

Londonderry Times

February 8, 2018 ♦ Volume 19 – Issue 6

A FREE Weekly Publication



Puppet Mastering

Artist in Residence at South Elementary School Pat Picciano helps fifth grade student Brianna Coburn apply hair to her puppet during her art class last week. The entire grade is taking part in creating their own puppets. See more page 19. Photo by Chris Paul

Negotiations Still On-Going on Griffin Road Land Purchase

LORI COSTA
LONDONDERRY TIMES

Although a decision was hoped to be reached in the case of purchasing property on Griffin Road during a public hearing at the Town Council meeting on Monday night, there was still

no final decision made and councilors were tight lipped on what they could discuss to the public without speaking to their lawyer first.

The Conversation Committee chair Marge Badois was hoping to get clarification on the information that she was unaware of.

The council, however, was not at liberty to discuss this information with her while negotiations between the town and the landowner's lawyers were still taking place.

Residents of Lantern Lane also hoped to get clarification on what

continued on page 2

Voting Slate Completed for Londonderry Elections

ALEX GUITTARR
LONDONDERRY TIMES

As voting season for Londonderry's elected officials draws closer, the town and school board have established their finalized list of candidates for their currently available positions.

One three year position on the Town Council is available. As the town's legislative and governing body, members of the council hold a wide variety of responsibilities, including discussing and voting on a variety of resolutions for the town, listening to concerns from residents during public forums and working closely with town staff to

determine the state of their numerous departments and their roles, just to name a few roles. Jim Butler, the individual whose term is expiring this year, will be running for the role again unchallenged.

A three year position for the role of Town Clerk is also available. As a Town Clerk, the appointee is required to validate official documents and oversee the posting of official notices, ordinances and advertisements, as well as supervise the issuance of marriage, hunting, fishing and dog licenses. They must also manage tax payments, sewer payments vehicle licenses and plan

and supervise the conduct of all elections. Sherry Farrell, Londonderry's current Town Clerk, will be running up against new candidate Martha Liff-Smith.

A two year position as Town Moderator is available. The moderator is chiefly responsible for the election process, filing a certification of election with Town Clerk to indicate the number of votes received by each candidate. Tom Freda and Luisa Piette will be the two candidates for the position, as Bob Saur will not be seeking reelection.

One six year term as Supervisor of the Checklist is available. In this

continued on page 5

Town Council Touches on Building Better Meetings

LORI COSTA
LONDONDERRY TIMES

The Monday night Town Council meeting was noticeably shorter than previous meetings, mainly because the public hearing set for that night had to be put off until next week due to new information that has yet to be divulged. See story page 1.

Two matters that were discussed that evening were how, at a recent Zoning Board of Adjustments meeting, the meeting went on far longer than the Town Council thought it should. There was also some discussion about public comment and how

to handle it through various boards.

Council vice-chairman John Farrell mentioned that he was quite distressed at the length of the latest ZBA meeting and had citizens contacting him on the matter.

He told fellow council members that he thought it was bad for the board to have a meeting go beyond 1:30 a.m. given that people have jobs and can't be expected to stay at meeting until all hours.

He mentioned that he attended the meeting and felt that it was rushed given the long agenda, with the chair even cutting speakers off at times.

Farrell suggested that the meetings be split into two, that way the meetings wouldn't feel rushed and the public could speak without fear of being cut off mid-sentence.

"People have to pay their lawyers to sit around for four hours in some cases," Farrell said.

continued on page 3

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Local Musical Artists Perform at All-State Jazz Festival



The New Hampshire Music Educators Association presented the 2018 All-State Jazz Festival on Saturday, Feb. 3 in the Stockbridge Theatre at Pinkerton Academy. Out of the over 400 high school students who auditioned there were 108 students chosen for the event. The musicians rehearsed with conductors Dr. Kevin McDonald, Christine Helferich Guter, Mike Sakash and Robert Washut over two days at the school and performed a number of arti-

cles in their respective groups. Londonderry High School students who participated were: The Jazz Honors Choir featured Danika Dixon, Alto Voice. Jazz Band member was Trevor Senecal on Trumpet. The Honors Jazz Band had Aaron Kenison playing Baritone Sax. The Jazz Choir also had Rachel Cook, Emily Nowak and her brother Erik Nowak playing string accompaniment in a song.

Photos by Chris Paul

Griffin Road

Continued from page 1

information has not been released to the Conservation Committee or the public.

A resident of Lantern Lane came forward to ask if there had been a purchase of one of the two

lots of land for \$212,000 shortly after the first initial meeting of the possible purchase, but the council declined to comment on whether or not this was true.

"I would suggest that we are in an active negotiation and that we should let that run its course,"

was the response given by Vice-Chairman John Farrell.

It was also asked whether there had been an issue with the appraisal of the land and if that was the reason behind the delay.

The town council, again gave no direct

answers to the questions presented, but they hope to get the information cleared up by their next meeting which is scheduled for next Monday on Feb. 12.

Whether or not the council received the information they were looking for prior to tonight's

meeting was not discussed and rather was moved to have another public hearing at their next meeting.

The hope by the Conservation Commission and a number of abutters is that the town of Londonderry purchases the property to prevent its

development by the current owner.

If the deal ultimately goes through, and the town does choose to purchase it, then it will most likely be handed to the Conservation Committee to manage the area and possibly use it for tree farming in the future.



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Solid Waste Committee Discusses Education and Repair Projects

ALEX GUITTARR
LONDONDERRY TIMES

A wide assortment of topics were brought up during the Solid Waste and Environ-

ment Committee's latest meeting on February 5 in their latest efforts to help Londonderry residents minimize their waste, reduce their tax burden

and protect and beautify their local environment.

For starters, committee members discussed their continued work on producing a series of edu-

cational videos to train residents on different environmental matters, including the burning of paper logs and where they can properly dispose

of pharmacy sharps. But their upcoming video, which discussed the Household Hazardous Waste Day, took front and center. While the video already has a script established, several members offered tips for how the information on it could be more accurate, as well as note how essential it was to keep the writing casual and charismatic and feature local residents that viewers could associate with.

Secondly, members went over the next idea they have for their bimonthly environmental columns that they do for the Londonderry Times, in conjunction with the Conservation Commission. Members of the committee felt that they should try to address plastic recycling in one such article, discussing the likes of taking advantage of used plastic bag stations, what types of restrictions are currently placed on the production of plastic bags and the general process of properly recycling these bags. However, members did not that this may present some problems for residents, as not many used bag stations seem to exist in Londonderry outside of Home Depot.

