

Londonderry Times

November 30, 2017 ♦ Volume 18 – Issue 47

A FREE Weekly Publication



Pilgrims Greetings

The children at Moose Hill School celebrated the Thanksgiving Holiday with their annual feast in halls of the school last week before the break. Kindergarten students were surprised visiting Pilgrims Bill and Judy Imes the parents Kindergarten Teacher Sarah Keller. See more photos on page 2.

Photo by Chris Paul

Mack Family Offers to Sell Historic Property to Town

LORI COSTA
LONDONDERRY TIMES

At the town council meeting on Monday, Nov. 22, the Mack family announced plans to sell their home they no longer wished to own. Andy Mack Jr. and his wife Carol Mack asked the council if they would

be interested in buying their home on 230 Mammoth Road. The Mack's idea was for the town to turn the house into a historical site for Londonderry where tours can be given and the history of the Mack family and the orchards lives on.

Mack Jr. said that he

had hoped that someone in the family would be able to purchase the home to keep it in the family, but unfortunately there have been no takers.

The house was built in 1772 even before the town of Londonderry was

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Police and Fire Discuss Upgrade on Communications with Council

LORI COSTA
LONDONDERRY TIMES

The state of communications for the police and fire departments in Londonderry was a hot topic at the Nov. 20 Town Council meeting.

Services Commander for the Londonderry Police Department, Chris Gandia and Battalion Chief for the Londonderry Fire Department, Mike McQuillen addressed the council with the goal to having better emergency communications in the town of Londonderry.

Currently, Rockingham County uses Motorola products for communication. The police and fire

departments are currently looking for an equipment upgrade. However, Vice-Chairman, John Farrell pointed out that no matter which vendor they use for their equipment, they will not be able to solve the amount of dead spots in town. Dead spots are a matter of civil work that will need to be addressed at another time.

It is paramount that first responders have the best in cutting-edge technology. Motorola Solutions is the industry leader, but an alternative source for better communication might edge out the well-known brand.

Gandia also recognized that there needs to

be a public awareness campaign, so taxpayers understand why this is a necessity for the police and fire departments to have this upgrade.

Recently, the police department has taken about 15 radio transmissions that represented the garbled communication where it has been difficult to communicate with the officers out on the road. The transmissions are also available on the town's police department page along with a reference sheet that corresponds with the greater transmissions.

There have been multiple instances where an

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School Board Looks to Build Upon its Strengths in 2019

LORI COSTA
LONDONDERRY TIMES

On Nov. 21, the school board presented the Superintendent's report: the budget presentation. This meeting focused on the advancement of the proposed budget for the fiscal year of 2019. The main goals outlined by the school board were to work to maintain existing programs, build on successes, and adapt to changes in enrollment. The Superintendent's report was presented by Scott Laliberte and Peter Curro.

The general fund budget that was being proposed was \$73,473,218.00, an increase over fiscal year

2018 by \$1,290,904.00. There were significant calculations that went into making this budget. It was also important to note there will be a decrease in the budget for the special education program, because of the decrease in student enrollment. These students will be in out of district placement. The decrease is in the amount of \$412,806.00. This will also impact the transportation of special needs students in a decrease of \$44,500.00. These were the biggest impacts of the overall budget for 2019.

The default budget as of this moment has been set at \$72,903,347.00. If this proposed budget

were to go through, it would be an increase over the proposed budget for FY 2018 by \$721,033.00. The proposed budget as of Nov. 21 is \$569,871.00 over default. There are still key elements of the budget that have yet to be discussed by the board, but will be determined in meetings going forward.

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Moose Hill Students Enjoy Annual Feast for Thanksgiving



Student at the Moose Hill School enjoyed the annual tradition of setting up long tables in the hallways of the school and taking part in a feast while they are served by parents, teachers, staff member and Pilgrims.

Photos by Chris Paul



Communications

Continued from page 1

officer cannot respond back to dispatch because of transmission issues, including a motor vehicle

accident, a cardiac arrest, and an overdose. The average response time in Londonderry is seven minutes. John Far-

rell noted that improved communication will increase dispatch time to be even better. "If you're communicating better, that seven minutes may become six. In the case of

a defibrillator that may make all the difference," Farrell said.

The inability to communicate clearly is a risk to public safety and first responders who may be in a dangerous situation. According to Gandia, over the course of three days, there were three separate issues with their radio

communications.

Farrell also pointed out that a point of the public safety is the plowing of roads. The public works department does not currently have any ways to communicate. Giving them a means for better communication would be a help to the community.

The point reiterated at the end of the meeting was that the issue was bad radio transmissions and not dead zones. As important as the upgrade is, it will not be able to cure the dead zones, but Battalion Chief McQuillen said this upgrade will solve about 95% of their problems.

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Senior Resource Committee Delves into Transportation and Safety

ALEX GUITTARR
LONDONDERRY TIMES

Potential for a variety of additions and changes to services available to seniors in Londonderry were brought up during the Senior Resource Committee's latest meeting on Nov. 21 at Town Hall.

Concerning old business, members of the committee delved into

their most recent Senior Forum on Nov. 9, which was held at the town Senior Center, wherein several Londonderry seniors spoke with members of the committee to discuss how they felt the town could make life easier for older residents.

Certain topics were admittedly out of the control of the committee, including assistance with shoveling snow or raking

leaves and the general attitude towards helping seniors in town. But most of the discussion seemed quite productive, tackling several issues that groups like the committee and even the Town Council could eventually expand upon.

For starters, the seniors felt transportation should be expanded upon further as the town continues to expand and diversify. Although Lon-

donderry has already been experimenting with the C.A.R.T program to move residents around, the forum felt that the use of handicapped vans or a regular in-town bus schedule could make transportation easier on seniors.

Those in attendance also felt that more long-term planning needed to be applied to the tax rate for seniors. Not only do seniors pay the same tax

rate as working adults, but Londonderry's constant expansion, coupled with shifting family housing situations, could ultimately be detrimental to senior's situations in their eyes.

Overall, the committee felt that the forum was a success and they hope to reach out to even more elderly residents for future forum in order to see even more feedback. However, Catherine Blash, Director for the Senior Center, seemed less than impressed, preferring to see results than simply talking about change.

"I want to see if anything comes to fruition out of it", Blash noted.

In terms of new business of the committee, Bonnie Roberts, the Chair for the committee, helped introduced the Police Department's Reassurance Program to members. Essentially, seniors or their friends and family can sign up for this program, where the signee must call the police every day before 10 a.m. in

order to let the department know that they are doing fine. Otherwise, the police will initially call the home to check on the resident's status and if they do not pick up this call, officers will then be sent to their address to perform a welfare check.

Roberts seemed quite supportive of the program, but wondered if other residents could get involved in the idea.

"There's nothing that says it has to be done by the police", Roberts noted.

Members then discussed the possibility of hosting their own program, either by starting a sort of neighborhood watch or even a simple buddy system between residents to help keep tabs on one another.

Although the committee did seem to approve of such a program, there were concerns over residential backlash against the idea, with some possibly seeing it as a threat to the privacy and security of the town's people.

Going Green in Londonderry Artificial or Real Christmas Tree?

LONDONDERRY'S SOLID
WASTE AND ENVIRONMENT
COMMITTEE AND NH DES

With about 35 million real Christmas trees sold in the US yearly, you can lighten your environmental impact by careful selection. You have 3 choices: buy a cut real tree, a living tree with the root ball, or a manufactured fake tree.

Trees sold today at Christmas tree lots are almost all grown on tree farms and are considered a renewable resource. For each tree harvested, at least two are planted. They remove carbon dioxide—the "greenhouse gas" from the atmosphere—while benefiting the landscape, holding soil together with their roots, and

providing habitat for animals and birds.

However, all is not equal when you select a real tree:

- To avoid the impacts from trucking, select a tree grown locally or cut your own from an area tree farm. That will also benefit New Hampshire's economy.

- Look for a tree farm that doesn't use chemicals or uses an integrated pest management (IPM) program.

- After Christmas, find the closest location for recycling your tree through a chipping or composting program, or a charity burn event.

- Consider also reusing the tree branches in your garden for extra insulation around plants

or mulching them to use in walkways.

A living evergreen tree sold with its root ball can be transplanted outdoors after the holidays leaving a living green legacy to be enjoyed later. In this colder climate, allow the tree to acclimate a week on the porch or in the garage before bringing it in to the warm house. Then, to keep it healthy, limit the amount of time the tree is indoors. Check with a local reputable nursery for more information about how to care for and

plant your live tree.

Artificial trees are reusable and can look just like a real tree. Their main problem is that they are made from petroleum products and end up in our landfills. Take good care of it and these issues will be offset by a long "life."

For a list of "Harvest Your Own" Christmas tree growers in New Hampshire visit www.nhchristmastrees.com. For Christmas tree recycling locations, contact your local DPW.

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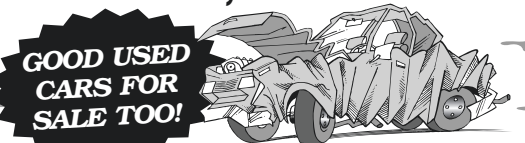
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Editorial

Remembering a Day That Brought Us Together

Before Dec. 7, 1941, Pearl Harbor was just an American Naval Base on a Hawaiian territory. But that fateful morning, it would be forever etched into the minds of citizens all over the country. Dec. 7, 1941 was a day that brought Americans together.

Only a few hours after the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, Japan formally declared war against the United States.

The sentiment Americans felt after the news of the attack spread is best summarized by the words of fleet Chaplain William A. Macguire: "Don't say we buried our dead with sorrow. They died manfully. They were buried manfully. And we will avenge their deaths, come what may."

