based on criteria which requires the high school seniors to have a B+ grade point average, letter and be currently active in at

least two varsity sports, participate in community service activities, and serve as role models to their peers.

This year's Londonderry recipients included Giovanni Cafaro, Noah Ellis, Kyle Freire, Ellie Goodspeed, Hannah Hagearty, Declan Hotter, Sammi Lecaroz, Gretchen McGrath, Bryan Murphy, Merrill Neiman, Andi Nelson, Katrina Rivard, Valerie Shay, Elizabeth Stubbs, Chris Zaino, and Bella Ziolek.

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Signs and symptoms of colon cancer include: a change in your bowel habits, including diarrhea or constipation or a change in the consistency of your stool for more than a couple of weeks; rectal bleeding or blood in your stool; persistent abdominal discomfort, such as cramps, gas or pain; a feeling that your bowel doesn't empty completely; weakness or fatigue; or unexplained weight loss.

Many people with colon cancer experience no symptoms in the early stages of the disease. When symptoms appear, they'll likely vary, depending on the cancer's size and location in your large intestine. It's not clear what causes colon cancer in most cases. Doctors know that colon cancer occurs when healthy cells in the colon become altered. Healthy cells grow and divide in an orderly way to keep your body functioning normally. But sometimes this growth gets out of control. Cells continue dividing even when new cells aren't needed. In the colon and rectum, this exaggerated growth may cause precancerous cells to form in the lining of your intestine. Over a long period of time, spanning up to several years, some of these areas of abnormal cells may become cancerous.

Among other tests to diagnose colon cancer a colonoscopy has gotten the most attention in recent years. There are also blood test, although, there is not blood test to confirm colon cancer. A barium enema allows doctors to create a clear silhouette of your rectum, colon and sometimes a small portion of your small intestine. It is important if you suspect that you have any issues to consult with your doctor to catch this early.

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Lancer Wrestlers Squeak Out a Win Over Bedford High Bulldogs

CHRIS PANTAZIS
LONDONDERRY TIMES

The Londonderry High wrestling squad capped off its 2016-17 regular season

successfully last Wednesday, Feb. 8 by squeaking out a 43-42 victory over the Bedford High Bulldogs on that opponent's home mats.

Lancer victories were delivered by Tyler Byrd in the 145-pound bout (pin at 1:15 of bout), Drew Chase at 152 pounds (pin just 42 seconds in), Colin

Reardon in 160-pound action (pin just 46 seconds in), Mike Watts at 170 pounds (pin just 16 seconds in), Alex Boucher in 182-pound competition

(pin at 2:46), Ben Psaledas at 195 pounds (forfeit win), and 220-pounder Chris Rossi (forfeit win).

Coach Jason Cucolo's

Lancers have since spent their time preparing for the Division I championships - which they'll host - this coming Saturday the 18th.

Local Gymnasts Excel at Event, Several Gain National Honors

CHRIS PANTAZIS
LONDONDERRY TIMES

A number of Londonderry youngsters who compete on New England Gymnastics Training Center teams wound up having the "Let's Make a Deal" meet at Worcester State (Mass.) University recently wind up being quite a watershed event for them.

The local training center had its level three and four teams collect first places, the level six con-

tingent snag runner-up honors, and its Excel Bronze and Silver crews both place sixth at that major Bay State competition held from Feb. 3-5.

Additionally, Londonderry youngster Shana Hatfield was one of four NEGTC gymnasts to receive highly impressive recognition as 2017 Top 100 American Gymnasts for their high all-around scores at that event.

Level 3 Dime Division standout Hatfield snared first places in the all-

around (score of 38.4), vaulting (9.7), and on the balance beam (9.6) as well as a second in the floor exercise and a third on the uneven bars.

Her Dime Division teammate and fellow Londonderry resident Cailee Anderson took thirds in the all-around, on floor, and on vault, and also snared fourth places on bars and beam.

In Level 3 Penny Division competition, Londonderry's Addison Doyle snagged second in the all-around as well as on bars, beam, and floor, and a third place on vault.

In Level 3 Quarter Division action, Sophia Beauregard of Londonderry wound up third on bars, fifth in the all-around and on floor, and sixth in both the vaulting and on balance beam.

In Level 4 Penny competition, Londonderry's Katherine Rowan won on vault, tied for second on floor, snared thirds in the all-around and on beam,

and finished fifth on bars.