Third, members were forced to address the issue of the "Welcome to Derry" sign on Rockingham Road being destroyed for the second time in four years. Although they were not entirely sure as to what caused the destruction of the sign, some theorized that it was due to a combination of the elements from the latest series of winter storms and snow blower trucks hitting the sign with snow and causing it to collapse. In order to help prevent this from happening in the future, members suggested reinforcing the back with marine-grade plywood in the future.

Finally, members discussed what they felt needed to be a major overhaul of the signage for the town's drop-off center. Although replacing the dilapidated signage is one matter, the bigger matter was changing the name of the station. Although no new name was agreed upon at the meeting, members felt that they needed to change it to something more attractive in order to encourage more residents to use it, while not making it too fancy and risking confusing residents over its purpose.

Town Council

Continued from page 6

The matter was given to town staff to look into.

Town Council Chair Tom Dolan brought up that he had put together some thoughts on how to better run the town's land use board meetings.

He said he took information given to the town over the summer by the state who had visited Londonderry and offered suggestions on conducting public meetings.

He asked fellow councilors to read what he had put together and give him

feedback.

There was also a presentation given by Fire Chief Darren O'Brien, who gave an update on some added things the department was doing to inform the public about what the new renovations for Central Fire Station would look like.

O'Brien announced the creation of a website that was put up on their town website for the public to view so they can have more information on what exactly the renovations would look like. The website is called london-derryfirereno.com.

There are multiple videos posted about what the project is and a tour of the current fire station given by both Fire Chief Darren O'Brien and Battalion Chief Kevin Zins. In this tour, they highlight the places that need the most work and how these renovations would help the town of Londonderry in the long run. The website also outlines the tax impact on the residents, the timeline of the project, and the cost of the renovations overall.

There is also a space for the public to contact "The Project Team" and

voice their opinions.

O'Brien also hoped to include a Facebook page with the information sometime in the coming weeks to further expand their audience and get the word out on why Londonderry needs to vote for the fire station.

The vote will need to be accepted by at least 60% of voters to pass in the upcoming March election.

If the voters choose to vote for the renovations, the project is expected to be completed sometime in late July or early August of 2019.

Best Spellers

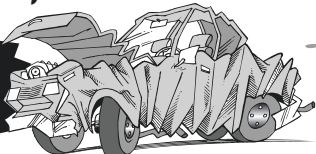
South Elementary School recently held its annual Spelling Bee with 20 fourth and fifth graders competing to represent their school at the state Spelling Bee later in the month. The winner was fifth grade student Grace Houston and the runner-up was fourth grade student Jack DiBuono. The winning word was "hallucinations". The spellers went a total of nine rounds. *Courtesy photos*



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Editorial

Winter's Not Quite Finished Yet

In the past few weeks, we've had almost everything a New Hampshire winter likes to throw at us.

We've had a heavy snowfall, black ice, frigid temperatures, lots of days with no snow, and some 50 degree and sunny days. And let's not forget the high winds, which provided the usual falling trees and tumbling power lines.

But the snow flurries last week created a pretty scene nevertheless - especially as the gathering flakes covered up the browns left over from autumn's leaf fall and empty garden beds. It was a brief reminder that nothing's much more scenic than a New England winter.

We get a bit of everything here. and we learn, or should learn, to be prepared for that dose of everything when it comes. In the current break in heavy weather, it's a good time to make sure our preparedness levels are where they should be - because we hear that snow is on the horizon once again.

That means stocking up on batteries, lamp oil, extra bottles of water and food that doesn't require cooking, as well as a battery-operated radio and, when possible, a working generator. Power outages thankfully have not been frequent in recent months, but they have

come to be a fact of life in New Hampshire, and a professionally wired in generator - ready for the next blackout that is sure to come - will go a long way toward making things comfortable when power lines are down.

Because as sure as New England weather is unpredictable and extremes are likely, as sure as we're going to have to be prepared for sub-freezing nights followed by unseasonably warm days, we're going to get the unexpected.

Regardless of what Punxsutawney Phil saw or did not see last week, it's still winter. So use this season of changes to make sure your emergency supplies are up to date and ready to use. Keep them in a handy place, fill the generator and oil lamps, and be ready for whatever Old Man Winter hands out. It doesn't take much effort to keep your supplies up to date. Making sure flashlights work and generators have gas when you know a storm is coming is just common sense.

And when winter is just a memory and we're enjoying the summer sunshine, don't pack away those emergency supplies. Because, as we all know, wind and electrical storms are part of a New England summer as well.

Letters

Bump Stock Legislation

To the editor,

Last week I contacted Senator Carson, saying that I supported a ban on bump stock and hoped that she would too. She replied that she was chairing the committee and thus would not be commenting. Further that it would likely go to a study committee over the summer and a final decision was 12 months away.

I replied (testily) that I hoped no Londonderry children were wounded or killed during the study.

I was informed that I did not understand the legislative process, that it was not simply a ban on bump stocks and that the legislation was written so poorly that it must be killed or sent to a study committee. She further said if I had any familiarity with bump stocks - that they can be mimicked with a large rubber band or with a little practice no extra device is needed. Finally, that I could testify when the study commences and that my input would be weighed more heavily if I refrained from the superfluous ad hominem.

I would like to make several points. First, that while the comment was snarky it was neither superfluous or ad hominem. It is not superfluous that 1300 children

are killed with guns each year. In the first three days of this month, we already have 4 children killed and 2 wounded. It is not ad hominem as I was attacking the delay not the individual.

Finally, with respect to bump stocks, the person who developed them said in an interview, "We couldn't afford an automatic rifle - so I started to think about how I could make something that would work and be affordable." So, the purpose of the device is clear. I could be wrong, but I think the interest of public safety outweighs the ability to mimic an automatic weapon.

James Green
Londonderry

Rebuild Our Depleted Military

To the editor,

The Budget Control Act of 2011 necessitated budget cuts for the Defense Department which had a huge negative effect on the readiness of our military.

I quote from Alan Dowd's article in the February 2018 issue of The American Legion Magazine.

"In 2011, the Air Force had 333,370 active duty airmen. By 2017, it had fallen to 310,000. In 2013, 31 squadrons stood

down. In 2014 500 planes were to be eliminated. Just 12 percent of America's aging bomber fleet will be able to penetrate and survive enemy air defenses."

"In 2011, the Army's active-duty end strength was 566,000; by 2016, it had fallen to 476,000. Only 25 percent of the Army's combat aviation brigades are ready to deploy. Of the Army's 58 brigade combat teams, only three could be called upon to fight tonight."

"Before sequestration, the Marine Corps fielded 202,100 active-duty personnel; by the end of 2016 there were only 184,000 Marines. By the end of 2016; only 41 percent of Marine aircraft were able to fly."