Pearl Harbor infuriated Americans and motivated an undivided decision to enter into World War II. On Dec. 8, 1941, the United States joined the Allied Powers.

Before the events that took place at Pearl Harbor over 75 years ago, the country was divided, and not all Americans were supportive of the efforts of World War II. But after the attack, those who were skeptical began singing a different tune, and the support for the war became unanimous. The attack ensured America's entrance into the war, provoking a joint effort by all, at home and overseas.

The States truly became United that morning over three-quarters of a century ago, and everyone had a part to play in the war efforts. Civilian employees helped to load and clean weapons,

wounded men fought on, doctors from miles away rushed to tend to the wounded and when blood donations were needed, donors stood in line for almost seven hours to do their part.

The outcome of World War II may have been entirely different, had the United States not joined the Allied Powers. The United States implemented the draft and all men from age 18 to 45 were included, providing over 16 million troops to the front lines. All automobile factories in the United States stopped production of cars and began manufacturing only vehicles and planes for the war. Women went to work in factories to make war supplies, and some even joined the armed forces. Without the United States providing so many troops and supplies, the Allied Powers may not have won.

Although the attack on Dec. 7, 1941, may not be our proudest day, there are many resulting positive outcomes and effects that are too often overlooked. We can look back on this day and be proud that we live in a country where people are able to forget themselves and do whatever it takes to help each other in a time of need, and are able to unite toward a common goal. Without our combined efforts all of those years ago, we could be living in a different world today. Pearl Harbor changed the course of history, and it is on each and every 7th day of December that we reflect and say a prayer for those lost, and those who continue to defend our country to this day.

Letters

Mack Homestead

A newspaper article on Nov., 23, 17, states that the Mack family of Londonderry has decided to sell the family home adjacent to the farm store.

The article further states that Andy Mack has offered the town of Londonderry the first opportunity to purchase the house.

Mr Mack suggested that the house could be used by civic groups and for cultural events.

Given the rate of development in the town at the present time and the apparent shortage of meeting places, this seems like an opportunity to provide a much needed resource for the town and to preserve an historic and cultural land mark .

I would urge the town council to seriously consider Mr Mack's proposal.

James F. Pratt
Londonderry

China's Press Restrictions

To the Editor:

President Trump refused to take reporters questions during his visit to China. He succumbed to Chinese insistence that no questions be allowed from the press.

Communist China, along with other Communist countries, prohibits freedom of the press. The Chinese government controls the press and tells the press what to publish. China is afraid to open up the press to the

public because the Communist shortcomings will be exposed, and it could lead to unrest and the pursuit of democratic freedoms.

Unfortunately, Trump went along with the Chinese restrictions on the press as a bargaining chip in his quest to have China eliminate all trade with North Korea.

Trump's views about the press fit in with Communist China's restrictions on their media outlets, because Trump would like to control the U.S. press and its reporting on his presidency.

Freedom of the press is a hallmark of a democracy.

Donald Moskowitz
Londonderry, NH

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.

School Strengths

Continued from page 1

The new proposed budget has made allowances for space needs that may arise and summer construction. The total for these areas is \$400,950.00 between the proposed budget and the default budget. The remaining amount of \$168,921.00 features changes in personnel depending on the enrollment status.

Members of the school board look to increase on the strengths of the district, which includes the better utilization of technology. The goal is to offer new and more learning experiences through electronic resources for both students and staff. Scott Laliberte also noted that

student enrollment continues to fluctuate, which makes things difficult. Some of the increases in the budget have been unpredictable, but maintaining the ability to adapt to these issues in short notice has been a key objective for the board.

In terms of academic programs, the school board is continuing on with the Math and Focus program and hopes to add on both first and second grades to the program next year. The school board has also found there have been more teachers utilizing distance learning opportunities in professional learning. Normally, professional learning meant

teachers would attend workshops while students would enjoy a day off. The school board has working to offer more learning opportunities for both the teaching and administrative staff that's in the district or uses technology for remote learning. This budget for FY 2019 also maintains all current levels of co-curricular programs.

"Our district offers an outstanding learning environment as a result of the considerable support given by our community, and we will continue to look for ways to make it even better," Laliberte said. Further discussions will continue on the FY 2019 budget on Thursday, Dec 7.

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Londonderry Times

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www.nutpub.net

Owner/Publisher – Debra Paul

Art Director – Chris Paul

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Special Education Meets Requirements for the Department of Education

LORI COSTA
LONDONDERRY TIMES

On the Nov. 21 school board meeting, the Director of Pupil Services Kim Carpinone came in to address questions the board had regarding the IDEA (Individuals with Disabilities Education Act) and how it will be implemented in NH schools, specifically in the Londonderry district. The Board of Education is given the authority to make the rules around special education. In March of 2017, the rules were re-adopted, the new rules states that a self-contained

classroom may have no more than 12 students.

The school board then questioned Carpinone about alternative programs that must meet the needs of children with disabilities. Carpinone explained that alternative programs are a duty under the Department of Education. In Londonderry, the FRIENDS program for children with autism was approved by the Department of Education, because it is considered an alternative program for children with other disabilities.

The Department of Ed. is the authoritative figure

that monitors and oversees all programs, but districts are broken down into cohorts based on their size. Londonderry is considered one of the bigger cohorts. It is unclear how often the Department of Ed. will do on-site monitoring of these programs. When the department does come in, it includes a desk audit of all paper work, checking efficiency of programs, having proper certification for staff, and having the appropriate number of staff.

The department also measures Londonderry annually with the best rat-

ing of "meets requirements". Londonderry has consistently met requirements. "There are no findings of either non-compliance or inappropriate disproportion, like an inappropriately disproportionate number of suspensions,"

Carpinone said. If, however, somehow Londonderry was not in compliance, the state would then come in and address the issues, possibly by providing technical assistance or doing professional development. In the worst case scenario,

Londonderry could lose part or all of the IDEA funding, which is over \$1,000,000. Thankfully, Londonderry has proven to be in compliance with the state law for the special education programs and alternative programs.

Mack Home

Continued from page 1

established. This home- stead is a big component in Londonderry's history and the town purchasing it would keep it alive.

Andy and Carol have spent over 30 years in the home, but with only the two of them living there, they feel it is time to move on. Over the past five years, Andy and Carol have made plans to downsize now that their children are grown and they have kids of their own. They have hosted multiple events over the years in their home such as weddings, birthday parties, reunions, and dinners. Another avenue they have considered is turning the home into a bed and breakfast or an art gallery. Mack Jr. assured the council that all other options to keep the home in the family have been exhausted and now they look to the town for help.

Members of the town

council questioned Mack Jr. on when he would like to see this proposal go through, and his response was "sooner rather than later, possibly within the next year." It was noted that other town organizations would have to become involved if the town were to purchase the property, specifically the Heritage Commission.

The council mentioned that the commission would be able to determine if the house was indeed a historic landmark.

The Macks have been

in contact with the commission, but getting them more involved will be the next step.

If the town ultimately declines to buy the property from the Macks, then it will go on sale for the public to purchase. As of today, this plan is still in its very early stages. The town council looks to have numbers on how much the property will be to purchase before they make any further decisions and have input from the Heritage Commission as well. There will be more on this story as it develops.

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Warm Smiles from Local Girl

The current Miss New Hampshire Outstanding Teen and Londonderry High School student Kenzie Goode was one of the many local residents to parade down Broadway in Derry on Saturday afternoon during warm annual Holiday Parade hosted by the Greater Derry Londonderry Chamber of Commerce.

Photo by Chris Paul



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Gerry Van Grevenhof Retires After Over 37 Years of Service

LORI COSTA
LONDONDERRY TIMES

After over 37 years of service to the town of Londonderry, Gerry Van Grevenhof has stepped down as Supervisor of the Checklist. One of her many jobs were to ensure elections in the town of Londonderry run smoothly and efficiently, including registering new voters. Van Grevenhof officially retired from her post on Nov. 1, 2017.

As a thank you for her

service, she was awarded an accommodation from Governor Chris Sununu and Secretary of State in New Hampshire, William Gardner. Her accommodation was read aloud to Gerry and her family by Vice Chairman of the council, John Farrell. In the accommodation, Governor Sununu praised her dedication to the job and thanked her immensely for the job she had done.

Members of the town council then took a

moment from the meeting to personally thank and shake hands with Van Grevenhof. The council praised her hard work and assured her that she will be missed. Van Grevenhof also had a small request for one of the clocks from the town council. The council more than willingly gave up of their clocks to a woman who selflessly served the town of Londonderry for over 37 years. Van Grevenhof was then given the

floor after the council took their seats. She was teary eyed thanking the town for her position as Supervisor of the Checklist.

"It's been a pleasure. I have enjoyed my nearly 40 years working with the town as Supervisor of the Checklist. It's been very enjoyable and rewarding and many times very challenging," Van Grevenhof said.

It was a difficult decision to make for her to retire, but unfortunately,

due to medical issues, she felt it was a necessary decision to make. She also noted that she will be turning 80 in January.

Van Grevenhof personally thanked her husband, two daughters, and son-in-law for their continuous love and support over the years. Van Grevenhof ended her speech on a heartfelt note: "Again, thank you everyone. I real-

ly appreciate everything and it's meant a lot to me, thank you,"

After she spoke, Van Grevenhof's friend and co-worker, Anne Warner spoke on behalf of what a hard worker Gerry was. "She has been an inspiration and a treasure and we're incredibly sorry to see her have to leave," Warner said.