In that level's Quarter Division, Olivia Colliton of Londonderry collected seconds in the all-around, on the vault, and on beam, managed a fifth on floor, and tied for sixth on bars.

In the Level 6 Nickel Division, town resident Lillian MacDonald took second on beam, third on bars, fourth on floor, and fifth in the all-around.

In Level 7 Dime Division action, Sophia Fonseca of Londonderry competed ably in two events, notching top-15 finishes on both vault and floor.

Xcel Bronze Nickel competition saw Londonderry's Riley Doyle tie for third on bars, finish tied for fourth on beam and alone in fourth in the all-around and on vault, and tally a fifth on floor.

In Xcel Silver Division action, town resident Eva Sesin snagged thirds on vault and floor and also went top-10 on bars and beam.

The girls are coached by owner Tim Madore and with Melanie Stoller, Jus-

tine Turner, Sherry Harper, Mike O'Donnell, and Georgia Dougherty.



Young Shana Hatfield was one of several NEGTC gymnasts to collect national honors with their work at a Bay State event recently. Courtesy photo

Athletes of the Week

Week of Feb. 6



**Caroline Russell, Junior,
Girls' Swimming**

This hard working and versatile swimmer, who can compete in any event, was a state qualifier in the 200-meter individual medley and 100-meter backstroke and performed well at the state meet last weekend.



**Brian Parrott, Junior,
Boys' Swimming**

This talented 11th grader was a state qualifier in no less than five events, and he performed well at the state title meet in the 200-meter individual medley and the 100-meter breaststroke.

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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.

Senior Breakfast

The Londonderry Senior Center holds a monthly breakfast with a speaker on the last Friday of the month. Cost is \$4 per person, and reservations are required. Reservations may be made at the front desk. The next breakfast is Friday, March 31. For more information, call the Center at 432-8554.

Fight Addiction

Narcanon provides screenings and interventions for those struggling with addiction and their families. For

more information go to narcanon-suncoast.org/blog/the-power-of-an-intervention.html or call 877-841-5509.

Laugh It Up

A comedy night to benefit the Londonderry High School lacrosse team will be held Thursday, March 16, beginning at 8 p.m. in the Tupelo Music Hall, A Street, Derry. A number of professional comedians will perform. There will be a 50-50 raffle. Tickets to the event are \$25 per person. For more information, contact

Cris Navarro, cnavarro@allegrotech.com or 490-2525, or Chefyl Grant, nhclgrant@gmail.com or 247-5579.

Register to Vote

The Supervisors of the Checklist for Londonderry will hold a voter registration session Saturday, March 4, from 10 a.m. to noon in the Town Hall. Anyone who has not previously registered may do so for the Town/School Election March 14. Proof of citizenship, identity, and residency is needed, or affidavits may be signed. This is the last day to register before the March 14 election. Registrations will be accepted the day of the election with documentation.

Musquash Field Day

The Londonderry Conservation Commission will hold its annual Musquash Field Day Saturday, Feb. 18,

from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Musquash Conservation Area. The day will include guided walks, children's scavenger hunt, educational talk, and refreshments around a campfire. County forestry officials will be on hand to talk about the winter plants and animals in the Musquash. There will be guided hikes of the Heron Trail, 10 a.m., 2.5 miles and the Landing Trail, 1 mile, noon. Parking is available at the trailhead on Hickory Hill Drive in Londonderry. For more information, visit the Conservation Commission's Facebook page or contact Mike Byerly at mikebyerly89@gmail.com or (978) 376-0232.

Parents of Young Children Support Group

The Upper Room offers FROG, Families Reaching Our Goals, a support group for parents and caregivers of toddlers, Wednesdays from 9:15 to 10:45 a.m. in its facility at 36 Tsienneto Road in Derry. For more information or to register, call 437-8477.

Sarah Josepha Hale

In honor of Women's History Month, the Londonderry Women's Club will host a New Hampshire Humanities program on Sarah Josepha Hale Wednesday, March 15, from 7 to 9 p.m. in the Marion Gerrish Community Center, 39 West Broadway, Derry. Sharon Wood will

portray Ann Wyman Blake speaking of her admiration for Hale. Hale was a New Hampshire native, first female magazine editor, and instrumental in establishing Thanksgiving as a national holiday. The program is free and open to the public. For more information, visit the club's Web site at www.londonderrywomensclub.com

Seniors Holiday Dinner

The Londonderry Senior Center will offer a St. Patrick's Day Dinner Friday, March 17, at noon. The dinner is \$5, members and \$15, non-members. Registration is required at the front desk of the Center.