"Today's Navy has only 277 active deployable ships. According to former CNO Adm. Jonathan Greenert, we need a Navy of 450 ships. Fifty-three percent of Navy aircraft cannot fly."

We need to fund the Defense Department with adequate budgets, probably on the order of \$700 billion to \$750 billion per year to rebuild our military and meet our national security requirements. President Trump is on board with the funding needs.

Donald Moskowitz
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.

Londonderry Times

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

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www.nutpub.net

Owner/Publisher – Debra Paul

Art Director – Chris Paul

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Fire Station Bond Payment Said to Decrease Slightly Over Time

LORI COSTA
LONDONDERRY TIMES

The estimate for the renovations to the Central Fire Station in town is currently between 6.4 and 6.9 million dollars. Overall, the amount is above anticipation, but the department is looking to grind down the numbers as best they

can.

The number that was presented to the town council was \$6.4 million. The new proposal is for slightly over 21,000 square feet of space and adds two additional apparatus bays. The town council agreed to put the article on the ballot in March by a vote of 4-0 for residents

to vote on. The vote will determine if residents are willing to pay the money to renovate Central Fire Station for the increase of demand over the next coming years.

Article 2 determines whether or not the town will vote to approve to raise the \$6.4 million for the purposes of making

improvements to Central Fire Station on Mammoth Road. If this bond is agreed to by the residents of Londonderry, the cost of the bond will fluctuate over the twenty year period until it is fully paid off.

During the first year of payment, the price will be slated at 0.02, but then have an increase in price

for years one and two that will be 0.13. During years three through seven, the bond will cost 0.12 and go down again to 0.11 in years eight through eleven.

During years twelve to fifteen, the payment will drop to 0.10. In years sixteen to nineteen it will drop to 0.09 and finally

during the twentieth year of payment will drop once more to 0.08.

According to the town's finance office, this is what the cost will be each year per \$1000 of value. There will also be another bond that is ending in year five of this bond that is roughly the same rate of this bond.

Conservation Commission Assists Eagle Scout in More Security at Kendall Pond

ALEX GUITARR
LONDONDERRY TIMES

Several plans for updates to the assorted trails and ponds within Londonderry were recently discussed during the Conservation Commission's latest meeting.

To kick off the meeting, Justin Jolicoeur, a

member of Boy Scouts Troop 109 in Londonderry, came before the commission to announce his plans for his Eagle Scout project, which would be done to improve the state of the Musquash Trails.

Jolicoeur noted that throughout his frequent trips through the trails, he has noticed that cer-

tain trails, Piper Trail in particular, are not fully marked or labeled on the map. In order to alleviate this issue, he plans improving the various signs and maps found on the trail, starting by taking inventory of what needs to be fixed and how much it would cost.

In an effort to assist

Jolicoeur, members of the commission made several suggestions to him, including the fact that he should try to focus on the posts scattered throughout the trail, as the commission already did a project in the Musquash recently that introduced some new trail signs.

As for Piper Trail,

Commission Members Michael Speltz and Mike Byerly both noted that the commission is actually trying to avoid making Piper Trail a new part of the Musquash, with Commission Chair Marge Badois suggesting that they instead put logs across the trail to make it less appealing to hikers.

None the less, the commission still wants Jolicoeur to take an inventory of the signs and come back to them with the results in order to pursue the project further.

The commission is also working to assist with installing an electric sliding gate to prevent residents from entering Kendall Pond after hours. The gate, which will be made out of galvanized tubing and have a twelve foot opening, is being installed in response to

several abutters making a series of complaints about suspicious individuals lurking around the area at night and typically littering, amongst other reported crimes.

In case the likes of emergency vehicles or equipment from the Department of Public Works need to get through, the gate would be operated by either remote button or timer with an open and close schedule. It is also likely that the Londonderry Police dispatch will have the ability to control the gate when necessary.

But regardless of the gate, Steve Cotton, the individual currently handling the installation of the gate, noted that he is also looking into additional surveillance systems that would be added to the area for extra security.

Elections

Continued from page 1

role, the supervisor is tasked with determining if a resident is legally qualified to vote and updating the checklist of registered voters if so. The supervisor must also make changes and corrections to a voter's name, address and party affiliation when applicable, as well as remove voters no longer eligible to vote in Londonderry. Kirsten Hildonen will be running for the position unopposed.

Two three year terms on the Budget Committee are available. The role of members of this commit-

tee is to advise the Town Council, the School Board and the Town of Londonderry on matters related to their budgets, host regular meetings on the fourth Thursday of each month at 7 PM and participate in several budget workshops with the town and school during the annual budget process. Kirsten Hildonen, who is currently a member of the committee, will be running for reelection, while Kyle Ramon Foden will be running for a second position being left by member Duncan Campbell.

Three trustee positions are available. As a trustee, one's duty is to direct the funds and poli-

cies of the area that said position is identified with, preserving capital and other functions as they see fit. Amongst the three positions are two three year terms as Library Trustees being run for by Betsy McKinney and Carol Introne and one three year term as Trustee of the Trust Fund, with Howard Bookman running unopposed.

Finally, two three year terms on the Londonderry School Board are available. The school boards

roles include overseeing all aspects of the school, its staff and policy framework and strategies. While Steve Young will be running to continue his role on the board, board member Leitha Reilly will not be seeking reelection, leaving Katlyn McKenzie, Michael Saucier, Jeff Katz and Greg DePasse to run as candidates for the two openings.

Voting will take place from 7 a.m. until 8 p.m. on March 13 at the Londonderry High School Gymnasium.

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Overdose and Suicide Attempts in Town on the Rise

MELISSA BETH RUIZ
LONDONDERRY TIMES

Driving at a speed of about 45 miles per hour, it would take more or less a single hour to drive every road in Londonderry, New Hampshire. Despite its steady development, this small town of 42 square miles and less than 25,000 people still maintains more or less a quaint image in the eyes of outsiders and natives alike.

Although it has been listed in the top ten happiest town in New Hampshire by the American Community Survey within the past ten years, it would seem that it's not all sunshine and apple pies in the quiet, little town of Londonderry.

"A common misconception about a small town is that the problems here are small, too." Long-time Londonderry resident, Savannah Tutt wrote to the Londonderry NH Moms page on Facebook. "...we tend to forget that where we come from and where we live does not keep us, and our loved ones, exempt from the bigger problems in this world."

In just the first week of January, the Londonderry Times reported three suicide attempts in its Police Log. Tutt referred to this series of incidents as part of an epidemic and made a call to action to mothers of Londonderry, asking them, "to be the change we need in this small town."

The Londonderry Police Department responded to 56 suicide attempts

in 2017, up from 34 in 2016. As far as authorities are able to tell, there does not seem to be any rhyme or reason to this increase.