OBITUARY

Martha C. Lacourse

Martha C. Lacourse, 89, of Londonderry, passed away on Mon., Nov. 27, 2017 at the Elliot Hospital in Manchester, NH. She was born in Manchester, NH on Aug. 2, 1928, a daughter of the late Gerald and Martha (Nicholas) Geddes. Martha was a devoted wife, mother and grandmother. She enjoyed being outside with her grandchildren and doing puzzles with them. She especially loved her four legged grandchildren, Daisy, Rebel and Moose.

She is survived by one daughter, Louise Lacourse of Londonderry, four sons, Joseph A. Lacourse, Jr. of Davenport, IA, George Lacourse of Auburn, NH, and William Lacourse and Scott Lacourse, both of Londonderry; 11 grandchildren, 12 great grandchildren, one brother, Willard Geddes of AK, as well as many nieces and nephews. She was predeceased by her beloved husband Joseph A. Lacourse Sr. in 2002, two grandsons and one granddaughter.

Calling hours will be held on Thurs., Nov. 30, 2017 from 4 - 7 p.m. in the Peabody Funeral Homes and Crematorium, 290 Mammoth Rd., Londonderry. Private burial will be in Pleasant View Cemetery in Londonderry. Memorial contributions may be made to Easter Seals NH Headquarters, 555 Auburn Street, Manchester, NH 03103. To send a condolence or for more information, please visit www.peabodyfuneralhome.com

OBITUARY

Ralph B. Hartwell

Ralph B. Hartwell, 88, passed away peacefully on Friday Nov. 24 at his home in Londonderry.

Ralph was born in Leominster, Massachusetts on July 13, 1929, son of the late Elmer and Dora (Bouffard) Hartwell. The youngest of 6 children, his four sisters and brother pre-deceased him. Ralph proudly served his country for over fifty years - 20 years in the U.S. military (Navy and Air Force) before retiring and joining the U.S. State Department for an additional 20 years. He served in numerous embassies overseas - from Europe to Africa, the Middle East and Southeast Asia. After retiring from the State Department, Ralph continued to serve on call for ten more years, often at embassies in dangerous locations ranging from El Salvador during its civil war to Sarajevo (Bosnia) just after the conclusion of the Balkans war.

Ralph lived for his family. He enjoyed a 59-year marriage with his beloved wife Lois, years filled with love, travel and adventure. Even after they retired to Hudson, New Hampshire, Lois still joined Ralph on many of his assignments around the globe. Ralph was once told by an ambassador overseas, "You and your wife cannot keep eating out in local restaurants - we're in a war zone". But their greatest enjoyment in retirement was their three children, ten grandchildren and seven great grandchildren - and adorable Shih Tzu "Rufus." Ralph also lived in Albuquerque, New Mexico for six years after retirement, before moving back to New Hampshire.

Ralph is survived by his two sons, Stephen (Pam Albertson) and Gary (Gail), and daughter, Leslie (David Dorman). He was predeceased by his wife Lois (Doland).

A memorial service will be held on Saturday Dec. 2, at 1 p.m. at Alvirne Chapel, 160 Derry Rd., Hudson. In lieu of flowers, the family asks that donations be made to a charity of your choice. For additional information, please visit www.peabodyfuneralhome.com.

OBITUARY

Mary K. Coltin



Mary K. (O'Leary) Coltin, 67, of Nottingham died on Nov. 24, 2017 surrounded by her family after a courageous battle with Thymic Carcinoma and Interstitial Lung Disease. She was a forty-year resident of Londonderry prior to moving to Pawtuckaway Lake in 2015.

Born in Wolfeboro, on Aug. 11, 1950, she was the daughter of Ret. State Police Colonel Paul F. O'Leary and Lucia (Jutras) O'Leary. Mary graduated from Spaulding High School in Rochester, and then Plymouth State College. She received a Master's in Education from Notre Dame College. A career educator, she taught second grade at the E.G. Sherburne School in Pelham, for twenty-two years. She was the assistant principal at North School in Londonderry from 1994 - 2010 before becoming principal in 2010 until she retired in 2014. In 2009, Mary received the Assistant Principal of the Year award. She was an advocate and believer in all children.

Mary loved every holiday and enjoyed gardening, baking, quilting, sewing, and spending time on the lake as well as time with her family and friends. She was a great daughter, sister, wife, mother, grandmother, friend, mentor, and colleague. Mary was always there to lend an ear and the first to help those in need. She had a great sense of humor and was never at a loss for words. According to Mary, "she was not bossy, but had better ideas!"

Mary is survived by her loving husband of 44 years, Michael of Nottingham, NH, three daughters, Kate Callahan and her husband Christian of Portsmouth, Karianne MacIntosh and her husband Paul of Londonderry, and Maribeth Coltin of Manchester; five grandchildren, Tucker, Logan, Gavin, and Finnegan MacIntosh, and Grace Callahan. She is also survived by her brother Kevin O'Leary, sisters Colleen Hammond and Patti O'Leary; as well as several nieces and nephews. Mary was predeceased by her brother Daniel J. O'Leary.

Per Mary's request, in lieu of flowers, please buy yourself something pink and do a random act of kindness. The Mary Coltin Scholarship Fund has been established at St. Mary's Bank for a Londonderry High School senior who has demonstrated the ability to put others before him/herself. Calling hours will be held on Friday, Dec. 1, from 3 - 8 p.m. at the Peabody Funeral Home and Crematorium, 290 Mammoth Rd., Londonderry. A Mass of Christian Burial will be held at St. Thomas Aquinas Church, 26 Crystal Ave., Derry, on Saturday, Dec. 2, at 10 a.m. Interment will be at the New Hampshire Veterans Cemetery in Boscawen, NH at a later date with immediate family. To send a condolence or for more information, please visit www.peabodyfuneralhome.com.

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Middle School Lego Robotics Team Survives FIRST Competition

KATIE O'DONNELL
LONDONDERRY TIMES

It was the day the Styrofoam Swashbucklers had trained for—the FIRST Robotics competition at Londonderry Middle School. The fledgling team, under the guidance of science teacher Gino Tiella, had designed and crafted a robot made of Legos to complete a set of challenges against 12 other groups. For its first competition, the Styrofoam Swashbucklers did well, placing ninth overall.

"I felt pretty good about my kids at the end," said Tiella.

There are different levels to the FIRST Lego League, and the Swashbucklers competed in the division for grades five through eight. They faced off against other local middle school teams on Nov. 11 at Londonderry Middle School in a series of challenges that tested their ability to create a robot that could do simple tasks for "the Robot Game," and to solve the problem within "the Project."

This year's theme was all about hydrodynamics. The teams were given Lego Mindstorms sets to build a robot that could complete as many of the 18 challenges in the robot game that it could. Most of the game involved having the robot move Lego pieces around a map to a specific target.

"The kids like the robotics part, the building and programming of the robot," said Tiella.

His boys were able to finish "three consistently" when it came to the chal-



Members of the newly formed Londonderry Middle School Lego Robotics Team prepare for the competition that was held at their school earlier this month.

Photos by Chris Paul

lenges, he said. For each challenge completed, the team won points towards an overall score. The Styrofoam Swashbucklers scored 45 points during their longest run. Tiella said most teams averaged between 45-50 points for the game, although the best scoring teams broke 100 points.

Still, he was very proud of his team's achievements. "To get a few of them is an accomplishment," he said.

For the project, Sedrik Spaulding designed a video game based on research he and his teammates did about water conservation. They thought that not enough people knew about it and they wanted to use that opportunity to educate them. The boys looked up information on the Environmental Protection Agency's website and made a quiz show where wrong answers would land the player in a lake of lava.

Besides learning about robotics and creative problem solving, the team developed a sense of respect for each other and sense of pride in their teamwork. But the best part was getting to see their creation in action by following commands.

"That was definitely a highlight for them," said Tiella.

Tiella created the team this year after being approached by high school Assistant Principal Kate Sullivan. Tiella said his history in robotics made him a prime candidate for leading the squad. He ran a similar team about 10-years ago, but it became too expensive to continue. The resurgence in the club is thanks to the high school team, The PVC Pirates.

Members of the PVC Pirates, Bethany Costello, Mackenze Conner and Adrianna Belanger, came to the middle school to help coach the younger

kids. Tiella said there were always at least two that joined the Swashbucklers. The team is currently eighth graders, consisting of Ben Laverty, Sedrik Spaulding, Matt Gingrande, Trevor Betty, Nolan McKiverson, Clay-



ton Peterson and Max plans to open it up to all Stormann. After this grades in the middle year's success, Tiella school.

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North School PTA President Wins Volunteer Award

KATIE O'DONNELL
LONDONDERRY TIMES

North School's PTA President Kate Dahlgren can add another title to her resume - the 2017 New Hampshire Volunteer Coordinator of the Year. Dahlgren won the award this fall after being nominated by Principal Paul Dutton. "Kate is an exceptional person and leader," said Dutton. "She makes all parents and volunteers feel included and appreciated and that ability to bring others together for the same cause is amazing to witness."

Dahlgren is currently serving her second year as the PTA president. Dur-

ing her tenure, she has coordinated a plethora of events including the "Touch-a-Truck," the Fall Teacher Luncheon, the Reflections Art Program and some Simply Sweet Fundraisers. She served on the Color Run committee and was one of the organizers for the Coltin Courtyard renovations.

That may seem like enough for some people, but Dahlgren is always finding ways to be involved. "When I am not coordinating an event, I try to volunteer my time at as many other events as possible," she said. "I think it's important to be there to support all the other vol-

unteers who are working hard organizing and coordinating the events and to work alongside them."