Londonderry Democrats'

The Londonderry Democratic Committee will hold its Election of Officers Saturday, Feb. 18, at 10 a.m. in the Leach Library, 275 Mammoth Road. Officers are sought along with delegates to the state convention. For more information, contact Chairwoman Tam Siekmann at chair@londonderrydems.com; call 425-3515; visit www.londonderrydems.com; or check out their Facebook page.

Holocaust denial

Etz Hayim Synagogue, 1-1/2 Hood Road, Derry, will be showing the movie, Denial, on Saturday, Feb. 18 at 7 p.m. The showing will be preceded by a short Havdalah service, and cake will be served during the movie, according to a press release. The event is free and open to the public. The film, starring Rachel Weisz, portrays Deborah E. Lipstadt's legal battle for historical truth against David Irving, who accused her of libel when she declared him a Holocaust denier, the release said. For more information about the showing, see www.etzhayim.org or contact socialaction@etzhayim.org.

Dragon's Tale comes to area

The New Hampshire

Theatre Factory will present "A Dragon's Tail" Friday, March 3 at 7:30 p.m. and Saturday, March 4 at 2 p.m., & 7:30 p.m. in the Derry Opera House, 29 West Broadway, Derry. Tickets can be purchased at the door or online by visiting www.nhtheatrefactory.org

Go Back to the Fifties

The Londonderry Lions Club will hold a 50s, 60s, 70s and 80s dance with Bobby and the Sharptones Friday, April 21, from 7 to 11 p.m. in the Lions Hall, Mammoth Road, Londonderry. Cost is \$20 per person, \$35 per couple. For tickets or more information call Jerry at 434-5307.

Bring Smiles to Vets with Bingo

American Legion Post 17 will play Bingo with patients at the Manchester VA Hospital Monday, Feb. 27, from 7 to 8:30 p.m. The group will be supported by the LHS Pay-It-Forward team. Pizza and diet soda will be served, and there will be \$150 in prize money. For more information, visit the Web site at www.alpost27.com, call us 437-6613 or visit the Greeley Parmenter Harrington Post Facebook page.

A Soldier's Mother

Amoskeag Questers hosts NH Humanities program, "A Soldier's Mother Tells Her Story". Living history presenter Sharon Wood portrays Betsey Phelps, Amherst, NH mother of a Civil War soldier. The program, is free and open to the public, is 10:00 a.m. Wednesday March 1, at Marion Gerrish Community Center, 39 West Broadway, Derry, NH 03038. For more information, contact Meredith Hatch 434-8673.

Elijah's Table

Elijah's Table, a joint project of Etz Hayim Synagogue ("EHS"), 1-1/2 Hood Road, Derry, and the Derry Episcopal Church of the

Continued on page 17

February - March School & Town Meetings

Feb. 20	Town Council Meeting	7 p.m.
Feb. 21	Senior Resources Committee	6 p.m.
	Sunnycrest Conference Room	
	Londonderry School Board	7 p.m.
Feb. 23	Heritage Commission Meeting	7 p.m.
	Sunnycrest Conference Room	
	Budget Committee Meeting	7 p.m.
Feb. 28	Conservation Commission	7 p.m.
	Sunnycrest Conference Room	
Mar. 1	Planning Board Meeting	7 p.m.
	Trustees of Leach Library Meeting	7 p.m.
Mar. 2	Tentative ZBA Overflow Meeting	7 p.m.
Mar. 6	Town Council Meeting	7 p.m.
	Housing & Redevelopment Authority Meeting	7 p.m.
Mar. 8	Planning Board Meeting	7 p.m.
Mar. 9	Solid Waste & Environment Committee Meeting	7 p.m.
Mar. 10	Solid Waste & Environment Committee Meeting	7 p.m.
	Recreation Commission Meeting	7:30 p.m.
Mar. 11	Town Deliberative Session	9 a.m.
Mar. 13	Recreation Commission Meeting	7:30 p.m.
Mar. 14	Town Election Day	8 a.m. - 8 p.m.
Mar. 15	ZBA Meeting	7 p.m.
	LYSA Meeting	7 p.m.
Mar. 16	Old Home Day Committee Meeting	7 p.m.
Mar. 20	Town Council Meeting	7 p.m.
Mar. 21	Senior Resources Committee	6 p.m.
	Londonderry School Board Meeting	7 p.m.
Mar. 23	Heritage Commission Meeting	7 p.m.
	Budget Committee Meeting	7 p.m.
Mar. 28	Conservation Commission Meeting	7:30 p.m.
Mar. 30	Heritage Commission Meeting	7 p.m.
	Budget Committee Meeting	7 p.m.