"We've seen wealthy adults, despondent younger men and women...it affects everybody." Said detective Chris Olson of the Londonderry Police Department.

Every 39 hours, one person will take his or her own life in the state of New Hampshire, according to the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention. Last year, New Hampshire ranked 18th in the country in deaths by suicide. It happens for a myriad of reasons, many illogical to friends and family members.

"I think that in small towns a lot of things are put out of sight of mind," Tutt said via messenger correspondence. "The topic of suicide and mental illness tends to be this sort of elephant in the room, even though most people have been personally affected by it."

But fellow Londonderry resident, Candis Domingue, has been openly addressing this parabolic pachyderm for some time. Since losing her father after he had taken his own life in 2015, Domingue has become a strong advocate for suicide and mental health awareness.

"People are always so shocked that I speak so candidly about my father's death," Domingue said. "It's frustrating. I think if there wasn't a stigma attached to suicide

then more people would be comfortable coming out and saying they're struggling and that they need help."

New Hampshire currently ranks 29th in the country in mental health adequacy, according to Mental Health America. This indicates that the Granite State has a higher prevalence of mental illness with a lower rate of access to care. This coupled with the lingering stigma against mental illness leads to increase in self-harm and suicide. Those who are suffering seem to believe they should suffer in silence, and the results are deafening.

"Which is why I'm so open and candid about my father's death," Domingue went on, "Because if my story can help just one more family not to have to live with this reality, then something beautiful can come from my father's death."

Tutt echoed Domingue's sentiments on silencing the stigma against speaking out, saying that if more people spoke about suicide and its impact on the community that it might call attention to those in need of help and get them the support that they need.

The American Foundation for Suicide Prevention lists the following as warning signs that an individual may be considering suicide: Talking about feeling hopeless, trapped, being a burden or having no purpose, increasing use of alcohol and/or drugs, isolating from

loved ones and withdrawing from activities, giving away items, and acting despondent, anxious, or angry.

"He would make comments about not liking where the world was going and not wanting to be a part of it," Domingue recalled of her father. "He'd say things like, 'If I were to drop dead right now, I'd be perfectly okay with that.'" Domingue went on to say that aside from these comments she had observed her father begin to isolate himself, and observe life rather than participate in it.

When Domingue mentioned her concerns about her father's comments and behavior to a therapist, she was told that intervention could only take place when and if an individual were to make more explicit comments or actions.

"I think there needs to be a system in place that allows individuals to voice their concerns and to have mental health providers and law enforcement look into each case and investigate the concerns," Domingue stated.

When asked what resources the town had to offer for those at risk of self-harming or attempting suicide, Detective Olson urged residents to call the Londonderry Police Department and explained that they could connect them to local hospitals and support services. He also mentioned that there is a chaplain available through the station who will come

to the homes of those needing support to offer comfort and resources. Olson said to contact the station directly for this service, and that the caller would be connected to the Chaplain as soon as possible.

For many contemplating suicide, the act of taking his or her own life often seems like the best course of action, an act of desperation. They are often not in a state of mind to consider the effect it will have on their loved ones.

"Honestly, my family has been greatly impacted," Domingue stated. "We kind of became a shell of the family we once were. A family that used to be so open, trusting, and supportive of one another has now become jaded and cynical."

The loss that suicide produces is seldom self-contained. Often, when a person takes his or her own life, the action creates a ripple effect, reaching friends and extended family with ebbs of grief.

"I've watched it affect the family and loved ones of so many people in my life," Tutt added to her correspondence. "There's this sense of pain and tragedy that lingers a little longer when you can't help but wonder if there's something you could have done."

As is the case with most things, an ounce of prevention is worth a lifetime of cure when it

comes to suicide prevention. "I think that educating people within our community...about the risk of suicide and the inevitable risk of being personally affected by it would allow for more open discussion about how we deal with this epidemic," Tutt stated, adding that more resources should be made available in the school systems, which could be helpful in breaking the stigma early on.

"People need to not be afraid to seek help," Tutt stated. And perhaps the first step in accomplishing this is a little compassion.

"We are a lot more understanding than we used to be," Domingue added. "We know just how fragile life is and we do our best not to take anything for granted."

To say that suicide is tragic would be putting it lightly, but thankfully, it is entirely preventable. Education, compassion, and accessible resources can be life-changing and life-saving.

Visit the National Alliance on Mental Illness of New Hampshire at naminh.org for more information and resources on suicide prevention and mental health support, and contact the Londonderry Police Department at (603) 432-1118 to help loved ones in immediate crisis. For life-threatening emergencies, dial 911.

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It's Easier Than Ever to Navigate in the Musquash Conservation Area

The Musquash Conservation Area is one of Southern New Hampshire's largest areas of recreational open space with 1,532 acres with 15 major trails and several 'spur' and connector trails for walking, cycling or snowshoeing. However, with all these trails and such a large area, some people not used to being in the woods have gotten temporarily lost and others report being reluctant to enter the area for fear of being lost. To improve the naviga-

tion, the Conservation Commission and several community volunteers spent the Fall adding dozens of new trail signs in the Musquash. Moreover, additional work is planned for the spring to add even more signage at key junction points.

In addition, the Conservation Commission also worked with Londonderry's Geographic Information Systems Manager, Amy Kizak, to make some corrections to the Musquash Trail Maps and printed new maps, 'Winter 2017' version. These

maps can be found in the newly installed map boxes at the Hickory Hill, Tanager Way, Faucher Rd and Sara Beth Lane trailheads. Maps may also be obtained at the Town Hall or downloaded from www.londonderrynh.org/Pages/LondonderryNH_PI

anEcoDev/gisdocs/mus.pdf

If you are still worried about getting around the Musquash on your own, you can join one of the periodic guided walks lead by the Conservation Commission.

OBITUARY

Phyllis Ann Stanford



Phyllis Ann Stanford, 88, of Manchester, passed away Tues., Jan. 30, 2018, surrounded by her loving family at the Catholic Medical Center, Manchester. She was born in Boston, MA on Nov. 19, 1929, a daughter of the late the Joseph and Josephine (Stasio) Powers, and had formerly been a resident of Londonderry for 40 years, previously living in Revere and Saugus, MA. Phyllis and her husband Robert owned and operated Can-Do Company for many years. In her younger years, Phyllis enjoyed outdoor activities such as camping and fishing. She loved card games and liked to go to Foxwoods or Mohegan Sun on occasion. She enjoyed gardening, reading, puzzles, water aerobics and traveling. Phyllis will be remembered as a devoted wife, mother, and a lover of pets, grandmother and great grandmother who loved nothing better than holiday family gatherings.