Part of being the PTA president means overseeing the parents and other volunteers who contribute to the group. "Parents run events year after year and volunteers step up time and time again," said Dahlgren.

Treasurer Rebecca Visconti started as one of those volunteers for with the PTA last year, but was inspired to run for a board position after seeing Dahlgren and the others' dedication to the school community.

"Kate is sort of the

heart- the driving force of what the PTA does," Visconti said. She assists Dahlgren and Vice-President Colleen Ramsey in maintaining the financial health of the PTA. The PTA functions like a non-profit, so the money raised must go back to the school. The funds go to "enrichment programs that benefit students," said Visconti. Fundraising by the PTA helps cut costs for school field trips and to put on appreciation events for the school staff.

"Our goal is to do as much as we can for the staff and school because they do so much for us," said Visconti.

The feeling of appreciation is mutual from the school staff. "Kate and our PTA have created and coordinated several new events, that have been well received and successful as our PTA's vision is to create events with lasting memories for our families," said Dutton.

Dahlgren expressed that without the volunteers constantly fundraising and supporting the educational programs, the North School wouldn't have the resources it



North School's PTA President Kate Dahlgren was voted 2017 New Hampshire Volunteer Coordinator of the Year.

needs to create memorable, enriching events for the students.

"It just warms your heart to see the pure joy the children are having at the events and we hope others see how great it can be and they want to hop on to help as well," said Dahlgren. "It also helps to show how simple it is volunteer." She stressed that volunteer-

ing doesn't have to be time consuming- all it takes is an hour of your time to be part of something great. She said part of the reason the PTA is so strong is because of the appreciation she tries to show the volunteers.

"A simple and heartfelt 'Thank you!' goes a long way," she said.

Dahlgren understands that building a community of support, not just among the parents and volunteers, but within the whole North School community is paramount to creating a positive school environment. The groups must work together to provide a safe and engaging experience for the children.

"Here at North School we are extremely lucky to have such a huge volunteer base," said Dahlgren. "I really can't say enough good things about all our volunteers including all those that came before me and those that are to come in the future."

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Typhoon Students Study Greek History - Hold Toga Tuesday



The Tuesday before the Thanksgiving break always a favorite with seventh grade Typhoon students at the Londonderry Middle School because it signals, "Toga Tuesday." Students spend about four weeks on Greek and Roman history and just before the holiday they participate in a number of activities in an "Olympic Games" setting. Games in which points are given are the Javelin, Chariot Races, the Long Jump, High Jump, Shot Put and Big Foot Contest. Colorful Door coverings are also created by each of the classes. *Photos by Chris Paul*

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Lancer Marching Band and Color Guard Get Warm Up for Rose Bowl



The Londonderry Lancers Marching Band and Color Guard got had a golden opportunity to sharpen their skills during the unseasonably warm temperature at the annual Holiday Parade in Derry on Saturday afternoon. The Lancers were by far the largest band in the parade along with Pinkerton Academy and Alvirine High School. The parade is hosted each year by the Greater Derry Londonderry Chamber of Commerce.

Photos by Chris Paul

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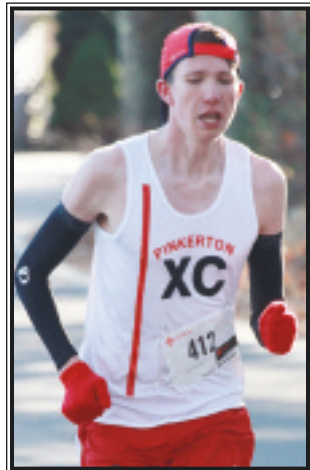
Londonderry Runners Stand Out in Huge 44th Annual GDTC Turkey Trot

CHRIS PANTAZIS
LONDONDERRY TIMES

Once again, the Greater Derry Track Club's annual Turkey Trot was a huge success in its 44th running around Beaver Lake in Derry on Thanksgiving morning. And there was no shortage of Londonderry runners - some of whom are members of the GDTC - in the field of 1,442 registrants and 1,315 finishers of the 5-kilometer (3.1-mile) race.

There were five Londonderry residents in the top 25, including several Londonderry High freshman cross-country stars and former LHS running standout Josh Wasserman, who took a superb fourth place overall. But runners who were home to the Derry area from both far and wide for the holiday competed in the annual event.

Pinkerton Academy cross-country star Joe Gagnon - a Hooksett resident - was first out of the huge field of runners in a time of 16 minutes and 22 seconds. Just six seconds behind him was former PA and Keene State Col-



2017 GDTC Turkey Trot winner Joe Gagnon from Hooksett and PA.

lege runner Peter Najem, who now resides in Chicago, and third place was bagged by Manchester resident Craig McMahon in 17:13. Londonderry's Wasserman came in at fourth in 18:19, and fifth place was taken by Michael Fraysse from Epsom (18:27). The first female finisher was Julia Huffman from Manchester, eighth overall in 18:33.

Mixed in among the top 25 finishers were Londonderry residents and 14-year-old LHS cross-country stalwarts Ryan Young in 11th place (18:47) and Matt Griffin in



More than 175 Londonderry residents took part in the Greater Derry Track Club's 44th Turkey Trot on Thanksgiving morning. And a bunch of the locals finished high in the race and their divisions. Photos by Chris Paul

18th place (19:03). GDTC running star Mike DuFour from Londonderry snared 21st place (19:23), and his fellow town resident Tyler Kraft - yet another talented 14-year-old - was 23rd (19:29).

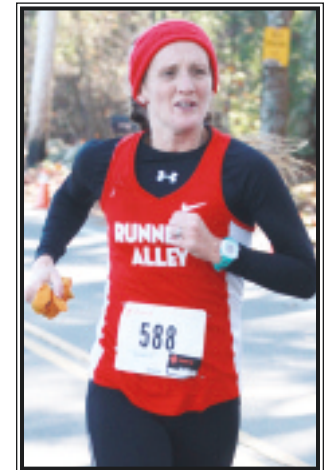
In maintaining its ever-present attention to giving back to the community, the GDTC asked that all race entrants donate a non-perishable canned good or dry food item, with those contributions then forwarded to food pantries in the Derry.

With Derry-area folks home for Thanksgiving, the local holiday race had entrants from every one

of the New England states as well as New York, Louisiana, Tennessee, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, Minnesota, Maryland, Virginia, New Jersey, Florida, Washington State, DC, Georgia, Wisconsin, Arizona, California, Texas, and Colorado.

Prizes were given out to the top finishers in a slew of different age categories, with locals bag-

ging a great many of those honors. Among the Londonderry folks who collected awards were Young in the boys' 1-14 class (first with LHS teammate Griffin second), Wasserman in his boys' 15-19-year-old division (first), Londonderry High standout runner Kalin Gregoire (tops in the girls' 15-19 class), DuFour in the males' 50-59 division (first with Londonderry's Pete Wasserman second),



Julia Huffman of Manchester was the female winner.

Wayne Stuck and Dave Law in the 60-69 mens' grouping (second and third respectively), and John Loker in the guys' 70-79 class (second overall).

All in all, more than 175 Londonderry residents took part in the annual GDTC race, preparing themselves for the gastronomic goodies ahead later in the day and doing quite well.

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Unbeaten LMS Boys' Soccer Crew Rolled to a Championship

CHRIS PANTAZIS
LONDONDERRY TIMES

Good teams fight off adversity and face every situation with the philosophy that come what may, they'll rise above the challenging circumstances. And the Londonderry Middle School Class M boys' soccer squad was obviously a

truly good team. The locals, who were led ably by coach Richie Eaton, went undefeated in collecting the division championship with a penalty-kick-powered victory over Timberlane of Plaistow in the title match. The Storm squad rained down goals on opponents throughout the

near-perfect campaign, and when opponents stuck with them through first halves the team had a great ability to get the final word - or words - in the form of clutch tallies. The LMS crew went a glittering 9-0 through the regular season and then disposed of the Gilbert H. Hood contingent of Derry

in the tourney semifinals before having to go to extra periods before vanquishing Timberlane in the finals.

The team's talented roster included Christian Rotunno, Aidan White, Leandro Myrtoslou-Olbrys, Jackson Lewis, Nicholas Anastasi, Cameron Gingrow, Timmy Desmarais, Aidan Roy, Timothy Ethier, Vincent Dispenza, Sergio Cabeza, Drew Cameron, Matt Doyle, Matt Boyon, Gavin MacIntosh, Samuel Thibodeau, Caden Rogers, Ethan Munro, and Colin Ness.

The locals averaged eight goals per contest in their first two wins of the season, and then rolled into a tougher stretch of matches but still couldn't be upended.

Regular season battles

with Timberlane and Goffstown would go to half-time knotted up at 0-0, but the Storm potted three unanswered goals in the second halves of both matches in tallying impressive shutouts.

Londonderry had its record up to 7-0 when it faced a rematch with Goffstown, and a 3-1 downing of that opponent left the locals at 8-0 with the tournament right around the corner.