Meeting held at Moose Hill Council Chamber at Town Hall unless otherwise specified

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Have an Announcement?

This service is provided free of charge to Londonderry residents who wish to announce the birth of their child or grandchild, marriage engagement, wedding or milestone event such as a Silver Wedding Anniversary. This is a great way to share your news with your local community. The Londonderry Times also accepts obituary notices. Please contact us at 537-2760 or e-mail to londonderrytimes@nutpub.net.

Around Town

Continued from page 16

Transfiguration ("DCOFT"), 1 Hood Road, Derry, will be hosting two free meals in February. DCOFT's dinner will be held on February 12 at 5:00-6:30 and EHS's dinner is on February 19 at 5-6:15 p.m. The dinners are healthy and delicious, and the atmosphere is warm and friendly. Please join us.

Karaoke Night

A Karaoke Night with DJ Sharon will be held Friday, Feb. 17, at 7 p.m. in the Post at Non-members interested in the Legion are welcome to attend. For more informa-

tion, visit www.alpost27.com, visit the Greeley Parmenter Harrington Post Facebook page, or call 437-6613.

Londonderry Democrats'

The Londonderry Democratic Committee will hold its Election of Officers Saturday, Feb. 18 in the Leach Library, 275 Mammoth Road. Officers are sought along with delegates to the state convention. For more information, contact Chairwoman Tam Siekmann at chair@londonderrydems.com; call 425-3515; visit www.londonderrydems.com; or check out their Facebook page.

Dr. Seuss Month

March is Dr. Seuss's Birthday Month and children are invited to stop by the Children's Room in the Leach Library and play a Dr. Seuss matching game. They will be entered into a drawing for a Dr. Seuss-themed gift bag. For more information, call the library at 432-1132 or 432-1127.

Head to Musquash for Outdoor Fun

The Londonderry Conservation Commission will hold its annual Musquash Field Day Saturday, Feb. 18. There will be snowshoeing, a bonfire, nature walks/talks

and prizes for children. Food will include hot chocolate, coffee, hot dogs and cookies.

Book Bingo

Spring Book Bingo will be offered Thursday, March 9, from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. Participants should be in grades six through 12, bingo winners win books. Snacks and drinks will be served. No sign-up is necessary. For more information, call the library at 432-1132 or 432-1127.

Little Critters

Have fun with "Little Critter" the star of the Mercer Mayer picture books,

will be held Monday, March 13, from 4 to 5 p.m. in the Leach Library, Londonderry. Photo ops with Little Critter are available. The program is limited to 90 children and registration is required beginning Monday, March 9. Call to register or come by the Children's Room. For more information, call the library at 432-1132 or 432-1127.

Moose Man

Rick "The Moose Man" Libbey will speak on "Moose Moments In the Wild" Thursday, March 16, at 7 p.m. Londonderry Leach Library, events are free and open to the public with seat-

ing limited to the first 90 individuals. They are held in the library's lower-level meeting room. Light refreshments will be served. For more information, call the library at 432-1132 or 432-1127.

Free Meals

The following free meals are offered in February: Feb. 18, Dinner at St. Luke's United Methodist Church, 5 to 6:30 p.m., 63 East Broadway, Derry, 434-4767; Feb. 19, Dinner at Etz Hayim Synagogue, 5 to 6:15 p.m., 1 Hood Road, Derry, 432-0004; Feb. 24, Spaghetti Supper at First Parish Congregational Church,

continued on page 19

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Londonderry Police Log

Selections from the Londonderry Police Logs

Monday - Feb. 6

10:29 a.m. Motor vehicle accident investigated on Whittemore Road

3:51 p.m. Motor vehicle accident investigated on Rockingham Road

5:59 p.m. Motor vehicle accident on Garden Lane investigated and warning issued.