She is survived by her beloved husband of 50 years, Robert J. Stanford of Manchester, two daughters, Cheryl Marks and Nadine Pelletier, both of Manchester, two sons, Harold (Bob) Marks and his wife Edith of Davenport, FL, and Bruce Marks, Sr and his wife Karen of Manchester, NH; numerous grandchildren and great grandchildren; two sisters, Mary Jo Belmonte of Revere, MA, and Claire DeBow of California, as well as several nieces and nephews. Phyllis was predeceased by a son, Kevin P. Marks in 2002.

Calling hours will be held on Sat., Feb. 3, from 2 - 5 p.m. in the Peabody Funeral Homes and Crematorium, 290 Mammoth Road, Londonderry with a funeral service to begin at 5pm in the funeral home. Cremation will follow. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to nationalbreastcancer.org. To send a condolence or for more information, please visit, www.peabodyfuneralhome.com

Town Forest Continues to Get Spruced Up

KATIE O'DONNELL
LONDONDERRY TIMES

Kent Allen has been a man on a mission to restore the forests of Londonderry to their original glory. He and countless volunteers were busy as bees this year, toiling in the soil to cut back and clean up the Southeast area of the Kent Allen Forest in an effort to prepare of this spring's endeavours. The main focus will be on getting the forest ready for Londonderry's upcoming tricentennial celebration in 2019.

Some of Londonderry's elementary students got their hands dirty by planting 12 trees off Pillsbury Road with Allen as a mentor. He planted four American Hazelnut trees himself, while Curt Laffin and Meredith Allen supervised the students from the North, South and Matthew Thornton Elementary Schools. The kids planted some walnut, chestnut and hicko-

ry trees, and may get to add some to their own school yards. In a review of this year's projects, Allen said "three lots of nuts" were given to Superintendent Scott Laliberte for the schools to germinate for springtime planting. If anything grows, the students will be able to have some walnut, hickory and beech trees of their own to nurture.

Planting the new trees isn't just for show, though. Allen reported that Greg Jordan, a forester from the UNH Extension Service, discussed ideas with members of the Planning Board to put down more mature flowering trees in the spring. These ones of trees are not only pretty, but some of them have a long history that dates back to the first settlers of Londonderry.

The Scot-Irish Presbyterians that founded the area in 1719 called it "Nutfield" for a reason. The land was covered in nut bearing trees like walnuts and chestnuts.

The settlers us these tall, strong trees for food and furniture. However, the onset of cancers and blights and late 1800s decimated these local trees. Efforts have been made by scientists to create more impervious breeds of trees that are resistant to the illnesses of old.

The American Chestnut Foundation approved the use of Kent Allen Forest to try and re-establish the long gone species in Londonderry. According to Allen, TACF granted "six American Chestnut seedlings" to the area last spring. Those are some of the ones that were planted by the school children.

Looking forward, Allen and his crew plan to continue working on the trails in and around the forest so locals can enjoy the new trees. Recycled Asphalt Pavement had already been applied to the Morrison House and Outlook trails, thanks to assis-

tance from the Department of Public Works. Allen hopes to have more RAP laid on the Adams Pond trail by Memorial Day. He also wishes to paint the crosswalks at the Common and the Morrison House by then as well.

The Kent Allen Forest is located off of the town common at the intersection of Pillsbury Road and Mammoth Road. The 12 acre parcel was originally part of Mack's Apples. The Mack family donated part of the land in 1984, and the town bought the rest later on. Allen has been dedicated to preserving and beautifying the forests and cemeteries of Londonderry as its sexton since 2005. The town forest was renamed after Allen last May in a dedication ceremony where Town Manager Kevin Smith presented Allen with a plaque bearing his name for future generations to be inspired by every time they visit the forest.

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.

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Relay for Life Kicks Off New Season This Saturday in Derry

KATIE O'DONNELL
LONDONDERRY TIMES

On Sunday, Feb. 11, the Derry-Londonderry Relay for Life will kick-off another season with a fun, informal informational session at The Grind Rail Trail Café in Derry from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Relay for Life “is the premiere fundraising event” for the American Cancer Society, said Jackie Leavitt. She is the event leader for the relay at Pinkerton Academy, which is scheduled to be

held on June 23.

Relay for Life events are usually held overnight, but this year, the one at Pinkerton will be held during the day.

“This year we’re really trying to change it around,” said Leavitt. She’s hoping this will encourage more survivors, caregivers and families to participate. “We always want to honor the survivors and caregivers as much as we can.”

Leavitt has been involved with the Derry-Londonderry Relay for Life for the last five of the

event’s 20 years. Her fellow event leader, Bonnie Roberts has been involved for 15 years. They are both passionate about supporting the American Cancer Society and all of the programs that are funded through the relay walks.

“There’s so many things that the funds that we raise go towards,” said Leavitt. Some of the programs include cancer research, the “Look Good, Feel Better” which helps cancer survivors deal with their appearance

post-chemotherapy, and the Hope Lodge, which offers free accommodations to cancer patients and their families who need to travel long distances for treatment.

Leavitt said last year’s Pinkerton relay raised around \$85,000 for the ACS, and over \$1 million since it started.

“If we could blow that out of the water, we’d love to,” she exclaimed.

She and Roberts rely heavily on corporate donations to make the event run. All costs come

out of what is donated by the participants, so any services, time or goods that businesses offer allow more money to go to the ACS’s programs. Leavitt said they are “always looking for businesses” to help give to the relay.

Local restaurants donate food, while clubs around town volunteer to staff or cook, and some of the trash services offer to help with the clean-up. Usually, Leavitt said, about 20 of the smaller

local businesses and 10 to 15 corporations donate to the event.

It’s not only businesses that Leavitt and Roberts want to see get involved. The most important part of any Relay for Life is the people who come to support the cause. On average, about 600 to 900 people come to Pinkerton every year for the walk, said Leavitt.

“It’s a nice event on the Pinkerton track,” Leavitt explained. She and her team put together a series of other events throughout the day, like games, a photo booth and a bounce house. “The possibilities are endless to make it a really fun day,” she said.

Cancer survivors, caregivers, community members and supports all come together at the relay. Leavitt said Pinkerton and Londonderry High School usually have at least 4 teams each that attend, one from each grade. She’s had teams from the middle school and as young as elemen-

tary kids come.

“It’s such a fun day for the kids to come out, Leavitt said. “We’re there to celebrate the survivors and the caregivers.”

At the end of the night, once the sun sets, the relay begins its “Illuminati Ceremony,” which honors those who have lost the fight to cancer with an hour of silence and the lighting of lamps that are laid down the track.

“It’s a very emotional hour,” said Leavitt.