Striding confidently into the M tournament with a perfect 9-0 mark and home-field advantage, the Storm faced off with the Hood crew and trailed 1-0 at halftime. But coach Eaton's charges then potted four unanswered goals in the second half in punching their ticket to the division's

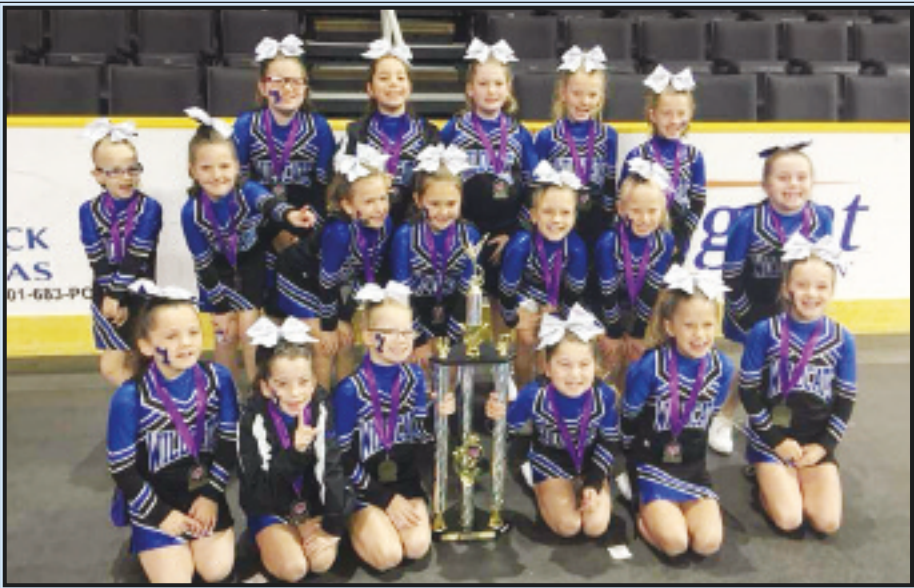
title match.

That big battle - with all of the proverbial chips on the table - was also pretty harrowing for the locals as they reached the end of regulation time with Timberlane with the scoreboard showing a 2-2 deadlock. But the LMS bunch bagged the win and the division crown on the power of a successful penalty kick goal during the second overtime stanza. The locals then hung on tight and repelled Timberlane's comeback efforts in taking the match.

"Congratulation boys on the great season! We look forward to what you will do in the future and continuing this winning tradition," said Matt Boyon's proud mom and the team's press liaison Lisa Boyon.



The title-winning 2017 LMS boys' Class M soccer squad. Courtesy photo



Cheering Champs The Londonderry Wildcats' Division 8 cheer squad claimed a New England title with its performance at the regional competition in Rhode Island recently. The next stop for that skilled crew is Florida and national competition. The squad includes, in front from left, Farrah St. Sauveur, Kathryn Strong, Lyla Kullman, Emma Stowell, Ava Hatchell, and Gemma Murray. In the middle row from left are Kaelyn Sibley, Alaina Russell, Brooke Bless, Madyson Arcoite, Sayde Thompson, Anibelle Hatchell, and Isabella Newcomb, And in back from left are Vanessa Gould, Gabby Wisley, Alexis Gould, Dakota Call, and Aubrey Feliciano.

Courtesy photo

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Lady Lancers' JV Field Hockey Crew Exhibited Fire and Skills

CHRIS PANTAZIS
LONDONDERRY TIMES

Anybody who has been involved with high school sub-varsity sports will assure you that wins and losses take a back seat to getting young athletes on junior varsity and freshman squads vital playing experience, honing their burgeoning skills, and deepening their love for their sport while also, hopefully, having a whole bunch of fun.

But the 2017 Londonderry High junior varsity field hockey squad did plenty of winning this season - posting a solid 7-6-1

record - while covering a whole bunch of bases in helping to keep their entire program competitive and maintaining plenty of optimism for the future.

The 24-member squad, which was coached by former LHS all-state field hockey player Kelsey LeBlanc, exhibited more than enough tangibles and intangibles to show that the crew will provide the varsity crew with some fine players over the next several years.

"Every game the girls played they did so as a unit, which with a roster this big is a rare find,"

said coach LeBlanc. "The biggest take-away from this season is that they played strong and relentlessly. Win or lose, they didn't give up on themselves or each other."

The LHS contingent had a handful of players who swung back and forth between the JV level and the varsity one, with those five athletes getting a chance to play with a varsity crew which got all the way to the Division I championship match.

That skilled quintet included quad-captains and forwards Courtney Julian and Sophie Karlson, their fellow front-

liner Kayla Miles, midfielder Jenna Stowell, and goalie Rylee Walters.

The other members of the hard-working team included forwards Bella Bouchard, Jenna Madigan, Isabella McCutcheon, Ashley Ollis, Rylee McGrath, Guinny Gilcrest, Hayleigh Haynes, Izzy Augusta, and Skylar Hamilton, middies Grace Harpster, Chelsea Mullen (a captain), Erin Strike, and Andrea McEvoy, and defenders Stephanie LaConto, Sierra Sessa (a captain), Jill Fitzgibbons, Delaney Kearns, Julia DeChamps, and Nikki Walsh.

In thinking back on her squad's finest group efforts of the campaign, coach LeBlanc landed on two distinct ones.

"Our top two performances of the season were against Concord and Exeter," she said. "Both games were home, and they were back to back. I count these as their top performances because they were able to maintain high energy in two games, with a week's-worth of practices only in between. They worked hard and got both wins through determination."

And as she hearkened back upon what her initial

expectations were for her JV crew in August and early September, the LHS leader stated, "The team far surpassed my expectations. This was my first fall season not playing in 10-plus years, so as a new coach I was not sure what to expect. Honestly, I think I learned just as much as they did this season. These girls are not only solid field hockey players, but they are great people who I had the pleasure of coaching. This team of girls is going to help the program continuously grow and succeed as they continue on with their careers."

Youthful Londonderry High JV Boys' Soccer Squad Developed Well

CHRIS PANTAZIS
LONDONDERRY TIMES

Londonderry High junior varsity boys' soccer coach Niles Erickson was fully aware that a slew of the players on his 2017 squad would just be getting their introductions to the high school game this summer and fall.

But be that as it was, Erickson's youthful LHS group got a whole bunch done - including plenty of

winning - between August and November in gaining vital experience for the future of the program.

The Lancers finished just below the .500 mark with six wins, seven defeats, and three ties. But as anybody who has been involved with sub-varsity sports will tell you, wins and losses take a back seat to getting young athletes vital playing experience, honing their burgeoning skills,

and deepening their love for their sport while also, hopefully, having a whole bunch of fun.

"We knew it would be a rebuilding year as we had to bring up eight freshman players to fill out our roster," stated coach Erickson. "The team continued to improve throughout the year, and made it out of their group stage at the Nashua Invitational Jamboree at the end of the season. Next year we are expected to have a stronger team as we will have more experience and a good mix of sophomores and juniors on the

team."

The team's roster included goalies Tyler Cote and Logan MacIntosh, defenders Logan Boudreau, Jaxon Boudreau, Callum Boudreau, Camden Ness, Shaun Sullivan, Braeden Griffin, Colin Gaffny, and Ethan Byerly, midfielders Peter Misiasek, Braden Brassard, Anthony Ramy,

Aidan Dennis, Caleb Aumann, Alex Peters, and Colin LeBlanc, and forwards Hunter Smith and Nick Valadez.

When asked to think back and comment upon his charges' finest team

performance of the campaign, coach Erickson harkened back upon a battle with some Tomahawks of the Merrimack High School variety.

"We defeated Merrimack 5-4 with a penalty kick goal in the final minute of the game," said the coach. "The game was a good battle, back and

forth, and we worked hard toward the end and came out on top."

Talented middle Colin Leblanc wound up being named his contingent's Most Valuable Offensive Player for the season after leading it in goals scored and ending up second overall in assists during a fine campaign.

Correction: In last week's story on the Londonderry High School Freshmen Football team, the photo of the Junior Varsity squad was mistakenly placed to accompany the write up. No photo of the team was submitted.

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Mack Plaque Match Brought Young LHS Volleyball Crew to Life

CHRIS PANTAZIS
LONDONDERRY TIMES

With a crew of athletes which was almost entirely new to the sport of volleyball - and being new to town herself - Londonderry High first-year junior varsity girls' volleyball coach Olivia Smith had her hands all kinds of full this past August at the start of preparations for the 2017 campaign.

And even though her Lady Lancers only wound up winning three of the 13 matches they played, coach Smith ended up being left with the feeling that her contingent had made great strides toward being very solid players in a program which generated a good amount of excitement in Division I this autumn.

"This team was unique in that all but two of the

girls had never touched a volleyball before," said the coach. "We spent quite a bit of time this season working on the fundamentals of volleyball, like how to manipulate our bodies to keep the skills simple but strong at the same time. Each of the girls set an overall goal for the season, and many of them had the goal to get their serve consistently over the net by the end of the season. All of them reached this goal, and one of them met it during the final game of the season."

And the JV group's campaign had a distinct turning point at a juncture of the season when loads of area folks have their attention tuned in to what's going on in high school sports in the local area.

"I think the highlight of the season for my girls was Mack Plaque. We went into that match not having won a single set all season," said Smith. "The girls were excited and the energy in the gym had been building up all week. Their number one goal was to 'BEAT PA'. Since I'm new to Londonderry, I didn't realize how big this day really is to these two schools. It was so much fun being in the gym on this day. The girls really played their best volleyball that Saturday morning. It was the first time they really let go of each of their fears, insecurities, and worries, and just played volleyball. It was so much fun to watch. After we won the first set pretty handily, the girls celebrated like they had just won the lottery, not really thinking that we

had two more sets to play! The girls served their way to an awesome three-set victory to win our first match of the season, and it was a bonus to win it in straight sets."

The LHS roster included outside-hitter Jordan Galluzzo, OH and defensive specialist Kayla Cournoyer, middle-hitter Leonie Wittig, setter Carleigh McRitchie, MH Katrina King, setter Amanda Curry, versatile Cassie Galarneau, setter Nicole LaRock, OH Madi Sabatella, setter Liv Facendola, and MH Danamei Wright.

The Lady Lancers' second victory of the season came over the Timberlane Regional Lady Owls in Plaistow.