6:46 p.m. Assault investigated on Crestview Circle.

Tuesday - Feb. 7

12:27 a.m. Motor vehicle stop at Mammoth Road near Peabody Row results in the arrest of Melissa Miller, 37, of Manchester. Charged with Possession of Controlled/Narcotic Drugs and Arrested on a Warrant. Also arrested Matthew Bell, 34, of Manchester charged with the Possession of Drugs in a Motor Vehicle.

11:24 a.m. Motor vehicle accident investigated on Londonderry Road. Vehicle towed.

12:19 p.m. Motor vehicle accident investigated on Rockingham Road near YMCA. Vehicle Towed.

2:07 p.m. Motor vehicle accident investigated at Garden Lane.

2:09 p.m. Motor vehicle accident investigated on Rockingham Road near Noyes Road. Vehicle towed.

5:18 p.m. Motor vehicle accident investigated on Old Derry Rd at Allison Lane.

5:25 p.m. Motor vehicle accident investigated at Pettingill Road near Industrial Drive.

5:30 p.m. Motor vehicle accident investigated at Nashua and Young Roads. Warning issued.

5:46 p.m. Domestic Disturbance investigated on South Road.

5:59 p.m. Motor vehicle accident investigated on Mammoth Road at Triangle Mobil Mart.

Wednesday - Feb. 8

12:34 a.m. Unlawful Activities investigated and Citation Issued on Ross Drive.

12:44 a.m. Unlawful Activities investigated and Citation Issued on Haywood Road.

12:50 a.m. Unlawful Activities investigated and Citation Issued on Wheelwright Circle.

12:12 p.m. Motor vehicle accident investigated on Mammoth Road at Merlin Place.

2:18 p.m. Motor vehicle accident investigated on Mammoth Road at Day Blvd.

3:36 p.m. Juvenile Offenses

Investigated at Matthew Thornton School.

5:17 p.m. Motor vehicle stop results in Arrest on Mammoth Road near Litchfield Road. Joelle Sinnett, 44, of Derry charged with Possession of Controlled/Narcotic Drugs and Possession of Drugs (in A Motor Vehicle) 6:56 p.m. Warrant served and arrest made at Linlew Drive in Derry. Martin Rabinovitz, 66, of Derry Charged with Fraudulent Retail Transactions.

Thursday - Feb. 9

12:11 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop on southbound side of I-93 south of Exit 4 results in the arrest of Russell Smock, 24, of Bristol. Charged with False Inspection or Registration Sticker, Unregistered Vehicle and Failure Tt Obey Inspection Requirements.

2:11 a.m. Overdose investigated at Tedeschi Foods on Rockingham Road.

8:55 p.m. Motor vehicle accident investigated on Harvey Rd

9 a.m. Motor vehicle accident investigated on Garden Lane.

11:41 a.m. Motor vehicle accident reported on Wiley Hill Road. Vehicle Towed

12:24 p.m. Motor vehicle accident investigated on Technology Drive.

1:23 p.m. Motor vehicle accident investigated and Services Rendered Mammoth Rd @ Smith Ln

2:02 p.m. Motor vehicle accident investigated on Mammoth Road near Mack's

2:58 p.m. Motor vehicle accident investigated Rockingham Road.

3:10 p.m. Motor vehicle accident investigated and services rendered Nashua Road near Route 93.

4:39 p.m. Motor vehicle accident investigated and Services Rendered Pettingill Road.

5:35 p.m. Medical Emergency reported, Services Rendered Manchester Boston Regional Airport.

Friday - Feb. 10

8:18 a.m. Motor vehicle accident investigated on Stonehenge and Perkins Road intersection. Services Rendered

6:01 p.m. Suspicious activity reported and arrest made on Charleston Avenue. Joseph Shamma, 30, of Londonderry charged with Second Degree Assault and Domestic Violence - Simple Assault.

6:58 p.m. Domestic Distur-

bance report and peace restored on Charleston Avenue.

Saturday - Feb. 11

6:40 a.m. Motor vehicle accident investigated at intersection of Rockingham and Stonehenge Roads.