There is no cost to join and anyone can participate. You can be a group of one, or 100. You can raise a dollar or a million. You can be a survivor, a caregiver, someone who has lost a loved one to cancer or just want to help those who have.

“We all have our own personal stories of why we join relay,” said Leavitt.

Anyone who wants to participate can go to the info session on Feb. 11 at 11 a.m. at The Grind Rail Trail Café or contact Leavitt at derryrlf@gmail.com.

Londonderry School District Presents: SCREENAGERS

LORI COSTA
LONDONDERRY TIMES

The Londonderry School District is proud to announce it will be hosting the film “SCREENAGERS” for the community to enjoy. The film will be presented on Thursday, March 15 at 6:30 - 8 p.m. at the Londonderry High School cafeteria.

What is “SCREENAGERS?” This film follows the life of physician and filmmaker Delaney Ruston, who found her kids constantly on their phones and texting and playing the days away. Ruston not only looks at her family’s behavior with technology, but also uncovers the truths about social media, video games, academics,

and the dangers of internet addiction. SCREENAGERS addresses these issues through humor, stories, and insights from various authors, psychologists, and brain scientists.

This film also offers advice to adults on one of the biggest issues facing parenting today, how to have a life that is based in technology and how to raise children in said world. SCREENAGERS tackles these issues and gives parents a new outlook on how to address the issues that come about with using social media and the internet. This film also empowers kids how to use technology properly and provides the resources on how to

do so.

To register for this event and view the trailer for the film, please visit: <https://impactflow.com/event/presented-by-londonderry-high-school-6606>. Admission is free and all are welcome.

This is a great opportunity to learn how to talk to your kids about the proper uses of technology and how to limit the use of it overall for a healthier lifestyle.

It also reminds us all that it is never too late to ask for help if you feel you are addicted.

Again, the film will be presented on Thursday, March 15 from 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the LHS cafeteria.

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LHS Teachers Showcase Their Talents For Fundraiser

KATIE O'DONNELL
LONDONDERRY TIMES

At Londonderry High School's "You can teach, ...but can you sing and dance?" competition, the educators put the fun in fundraising. The annual event, sponsored by the Math Team, is in its ninth year, and some of the teachers, like Casey Roop, have been rocking out to support it since the beginning.

"I haven't missed one," said Roop.

Most students don't usually think about what their teachers do after the school bell rings, but Roop and a few others have made it their mission to show their students that the LHS teachers' got talent.

"We have a really solid core group that helps out every year," said Mike Wenger, Math Team advisor and founder of the competition.

The team uses the contest to help cover costs for some of their trips. Members helped to serve refreshments during intermission and sold tickets are the door. There are about 15 or so students that actively participate, according to Wenger.

"That's good because the mini bus only holds 15," he said with a laugh.

The show consisted of six acts, most of them showcasing the musical strengths of the contestants. Biff Prince started off the night with some old-time rock and roll, while Andrew Kiniry brought out coffee house style acoustic versions of songs like Outkast's "Hey Yeah." Later in the evening, Caitlin Johnson

impressed the crowd with a movie medley on her flute and her rendition of John Lennon's "Imagine," with Roop on guitar. He then took the stage to solo a few songs himself. Finally, as the "Fabulous Faculty 5," Liz Juster Ed Burgess, Hannah Willis, Amy Sanborn and Joanne Blake showed off their lip syncing skills and danced along to the Jackson 5 classic, "A, B, C."

Steve Juster served as the master of ceremonies, even wowing the crowd with a series of card tricks that left the audience baffled.

The only non-musical group was the Improv Comedy Troupe. The advisor, Zach Paone was unable to make it due to illness. That did not stop the motley crew from trying to recreate the "real" reason why he wasn't able to make it. Andrew Maynard, Sean Daley, Ben Dionne, Alp Oykar and Sean Sully performed a scene where Paone's wife gave birth and then transformed into something completely different, like on an episode of "Whose Line Is It Anyway?"

The competition was judged by members of the Senior Class Board. The five of them enjoyed being able to judge their teaches for once. When asked why they participated, Secretary Shannon Froser replied, "it's like, a tradition."

Two of her fellow members, Activities Coordinator Luke Cava and President Jeff Cieslikowski were excited to see what the teachers had to offer.

"I've always wanted to see what my teachers do



Sean Sullivan, Sean Daley, Casey Roop and Liz Juster encourage the audience in a sing-along to "Sweet Caroline." Photos by Katie O'Donnell.

behind the scene," said Cava.

Cieslikowski said he's been coming every year because "it's a lot of fun... it's nice to see them have fun outside the classroom."

The teachers weren't the only ones having fun on stage. Roop teased the judges about being brave enough to perform in front of the crowd.

"I'm gonna sit in your seat and judge you in risk taking," Roop joked.

Jill Doris, the prom chair called his bluff and joined him on stage for Rascal Flatt's version of "Life is a Highway," from Disney's Cars. Doris warned everyone that she

was tone deaf, but sang her heart out nonetheless to roaring applause.

Each contestant took home an award with Johnson winning "Most Talented," Roop getting "Best Performance, Prince winning "Biggest Risk Taker," the Fabulous Faculty 5 getting "Most Creative" and Kiniry taking home the coveted "Best Overall."

After the show, Prince said he does it "for the glory." He laughed and said, "they keep telling me it's good for my career." On a more serious note, Prince explained he keeps coming back because the contest "shows our humanity during the day that they don't always



LHS students Sean Daley and Ben Dionne drum up laughs during their improve routine at the Teacher Talent Show.

see," referring to his students. He feels it helps him build a better connection with them.

Roop said he likes that the competition helps the community through charitable giving. Last year,

the Math Team donated some of the money they raised to the End 68 Hours of Hunger program, which seeks to feed needy children during the weekend.

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Unified Snow Ball The Londonderry High School Unified Snowball Semi-Formal dance was held recently in the schools cafeteria. Students from neighboring schools also joined in on the fun of dinner and dancing. Pictured at left, Nick Stebbins, Olivia Mountain, Emily Nelson and Urvi Chakraborty enjoy pose for a picture. At right, Denise Gaspie, Courtney Rainie, Arison Krytenberg, Katherine Ryan and Brianna Ho pose for a group photo before dinner.
Photos by Katie O'Donnell.



Lancers Take to the Parquet and Perform During Celtics Halftime



The Londonderry Lancers take no time to rest after their performance in the 2018 Tournament of Roses Parade as the Drumline performed a halftime show for the Boston Celtics on Friday, Feb. 2. The drumline has performed for the Celtics annually since 2007 at both regular season and playoff games. Next Sunday, Feb. 11, the Marching Lancers will then perform the National Anthem as well as on-the-ice during the first intermission for the Manchester Monarchs. This has been a yearly tradition for the Lancers since 2008.