"The entire match was neck-and-neck as we were pretty evenly matched with their team," said coach Smith. "It was a

serving battle most of the night. We lost the first set, won the second by two, and then took the third. This game was a big moment for us because it was when the girls really stuck with their goal that they had set before the game of playing with energy and getting five, three-hit touches per set. They surpassed this second goal by getting eight, three hits in the first set, seven in the second, and five in the third."

Looking back on what was certainly a successful campaign in so many areas filled with making young players knowledgeable about their sport and giving them a solid fundamental foundation, Smith had a lot of good stuff to recall.

"Aside from the skills, this season was a big learning year for our

team. The girls not only needed to learn how to play volleyball, but many of them were learning how to play on a team with 10 other girls that they maybe had never met before," said the coach. "We spent quite a bit of time getting to know each other and building our trust. Then we were learning what it means to be on a team. When I look back at this season, I see so much growth in these girls. Not only in their play, but in their attitudes and respect toward others. To me, this is what high school sports is all about. We learned a lot. We learned a lot about each other, ourselves, and volleyball. I can't wait to see how they grow as individuals and players over the next four years."

The forward motion is set for future success.

Londonderry Martial Artist Excels as a Brand New Blue Belt

CHRIS PANTAZIS
LONDONDERRY TIMES

As he moves from belt level to belt level, Londonderry resident and martial artist Ed Tapia doesn't seem to be missing a step where competition is concerned.

After excelling at a major event as a Jiu Jitsu white belt in Maine during October, the local man participated in his first competition as a blue belt in Massachusetts shortly before Thanksgiving and once again, had success.

Tapia, who trains at The Woo Kickboxing Academy in Londonderry, notched a second place in the blue belt lightweight masters Gi division at the Tap Cancer Out BJJ Tournament at the St. John's Preparatory School in Danvers, Mass. on Saturday, Nov. 18.

A month earlier, white belt Tapia had been one of three Woo Academy students who took part in the Good Fight Maine Jiu Jitsu Championships at the Riverton Community

Center in Portland, Me., and had success there.

Tapia and his fellow Woo students Ben Simon and Shawn Pond all bagged first place finishes in different classes at that event. By virtue of those successes, all three men qualified for the forthcoming world championships.

Forty-four-year-old martial artist Tapia competed in the executive mens' 30-39-year-old middleweight 171-185-pound white belt class and

snared top honors in both the Gi and NoGi events.

He notched his Gi match victory by using an ezeikel choke from a mount, and then managed the NoGi win by using an arm bar transition from a mount.

"This was the most challenging tournament that I've ever competed in," said Tapia. "There are not points, and this is a submission-only tournament. The ultimate goal is to submit your opponent."



Londonderry resident Ed Tapia continues to rack up the mdeals as a Jiu Jitsu blue belt. Courtesy photo

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Londonderry Boy Scouts Prepare for Plethora of Events to Kick off 2018

ALEX GUITTARR
LONDONDERRY TIMES

With 2017 on its way out the door, Boy Scout Troop 521 is already looking ahead into 2018 to plan and prepare events for young scouts across Londonderry.

Most recently, the troop's regular Tuesday meeting November 28 will also be host to a number of Cub Scouts and their parents. While the scouts will be continuing progress on their woodworking project, parents will be meeting

staff members of Troop 521 to discuss what the troop has to offer cub scouts, including opportunities for advancement and a close partnership between parents and scout activities, should parents choose to sign their scouts up for the troop.

Before the year ends, scouts will be assisting with the annual Londonderry Grange Craft Fair on Dec. 2, which will be host to an assortment of fresh wreaths, on top of the usual assortment of jewel-

ry, quilts and birdhouses. The fair will take place from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m.

To kick off 2018, the scout's will be taking part in a tree burning fundraiser. An annual tradition of more than twenty years, residents are free to drop off any organic trees that they need disposing of, which will then be stacked up by the troops and set ablaze at dusk. There will also be a variety of refreshments, chili and other foods throughout the day.

Jan. 20 will be the date of the scout's latest Merit Badge Pow-Wow. As can be expected, scouts will use the night to identify which merit badges they wish to pursue at that time and receive instruction from troop staff and older scouts on how to receive them. Furthermore, new scouts will take part in classes to help introduce them to the concept of merit badges and what is expected of them if they wish to start earning them.

The troops latest Court of Honor will take place on Jan. 23. The formal ceremony primarily serves to promote any scouts, except for Eagle Scouts, who have proven themselves as an exemplary example of what the Boy Scouts of America stands for.

And in order to give the troops an occasional break, March 10 will see the troops take their annual Do Nothing trip to Camp Carpenter in Manchester. The trip serves

more as a bonding experience, having the scouts bring video games, board games and other activities to hold an all-nighter and have a chance to break away from their responsibilities.

This is far from the only events that Troop 521 will have planned for the future, so if you are interested in learning more about what they will be planning, their regular Tuesday meetings take place at the Londonderry Grange Hall at 7 p.m.

Local Artist Displays Pastels and Portraits at Leach Library

KATIE O'DONNELL
LONDONDERRY TIMES

Barbara Scott has a deep seeded love of pastels and oil painting. The 35-year Londonderry resident will be showing off the fruits of that love at the Leach Library as December's featured artist from the Londonderry Arts Council. She will be exhibiting nine of her best pieces starting on the first.

She got into painting in 1975 in North Conway, where she took lessons in a small gallery. After the birth of her second child in 1980, she took a break to care for her growing family and go back to school. It wasn't until after her Boston based company downsized in 2001 that her husband talked her into getting back into her art.

She played with other painting styles and mediums, like landscapes and acrylics, but there was something about the combination of oils and pastels that just spoke to her.

"I love the richness you're able to get out of those two mediums," Scott said.

She participated in her first art show in 2003 and been showing ever since. She is also part of the Pastel Society of America as an associate member. On top of that, she has been on the board for the Pastel Society of New Hampshire since 2008. She currently maintains their website.

Both groups require the artists to be juried members, which means their work is judged by a "panel of master artists," said Scott, to determine if their skills are fine enough

to gain entry to either society. Scott said she enjoys the challenge of being in juried art shows because it constantly forces her to refine and develop her style and skills as a painter.

"It helps to have a sense of humor and a thicker skin, as an artist," she said.

Scott also does commission work. "My work is all up for adoption," she said. She really loves seeing the look on a buyer's face when one of her pieces speaks to them.

"When they see it and say, 'oh, I love it,' it's such a great feeling," she said.

Scott told the story of a woman who saw one of her paintings at a show

and months later inquired about buying it. She said you never know who will see a piece and be interested in it.

"Art speaks to people," she said.

As for the piece that speaks to her, Scott is a fan of a painting she did with two children on a porch wearing oversized cowboy hats. "It tells a story," she said. "Art tells a story."

Scott credits her former teacher, Elaine Farmer, in getting the Londonderry Arts Council started. Scott began helping Farmer back in 2008 to grown the council and its mission. Scott said being around other artists is wonderful because "they

inspire you one way or another." Scott ran the "Art in Motion" event back in May at Mack's Apples. She also assists with the Arts Café. Right now, the council is trying to fill the void left by Susan Hannah.

"We're going to be missing her big time," said Scott. Hannah recently moved away and LAC is

looking for more artists to build up the group.

Scott said "anyone is welcome to come" to the meetings, which are held in the Sunnycrest Room at Town Hall at 7 p.m. every third Monday of the month.

More of Scott's work can be found at barbarascottart.com.

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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 londonderrytimes@nutpub.net.

Tree Lighting

Christmas Tree Lighting Sat., Dec. 2 at 1 p.m. The Londonderry Fire Department will be putting the lights on the big tree in front of Londonderry Presbyterian Church at the corner of Mammoth and Pillsbury.

Winter Wonderland

Holiday Pancake Breakfast & Secret Shop Dec. 2, from 8 - 11:30 a.m., in the Matthew Thornton's Cafeteria & Gymnasium. Come join us for the Annual Winter Wonderland/Pancake Breakfast & Secret Shop Event.

Toys for Tots Dinner

On Dec. 3, a Toys for Tots dinner will be held at at American Legion Post 27 located at 6 Sargent Rd., Londonderry (behind the fire station on Mammoth Road). Bring a new, unwrapped toy or make a donation to enjoy the Italian Feast put on by the Post 27 Auxiliary. Dinner will be served at halftime of the Patriot's game.

Pearl Harbor Anniversary

The New Hampshire Democratic veterans and military families social kick off. Please come and commemorate the 76th anniversary of pearl harbor in honor of our veterans and military families! All Democrat Veterans and Military Families are invited to attend and help us grow our NH caucus. Featured Guest Speakers: Honorable William Shaheen and Sirkka Holm, WWII Veteran. The New Hampshire Democratic Veterans and Military Families Caucus Social is Thur., Dec. 7, at 5:30 p.m. at LaCarreta, in Londonderry. Beverages and Appetizers provided. RSVP to Tammy Siekmann at tamsiekman@gmail.com or 603-785-1999 by Dec. 5.

Karaoke

On Dec. 8, Karaoke with DJ Sharon will be held at American Legion Post 27

located at 6 Sargent Rd., Londonderry (behind the fire station on Mammoth Road). Starts at 7 p.m. Non-members interested in joining Post 27 are welcome to attend.

Legion Meeting

On Dec. 11, Monthly General Meeting for American Legion Post 27 at 7:30 p.m. at American Legion Post 27 located at 6 Sargent Rd in Londonderry (behind the fire station on Mammoth Road). All members of Post 27 are invited to attend.