10:04 a.m. Suspicious activity investigated on Ross Drive.

10:47 a.m. Motor vehicle accident reported at intersection of High Range and Litchfield Roads.

11:08 a.m. Motor vehicle accident investigated on Mammoth Road at CVS.

11:22 a.m. Motor vehicle accident investigated at Highlander Way and Sparks Road.

11:51 a.m. Motor vehicle accident investigated on Nashua Road at Exit 4.

11:54 a.m. Motor vehicle accident investigated on Garden Lane.

12:38 p.m. Motor vehicle accident investigated on Rockingham Road near MPV Trailer Sales.

1 p.m. Motor vehicle accident reported at McDonald's on Gilcreast Road.

3:32 p.m. Motor vehicle accident investigated at Shaws on Orchard View Drive.

3:49 p.m. Motor vehicle stop results in arrest on Route 28 at Exit 5. Mary Ellen Matthews, 31, of Epsom charged with Driving after Revocation or Suspension and on a Bench Warrant.

5:07 p.m. Pedestrian Check results in arrest on Hampton Drive. Eric Rogers, 52, Derry charged with Disobeying an Officer, Failure to Obey Inspection Requirements, Misuse or Failure to Display Plates and driving an unregistered vehicle.

Sunday - Feb. 12

9:40 a.m. Drug Offenses investigated on Morway Drive.

11:48 a.m. Attempted suicide report results in an arrest on Harvey Road. Benjamin Harrison, 35, of Londonderry charged with Domestic Violence Simple Assault, Reckless Conduct - Placing Another in Danger, Criminal Threatening (use of Deadly Weapon) and Criminal Mischief (vandalism)

8:54 p.m. Domestic Disturbance reported and peace restored on Boulder Drive.

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Around Town

Continued from page 17

5 to 6:30 p.m., 47 East Derry Road, Derry, 434-0628; Feb. 26, Breakfast at Church of the Transfiguration, 9 to 10 a.m., 1 Hood Road, Derry, 432-2130; Feb. 26, Lunch hosted by St. Jude Parish Community, 1:30 to 2:30 p.m., at the Londonderry Lions Hall, 432-3333. March 12, St. Patrick's Day Dinner at Church of the Transfiguration, 5 to 6:30 p.m., 1 Hood Road, Derry, 432-2130; March 16, Dinner at West Running Brook Middle School, 5 to 6:30 p.m., 1 West Running Brook Lane, Derry, 432-1350; March 18, Dinner at St. Luke's United Methodist Church, 5 to 6:30 p.m., 63 East Broadway, Derry, 434-4767; March 19, Dinner at Etz Hayim Synagogue, 5 to 6:15 p.m., 1 Hood Road, Derry, 432-0004; March 26, Breakfast at Church of the Transfiguration, 9 to 10 a.m., 1 Hood Road, Derry, 432-2130; March 31, Spaghetti Supper at First Parish Congregational Church, 5 to 6:30 p.m., 47 East Derry Road, Derry, 434-0628. Sonshine Soup Kitchen serves a free meal every weeknight from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m.

Derry Garden Club

The Derry Garden Club will be holding its March meeting on Friday, Mar. 3, at the Derry Boys and Girls Club, 40 Hampstead Rd., Derry, at 10 a.m.. The meeting will be "Beautiful Habitat Gardens and their Fascinating Inhabitants" featuring speaker, Thomas Berger. He is a naturalist that has traveled the world observing, photographing and painting nature. There will be a slide show and recommendations for plants and typical garden insects. Appetizers and beverages will be provided.

Teen & Parent Workshops

The Upper Room, 36 Tseneto Road, holds the following free weekly support groups and workshops:

Hour Power Lunch Time Workshops, Wednesdays, 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Topics available on Web site. Parents of Teens, Thursdays, 6 to 7:30 p.m. Parents of children 0-6, includes playgroup and/or childcare, Wednesdays, 9:15 to 10:45 a.m. Light refreshments and coffee. Teen and Young Parents (up to age 23), Wednesdays, 5 to 7 p.m., includes light dinner and childcare. For more information, call 437-8477 or visit www.urteachers.org.

Spring Sports

Registration is open for Londonderry High School spring sports. To register, find the link to the online registration portal, Family ID, at <http://lhs.londonderry.org/athletics>. For more information, call the athletic office at 432-6941, ext. 2307.