Courtesy photos

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LONDONDERRY SPORTS

Lady Lancer Basketball Squad Edges Toward .500 With Wins

CHRIS PANTAZIS
LONDONDERRY TIMES

Coach Nick Theos saw his young but developing Londonderry High girls' basketball squad edge its way closer to the .500 mark with victories over Nashua South and Salem last week.

Since starting its 2017-18 season with four losses, the young LHS crew has gone 5-3 in tough Division I in exhibiting the talent which veteran coach Theos and his assistants know is there. However, the Lady Lancers entered this week facing a couple of challenging road battles against two of the better teams in the league.

The locals bounced their divisional record up to 4-7 with a pleasing but somewhat lackluster, 53-44 defeat of the visiting Nashua South Lady Purple Panthers at LHS last Tuesday, Jan. 30. South slipped to 4-6 with the loss.

The locals won every quarter but the fourth, tallying leads of 11-3 after one quarter, 27-18 at halftime, and 41-27 bounding into the final stanza.

The Lady Panthers

outscored their hosts by a 17-12 margin in the fourth quarter but couldn't come all the way back.

Londonderry sophomore standout guard Courtney Shay led the victorious locals with 15 points - with nine of those coming from the free throw line on 12 tries - and Michelle Marino and Ashley Rourke contributed 12 and 10 points respectively. Charlotte Sullivan was good for seven points, and Colleen Furlong netted six points with a pair of three-pointers.

"We came out well defensively, holding South early while the offense got going," said LHS coach Nick Theos. "It was a very tough, physical game and foul-shooting was key in the first half. We shot an amazing 10 for 10. The second half was even more physical and South made their run. Luckily, the girls stayed strong and held them back with a couple of key baskets late by Rourke and Marino. It's good to see we can win when we aren't playing our best. That shows a lot of growth from this team.



Freshman Ashley Rourke has been playing like a battle-tested veteran for the LHS girls' hoop team, and she led the Lady Lancers with 21 big points against Salem. Photo by Chris Paul

Hopefully a game we can continue to build off of."

Theos and his charges then faced off with the visiting Salem High Lady Blue Devils at LHS on Friday night, Feb. 2. And when the final buzzer sounded the

locals had a hard-fought, 63-59 victory which made them 5-7 in D-I.

The Lady Lancers were like a whirlwind in quarter one, sprinting out to a 20-0 lead from which the Salem contingent was

able to rebound with stellar long-distance shooting to make it a game.

The Lady Devils outscored their hosts in each of the next three periods but trailed by tallies of 34-18 at halftime and 51-36 going into the final stanza.

Salem outscored Londonderry by a 23-12 margin in the fourth quarter, but coach Theos' troop was able to hang on tight for the win.

Freshman Rourke tallied the most point in the LHS effort with 21 points and sophomore Shay was good for 15.

"We played our best ball of the season to start the game," said Theos. "We moved the ball, made the right pass, the right shot, and we finished. The entire starting five scored in the first, including 10 from Rourke. Then Salem began hitting their threes. They hit 14 three-pointers in all, and we were actually playing defense. They couldn't miss, including seven threes in the fourth. But we stayed calm and hit a few clutch lay-ups down the stretch, and then in a two-point game with nine seconds

left Shay stepped to the line and hit both ends of a one-and-one to make it a four-point game. It was clutch by her, and by our guards like Colleen Furlong taking care of the ball when Salem was making their comeback."

The victorious locals also received eight points and double-digit rebounds from Charlotte Sullivan.

"Another tough win, but we are becoming the group I thought we could be. We just need to be more consistent. If that happens then the sky is the limit for where this team can go," said Theos.

The Lady Lancers then faced the two, aforementioned battles with tough opponents this week out on the road. First was a Tuesday night contest at Winnacunnet in Hampton - after Londonderry Times press time - followed by a shorter drive over to Derry on Friday to face a Pinkerton Lady Astros' crew which bested the previously-unbeaten Manchester Memorial Lady Crusaders in their own gym in a big D-I contest late last week.

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Lancer Hockey Squad Splits Games With Nashuans and Concord

CHRIS PANTAZIS
LONDONDERRY TIMES

A pleasing victory over the Nashua South-Pelham contingent followed by a somewhat frustrating, 1-0 loss to the excellent Concord High contingent last week left the Londonderry High hockey squad

skating into this week contemplating a Division I record which was once again a slim notch below .500. The now 5-6-1 Lancers handed the visiting South-Pelham bunch a 5-2 defeat at the Tri-Town Arena on the afternoon of Wednesday, Jan. 31, but the locals

were not able to tickle the twine with any of the 13 shots they put on the Concord cage at the Everett Arena in the state capital on Saturday, Feb. 3 in a tough, one-goal defeat. In the pleasing success over a South-Pelham crew which began action with a 4-7 record, LHS coach Peter Bedford's bunch bagged two unanswered goals in the first period, outscored its opponent by a 2-1 tally in the second, and walked away with a 5-2 victory which placed it right at the .500 mark in D-I at 5-5-1. The victorious locals received multi-point games from Nate Andrews, Patrick Murphy, Anthony Federico and Jake Parilla in claiming the pleasing success. The Lancers were dominant through most of the first period, outshooting their guests by an 8-1 tally through the first seven minutes and grabbing a 1-0 lead with 8:37 left in the stanza when Andrews tucked home a rebound. Murphy and Federico garnered the assists.

It became a 2-0 contest with 2:15 to go in the period when Mike McCormick zipped home a wrist shot, with Parilla and Austin Cantosi claiming the assists. That period ended with LHS grasping that 2-0 lead and a huge, 17-5 advantage in shots on net. Londonderry also finished with a massive advantage in shots on in the second period (12-2), and its lead bulged to 4-0 on tallies from Murphy (assists to Federico and Andrews) with 10:48 to go in the stanza and Andrews on a power-play marker (from Federico and Parilla) just 2:20 later. The Nashuans then snuffed out the Lancers' shutout hopes a mere 40 seconds after that fourth LHS goal, and the score sat at 4-1 when the teams left the ice following stanza two. Londonderry drove its lead up to 5-1 on a man-up tally from Federico - set up by Murphy - 4:29 into the third period, and the visiting side didn't get into double digits in shots on net until 5:10 remained in the game. The Nashuans potted their second goal of the day with 50.7 seconds left on the clock, and 5-2 was where the scoring would end. The Lancers finished up with a 40-14 advantage in shots on net, with goalie Cam Donovan turning aside 12 blasts in making his contribution to the win. Diminutive South-Pelham goalie Nate Serrentino stood up tall for his squad, making 35 saves. Were it not for him and

his impressive play, Londonderry certainly would have finished with double digits in goals. "I liked what I saw today at times, but there are still things we need to be working on," said coach Bedford. "I'm glad we were able to get our fifth win here." But the locals absorbed their sixth loss in their tough league the following Saturday in that hard-fought, 1-0 loss to a Concord contingent which began play at 9-1 and with a six-game winning streak rolling. The Crimson Tide netted the game's only goal in the first period and then did superb work in

minimizing Londonderry's scoring chances the rest of the way. The Lancers finished with just 13 shots on Concord keeper Spencer Burgess, with their best offensive flurry coming with a bit less than three minutes left in the final period during a power-play when they put three testing shots on the rival goalie. This week's slate had the Lancers set to play host to Exeter High's Blue Hawks on Wednesday - weather permitting, after Londonderry Times press time - followed by a Saturday road trip to play the Nashua North-Souhegan entry in the Gate City.