Legion Christmas Party

On Dec. 16, from 10 a.m. to noon the American Legion is holding the children's Christmas party at American Legion Post 27 located at 6 Sargent Rd., Londonderry (behind the fire station on Mammoth Road). Children 8 and under are invited to meet Santa Claus and get a present. Children must be related to current Post 27 members. Interested families need to sign up in advance at the Post.

Library Hours

The Dec. Library hours are as follows Monday - Thursday, 9 a.m. - 8 p.m., Friday-Saturday, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. The library will be closed on Monday, December 25, and re-open at 9:00 a.m. on Tuesday, December 26. The library will also be closed on Monday, January 1, and re-open at 9:00 a.m. on Tuesday, January 2, 2018.

Movie Time

On Thur., Dec. 14, from 3:15 - 5:30 p.m. for our Young Adult Movie Time program. All participants in grades 6 through 12 will enjoy the movie Eragon, along with popcorn and beverages. In addition at this special event, there will be a raffle for fun door prizes. No sign up is necessary.

Way up in the Arctic

On Mon., Dec. 11 from 4 - 5 p.m. to hear stories of

some of the unique animals who live there. From polar bears to penguins, owls to wolves, participants will hear stories about the vast array of animals that make this polar area home. During this program we will have a chance to waddle, roar and have a magical time. Everyone who attends will leave with a plush penguin bouncing ball. This exciting program is open to 90 participants of all ages and advance registration is required. To register, stop by the Children's Room, or call 432-1127 beginning at 9 a.m. on Monday, December 4.

Mouse Tales

On Mon., Dec. 18, from 4 - 5 p.m. and visit with Mouse, the star of Jane Numeroff's If You Give a Mouse a Cookie. During this program, participants will hear the story of a mouse trying to find the owner of a shoe, hear the story of Sleeping Beauty from a mouse's point of view. Each participant will leave with a fun mouse and mitten craft to do at home to create a cute keepsake from the program. There will be plenty of time for a hug and picture with Mouse. This fun-filled program is open to 90 participants of all ages and advance registration is required. To register, stop by the Children's Room, or call 432-1127 beginning at 9 a.m. on Mon., December 11.

Craft Time

Each week, participants will discover a different fun craft to make using a variety of materials. Meets on Weds., at 9:30 - 10:15 a.m. Advance registration is required. Meeting dates are: 12/6, 12/13 and 1/10, 1/17. Advance registration is required. To register, stop by the Children's Room, or call 432-1127 beginning at 9 a.m. on Mon, Nov 27.

Shake, Move & Read

This engaging program is open to participants of all

ages. Each week participants will energetically explore a different theme using songs, fantastic finger plays, a story and simple craft. This exhilarating and fun-filled program will be held on Weds., from 4 - 4:45 p.m. Meeting dates are: 12/6, 12/13 and 1/10, 1/17. Advance registration is required. To register, stop by the Children's Room, or call 432-1127 beginning at 9 a.m. on Mon, Nov 27.

Toddler Time

This program is open to children ages 2 & 3. Children attend with their parents and enjoy a fun half-hour of thematic stories, games, songs and a simple craft. Meets on Thurs., 9:30 - 10 a.m. Advance registration is required. Meeting dates are: 12/7, 12/14 and 1/11, 1/18. Advance registration is required. To register, stop by the Children's Room, or call 432-1127 beginning at 9 a.m. on Mon, Nov 27.

Wreaths for Sale

Fresh Fragrant Wreaths for sale, Sat., Dec. 2, at the Londonderry Grange (located at 260 Mammoth Rd, Londonderry,) between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. Selections of stocking stuffers, hot beverages, roast marshmallows and support your Grange. Many crafters you have not seen before and a raffle for gift baskets from local businesses. Please stop by and enjoy some hot beverages, roast marshmallows and support your Grange. Shop Local Saturday!

Vendor/Craft Fair

The Marion Gerrish Community Center is hosting it's first Vendor/Craft Fair Sunday, December 10, from 1 - 5 p.m., located at 39 W. Broadway, Derry.

Toys for Tots

American Legion Post 27 is a Toys for Tots drop off location. New, unwrapped toys can be dropped off up to Dec. 13 at 6 Sargent Rd, Londonderry.

Library Holiday Sale

The Friends of the Londonderry Leach Library annual Holiday Sale is now on display at the Library. This year there are COOKIES, COOKIES and more. All cookies are homemade, with no nuts and in assorted flavors, Chocolate Chip, Shortbread, Ranger, Molasses, Sugar Holiday, Oatmeal Raisin and more for \$2 per package. Also for \$1

there will be available the Scandinavian "Good Luck" seed packets. All these items will be available at various times, so stop by to see what's new.

Christmas Across America

Londonderry Christian Church is hosting CEF's Christmas Across America on Sat., Dec. 9 from 3 - 6 p.m. at 372 Mammoth Road in Londonderry. Come celebrate the true meaning of Christmas as we play games, sing songs, and hear about one of the most amazing events in all of history! Recommended ages are 5-12, but all families and children are welcome. This is a free event. To register call 432-4630. Visit www.londonderrychristianchurch.com/events for more details.

The Church/State Challenge

Free Lecture on Dec. 14, 7 p.m. at Etz Hayim Synagogue in Derry. Supreme Court Justice Robert J. Lynn will speak on "The Church/State Challenge." the relationship between the government and religion/religious institutions in the United States. The lecture is part of Etz Hayim Synagogue's Continuing Education Program, "Hot Topics, Cool Contemporary Stuff," and is open to the public at no charge. Donations to the synagogue to allow us to continue with similar programs are welcomed, of course. We hope you will join us.

Renew

Renew clothing opening Dec. 9 Saturday, 8 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. (arrive by 10 a.m.) We are also open every Thur. 9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. (arrive by 11 a.m.) winter clothing is now available. Families and individuals in need or on a budget are welcomed. We give away free gently used apparel that has been donated by the community, and sorted and organized by volunteers Enter at marquee sign of Calvary Bible Church, 145 Hampstead Road in Derry. Limits: To make sure our newest items are available for all our visitors we limit each household to up to 20 of our newest items plus a reasonable number of our older items. Donations of good condition, modern clothing may be placed in our dona-

tions bin by our door at any time. No housewares, books, toys, or bedding, please. Sorry, we are unable to provide tax-receipts. No donations of money are asked for or accepted in return for our clothing. Contact us by searching for "Renew Derry" on Facebook, by emailing renewcalvary@gmail.com, or calling the church secretary at 434-1516.

LEEP Applications

Now accepting applications for the 2017-2018 school year! If your child turned 3 by September 1 and is a Londonderry resident, consider enrolling your child in the Londonderry Early Education Program (LEEP) preschool program. We are a developmentally appropriate preschool that is respectful of the talents and needs of individual children. Our teachers are all certified educators and the program is provided by the Londonderry School District. Although we currently have a waitlist openings are anticipated. Applications are available online on the Moose Hill School website. We also have our LEEP Handbook available online on the Moose Hill School website if you'd like additional information on the program. For more information, contact Kathy Kelley at 437-5855 ext. 7223 Please email Kathy Kelley at kkelley@londonderry.org or Kim Speers at kspeers@londonderry.org.

Garden Club Meeting

Derry Garden Club's next meeting will be held on Fri., Dec. 1, at the Derry Boys and Girls Club, 40 Hampstead Rd, Derry, at 10 a.m. It will be our annual greens workshop with Alison Kennery demonstrating wreath making along with a video. Members bring greens to share and their own container to create a holiday piece for the home. Members will also make a small arrangement in a mug to donate to Meals on Wheels, from the Derry Garden Club. The committee will provide a potluck meal, dessert and beverages. For more information contact Derry Garden Club 434-5016

Snowmobile Safety Course

The Town of Derry
Continued on page 19

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LOST & FOUND

Lost Cat, Last seen on Nov. 5. Partridge Ln. Londonderry. Small, short haired female. All Gray with Orange streak on face. 7 months old, name is Trolley. If found please call Tom at 603-512-9185.

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Londonderry Police Log

Selections from the Londonderry Police Logs

Monday - Nov. 20

12:12 a.m. Attempted Suicide transported to hospital form Elwood Rd.

11:28 a.m. Services rendered at motor vehicle accident on Liberty Drive.

3:58 p.m. Suspicious activity investigated on Hickory Hill Drive.

4:39 p.m. Motor vehicle accident investigated on Rt. 28 between Mammoth Rd. and Manchester town line.

5 p.m. Assisted Londonderry Fire Dept. on Whittemore Rd.

11:32 p.m. Weapons Offenses investigated on Hovey Rd.

Tuesday - Nov. 21

6:57 a.m. Three motor vehicles involved in accident on Rockingham Rd. at Stonehenge Rd.

7:54 a.m. Motor vehicle accident investigated on Rockingham Rd. at Liber-

ty Drive.

9:58 a.m. Criminal mischief investigated on Devonshire Lane.

12:37 p.m. Services rendered for wires down on Bartley Hill Rd. Near Noyes Road.

10:25 p.m. Three officers investigate disturbance on Kendall Pond Rd.

11:32 p.m. Five officers respond to suspicious activity and conduct Field Interrogation on Kendall Pond Rd.

Wednesday - Nov. 22

2:34 a.m. Services rendered by three officers for Criminal Mischief on Kendall Pond Rd.

7 a.m. Three officers restore peace after disturbance on Wiley Hill Rd.

7:07 a.m. Motor vehicle accident investigated on Harvey Rd. at Pettengill Rd.
2:32 p.m. Warrant served and arrest made on

Edward J. Roy Drive, Manchester. Kyle Coleman, 52, of Manchester charged wit Theft; From A Building.