Register Now for Preschool

The Londonderry Early Education Program (LEEP) is currently registering children for the 2017-18 session. LEEP is a developmentally appropriate preschool respectful of the talents and needs of individual children. The teachers are all certi-

fied educators and the program is provided by the Londonderry School District. Programs for 3-year old preschoolers meet from 8:45 to 11:00 a.m., either two or four days per week and the program for prekindergarten students meets from noon to 2:30 p.m., either three or four days per week. Tuition is preschool, \$150 per month, two days, \$200 per month, four days; Pre-K \$180 per month, three days and \$200 per month, four days. Applications and the LEEP Handbook are available online on the Moose Hill School Web site. For more information, contact Kathy Kelley at 437-5855, ext. 7223, or e-mail her at kkelley@londonderry.org or Kim Speers at kspeers@londonderry.org.

Center Announces Seasonal Closings

The Londonderry Senior Center will follow the Londonderry Schools' pattern for dealing with winter weather. If the schools have a delayed opening, the Center will have a delayed opening, opening at 9 a.m. If the schools are closed for inclement weather, the Cen-

ter will also be closed. For information, call 432-8554.

Help Shape Democrats' Future in Londonderry

The Londonderry Democratic Committee will hold its Election of Officers Saturday, Feb. 18 in the Leach Library, 275 Mammoth Road. Officers are sought along with delegates to the state convention. For more information, contact Chairwoman Tam Siekmann at chair@londonderrydems.com; call 425-3515; visit www.londonderrydems.com; or check out their Facebook page.

Italian Gardens

The Leach Library will host a program on "Iconic Italian Gardens" Thursday, Feb. 16, at 7 p.m. in the

Leach Library, Londonderry. Presenter Laura Campbell will explore the history of several well-known Italian gardens including Ninfa, Villa Lante, and Villa D'este. She will present her own photographs of the gardens and offer her observations as well as professional insights. This program is free and open to the public with seating limited to the first 90 individuals. It will be held in the library's lower-level meeting room. Light refreshments will be served. For more information, call 432-1132.

Live Animals

Children are invited to join staff members of the Squam Lakes Natural Science Center Tuesday, Feb.

21, from 4 to 5 p.m. to hear the stories of three native New Hampshire animals who returned from the edge of extinction. Participants will encounter three live animals, learn about their habitats and characteristics, and then learn about a person who has helped the animals to thrive. Live animals may include a Peregrine falcon, Broadwing hawk and porcupine (live animals). This program is open to 90 participants of all ages. Registration is required and begins Monday, Feb. 13, at 9 a.m. To register, call 432-1127 or stop by the Children's Room. This program is sponsored by The Friends of the Londonderry Leach Library

Students Celebrate 100 Days



Second grade students at South Elementary School finally got to celebrate the 100th day of school by dressing as 100-year-olds. The day was originally scheduled a week earlier, but with all the cancellations due to snow, they were able to dress up on Tuesday, Feb. 14. *Photos by Chris Paul*



TOWN OF LONDONDERRY PLANNING BOARD

The Minor Site Plan Review Committee will hold a Public Meeting on Tuesday, February 21, 2017 at 9:00 a.m. in the Elwood Conference Room, 268B Mammoth Road – 2nd floor, Londonderry, NH to consider the following:

MINOR SITE PLAN:

Application Acceptance and Public Hearing for a formal review of a minor site plan for a change of use to allow retail vehicle sales, 7 Rockingham Road, Map 13 Lot 97, Zoned C-II, Henry Nguyen (Owner & Applicant)



TOWN OF LONDONDERRY PLANNING BOARD

The Londonderry Planning Board will hold a public meeting on Wednesday, March 1, 2017 at 7:00 P.M. in the Moose Hill Council Chambers, 268B Mammoth Road, Londonderry, NH to consider the following:

PUBLIC HEARINGS

Application acceptance and public hearing for formal review of a subdivision plan of one lot into two, 9 Harvey Road, Map 11 Lot 98, Zoned AR-1, Victory Baptist Church (Owner & Applicant)

Application for formal review of a site plan for a change of use for a dog day care center and a nano-brewer, 298-302 Rockingham Road, Map 17 Lot 24, Zoned C-II, Remi O. Fortin (Owner & Applicant)

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