4:05 p.m. Three officers restore peace after disturbance on Ash St.

5:10 p.m. Motor vehicle accident investigated on Nashua Rd. at Citizen's Bank.

11:40 p.m. Services rendered for suspicious activity on Pinto Lane.

Thursday - Nov. 23

12:19 a.m. Disturbance investigated at Manchester Boston Regional Airport.

12:59 a.m. Disturbance investigated on Mammoth Rd. at Fieldstone Drive.

7:58 a.m. Services rendered for trespassing at Cracker Barrel Old Country Store on Nashua Rd.

8:57 a.m. Services rendered for suspicious activity on Jefferson Drive.

Continued on page 19

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Police Log

Continued from page 18

11:48 a.m. Domestic disturbance arrest made on Stokes Rd.

4:25 p.m. Domestic disturbance investigated on Anthony Drive.

Friday - Nov. 24
4:42 a.m. Sudden Death

investigated at All American Assisted Living on Button Drive.

9:34 a.m. Three vehicles involved in motor vehicle Accident on Rockingham Rd. at Twins Smoke Shop.

10:34 a.m. Services rendered to keep the peace on Lexington Avenue.

12:26 p.m. Suspicious activity investigated on

Noble Place.

1:28 p.m. Services rendered for report of Auto Theft on Albany Avenue.

1:45 p.m. Motor vehicle accident investigated on Nashua Rd. at St Mary's Bank.

2:28 p.m. Arrest made after complaint on Wiley Hill Rd. Alan Grochowski, 37, of Londonderry charged

with Domestic Violence Simple Assault.

3:18 p.m. Drug Offenses Investigated on Chase Rd.

4:50 p.m. Juvenile Offenses investigated on Wind-ing Pond Rd.

7:40 p.m. Assault investigated on Stage Coach Circle.

Saturday - Nov. 25
12:22 a.m. Services rendered at Kendall Pond Conservation Area on South Rd.

9:40 a.m. Report of overdose transported to hospital from Chase Rd.

10:54 a.m. Suspicious activity investigated Hovey

Rd. across from cemetery.
11:47 a.m. Criminal mischief investigated on Hall Rd.

2:10 p.m. Auto theft investigated on Rockingham Rd. at S & S Metals.

3:09 p.m. Services rendered for criminal mischief on Charleston Avenue.

4:21 p.m. Services rendered in keeping the peace on Stokes Rd.

4:30 p.m. Peace restored after disturbance on Nashua Rd. at St. Mary's Bank.

7:25 p.m. Burglary investigated on Crestview Circle.

Sunday - Nov. 26
12:49 a.m. Services Rendered for suspicious activity on Wilshire Drive at Currier Drive.

12:42 p.m. Services rendered for criminal mischief on Priscilla Lane.

4:49 p.m. Motor vehicle accident investigated on Nashua Rd. at Acropolis Avenue.

5:49 p.m. Services rendered at motor vehicle accident on Nashua Rd. at Charles George Trucking.

7:17 p.m. Vehicle Towed after motor vehicle accident on Griffin Road. at Mammoth Road.

Around Town

Continued from page 16

Parks & Recreation Department, the Derry Pathfinders, and New Hampshire Fish and Game would like to announce open enrollment for the annual Snowmobile Safety Course. This safety course will be held on Sat., Dec. 2 from 8:30 a.m. - 4 p.m. at the Alexander-Carr Lodge on 28 Pierce Ave in Derry. Participants must be at least 12 years old by April 2018 to participate. All participants under the age of 18 years old must attend the course with an adult. Advance registration is required. Space is limited and fills up quickly. To register please contact the Derry Parks & Recreation Department at (603) 432-6136 from 8 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. Additional questions can be answered by contacting the Derry Pathfinders at info@derry-pathfinders.org

Used Toy Sale

St. Gianna's Closet will hold its annual used toy sale on Dec. 2, from 9 a.m. to noon at St. Thomas Church, 26 Crystal Ave in Derry. There is a huge selection of beautiful toys at low cost like puzzles, games, dolls, ride on toys, kitchen sets, play sets and more. All proceeds go to fund St. Thomas Parish's outreach/food pantry programs. Cash and carry, bring your own bags.

Folsom's Open House

Folsom's annual Open House on Dec. 2, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. & Dec. 3, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at 130 Candia Rd. Chester. We'll have beautiful and fun holiday wreaths, plenty of maple goodies for gift giving and Gift Baskets to take some of the headache and stress off the holiday shopping experience Thank you to

you all for your continued support of us and all our local businesses.

Free Meals

Please join us for free, family-friendly meals, served in a relaxed atmosphere. Meals are generally held as posted below, but may be rescheduled for holidays. Please call the facility to check on holiday times. We look forward to seeing you! Dinner held on Dec. 10 from 5 - 6:30 p.m. at Episcopal Church of the Transfiguration, Derry; Dinner held on Dec. 16 from 5 - 6:30 p.m. at St. Luke's, Derry; Breakfast held on Dec. 17 from 9 - 11 a.m. at Etz Hayim Synagogue, Derry; Dinner held on Dec. 29 from 5 - 6:30 p.m. at First Parish, Derry; Lunch held Dec. 31 from 1:30 - 2:30 p.m. at St. Jude's, Londonderry. For more information, please visit: freemealsinderry.blogspot.com.

Child Find Program

Londonderry School District will hold a free Community Child Find Program, for all Londonderry residents ages 2 1/2 - 5 years old, and 11 month olds, who are suspected of having vision or hearing problems or developmental concerns. Child find will be held at Londonderry Early Education Program (LEEP) (Moose Hill School - 150 Pillsbury Road) Dec. 7. We encourage parents of preschoolers to set up an appointment if they have any concerns. For more information, or to schedule an appointment, call: Kathy Kelley 437-5855, Ext. 7223 between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. No child will be seen without an appointment.

Walk with Me

Are you losing or have lost someone? A child, a parent, a sibling or a friend? It can be a painful

journey but you don't have to walk it alone anymore. Just come "Walk With Me". Meetings are the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the month at 7 p.m., at the Londonderry Presbyterian Church, 128 Pillsbury Road, Londonderry. If you have any questions please call 781-866-9976.

Continuing Education Program

Programs are open to the public at no charge, except as otherwise indicated. Donations to the Etz Hayim Synagogue will allow us to continue to offer these and other programs, and are gratefully accepted. Thurs. Nights, at 7 p.m. Etz Hayim Synagogue, 1 1/2 Hood Road, Derry. For more information, please contact: Stephen Soreff, MD, at soreffs15@aol.com or 603 895-6120.

St. Gianna's Closet

St. Gianna's Closet provides free children's clothing to any family in the community that is in need. It is now well-stocked with sizes birth to teen as well as winter coats. Please contact Liz at 437-6678 to receive clothing.

Walking Together

A support group for widows and widowers meets every 1st and 3rd Tuesday of the month at 7 p.m. at the Londonderry Presbyterian Church, 128 Pillsbury Road, Londonderry. Lets walk together. If you have any questions please call 781-866-9976.

Lamplighters

A womans group with the goal of helping less fortunate woman and people in NH meets every 4th Thursday of the month 7 p.m. at Londonderry Presbyterian Church at 128 Pillsbury Road, Londonderry. If you have any questions please call 781-866-9976.



TOWN OF LONDONDERRY NOTICE OF FIRST PUBLIC HEARING FY19 PROPOSED TOWN BUDGET

Notice is hereby given that the Londonderry Town Council will receive public input on the proposed FY 2019 Town Budget on Monday December 11, 2017, beginning at 7 p.m. in the Moose Hill Conference Room, Town Hall, 268B Mammoth Road, Londonderry, N.H. The Warrant under consideration includes:

Article	Description	Proposed FY 19
Article 2	Town-Wide Communications Upgrade	\$2,700,000
Article 3	Central Fire Station Improvements	\$4,900,000
Article 4	General Fund Operating Budget	
	Town Council	\$12,098
	Town Manager	587,002
	Budget Committee	1
	Town Clerk	529,452
	Finance & Administration	677,431
	Assessing	448,794
	Information Technology	446,800
	Legal	174,500
	General Government	558,036
	Cemetery	38,000
	Insurance	204,934
	Conservation	3,350
	Police Dept.	9,237,189
	Fire Dept.	8,222,196
	Building Dept.	445,794
	Public Works Dept.	3,864,449
	Solid Waste	1,950,758
	General Assistance	124,687
	Cable	311,271
	Recreation	152,862
	Library	1,428,925
	Senior Affairs	99,409
	Community Development	461,698
	Debt Service	2,039,910

Total General Fund Operating Budget \$32,019,546

Article 5	Special Revenue Fund – Police Details	\$505,644
Article 6	Sewer Fund	\$5,923,609
Article 7	Roadway Maintenance Trust Fund	\$650,000
Article 8	Capital Reserve – Fire Dept. Equipment	\$150,000
Article 9	Capital Reserve – Geographic Info. Systems	\$28,000
Article 10	Expendable Maintenance Trust	\$180,000
Article 11	Capital Reserve – Pillsbury Cemetery Expansion	\$100,000
Article 12	Capital Reserve-Cemeteries	\$10,000
Article 13	Capital Reserve-Fire Trucks	\$70,000
Article 14	Recreation Maintenance Building	\$100,000
Article 15	Nelson Road Fields Lights	130,000
Article 16	Commercial & Industrial Revaluation	100,000
Article 17	Air/Water Quality Study	\$35,000
Article 18	Sidewalk Improvements	\$250,000
Article 19	Sargent Road Land Purchase	\$95,000

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