Veteran star Patrick Murphy and his LHS hockey teammates saw their record sit just under the .500 mark to start this week. Photo by Chris Pantazis

Athletes of the Week

Week of Jan. 28



Jack Anderson,
Sophomore,
Boys' Basketball
This talented 10th grader has stepped up in a big way for his Lancers, making big plays and averaging 20 points per game recently. He has been consistent and always helps put the team in a position to win.



Brigid Kennedy,
Junior,
Unified Basketball
A skilled 11th grader, this hoopster has demonstrated great improvement this season. Her sportsmanship, teamwork, and basketball skills have been real assets to the team.

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Split of Decisions Leaves LHS Boys' Basketball at 6-4 in D-I

CHRIS PANTAZIS
LONDONDERRY TIMES

The Londonderry High boys' basketball squad has not been enjoying the best of times recently. And with its slim road loss to the Salem High Blue Devils last Friday night, Feb. 2, the Lancers had dropped four of their last five games and slipped to 6-4 in tough Division I.

The locals squeaked out a tough, 55-51 win over the Nashua South Purple Panthers in the Gate City last Tuesday, Jan. 30, and upped their Division I record to a pretty strong 6-3 in doing so.

After having coach Nate Stanton take his crew to task in the loudest possible terms following their disappointing

loss to struggling Pinkerton in Ball Family Trophy action the previous Friday, the Lancers came out and made sure they'd collect a win against the 4-3 Nashua contingent.

The score was knotted up at 15-15 after one period, but the host squad doubled up on its guests where scoring was concerned in the second quarter (14-7) in heading to halftime up 29-22.

The Lancers then ruled the third quarter, outscoring the Purple Panthers by a big 20-8 margin in carrying a lead of 42-37 into the last stanza.

South outscored its guest by a 14-13 margin in the fourth but couldn't pull out the decision.

Jack Anderson (20

points) and Dakota Bertrand (17) combined for 37 of their squad's points, with Ethan May contributing six and Cole Britting adding five.

The Lancers and coach Stanton then traveled to Salem to play ex-Blue Devil Stanton's former squad on the New Hampshire/Massachusetts border on Friday night, Feb. 2. But the decision didn't go the locals' way this time around.

The host Salem crew's divisional record moved up to 6-4 with its 47-44 success, in which the Blue Devils raced out to a 10-4 lead in quarter one but then got outscored by Londonderry by a 16-14 tally in quarter two. That left the Devils leading by a slim four points at 24-20

rolling into the second half.

The Lancers outscored their hosts by a 24-23 tally in the second half, trailing by six points at 34-28 going into the fourth quarter.

Anderson paced the Londonderry offense with 21 points, May was good for nine, and Britting contributed six.

Coach Stanton's squad stepped into this week hoping to right itself against a pair of seacoast opponents. The locals played host to the Winnacunnet High Warriors of Hampton this Wednesday the 6th - after Londonderry Times press time - before heading to the beautiful port city of Portsmouth on Friday night, Feb. 9.



Sophomore Jack Anderson has been a big point-producer for the LHS boys' basketball team, picking up some of the slack from the pre-season loss of Ethan Garofolo to injury. Anderson scored 20 or more points in both of his squad's contests against South and Salem last week. Photo by Chris Paul

Lancer Track Squads Were Mostly Observers at D-I Indoor Championships

CHRIS PANTAZIS
LONDONDERRY TIMES

Londonderry High School's boys' and girls' indoor track and field squads have both enjoyed noteworthy successes at state championship events over the decades. But neither the Lancer males nor the Lady Lancers played significant roles at the 2017-18 Division I championships in Dartmouth

College's Leverone Fieldhouse in Hanover this past Sunday, Feb. 4.

The arch-rival Pinkerton Academy contingents ruled the day, with the Astro males claiming their sixth D-I crown in the last seven years and the Lady Astros bagging the very first state title in their program's history.

The Astro guys notched some 90.33 points to easily best the

runner-up Nashua North Titans (68.33), with Londonderry finishing eighth overall with 10 points.

The Lancers' biggest news was made by weight events star Patrick Hagearty, who tallied eight of his team's points by finishing second in the shot put with an effort of 46 feet, 6 1/2 inches. The other two points came via the squad's 4x800 relay quartet's fifth place in its

event (time of 8 minutes, 33.55 seconds).

The Lady Lancers went scoreless on the day, although veteran standout Kalin Gregoire (seventh in the 1,000-meter run) and the 4x800 quartet (ninth) did both collect top-10 finishes.

Like many of the other teams with long rides to Hanover, the LHS athletes then had a harrowing trip home in heavy snow.

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Lancer Gymnasts End Their Regular Season in Superb Fashion

CHRIS PANTAZIS
LONDONDERRY TIMES

The Londonderry High girls' gymnastics squad capped off its excellent 2017-18 regular season with a superb performance in a

five-team meet on Senior Night in its home gymnasium on the final day of January last Wednesday.

Coach Heather Lennon's Lancers tallied a score of 132.05, which was nearly 26 points bet-

ter than the 106.8 scored by the runner-up contingent from Dover High. Spaulding of Rochester placed third (105.25), Milford was fourth (90.8), and Merrimack brought up the rear (74.1).

The victorious LHS crew got event wins from Mira Kutney on both the uneven bars (8.5) and the balance beam (8.9), Maddie Croteau on the vault (9.0), and Ashley Griffin in the floor exercise (8.5). Kutney also won the all-around (34.25) with her teammate Croteau in second place (33.45).

Other second places were snagged by Ashley Griffin on vault (8.7), Seana Kelly on bars (8.1), Croteau on beam (tied with an 8.7), and Kutney on floor (8.3).

Thirds were collected by Kutney on vault (8.65) and Croteau on bars (7.75) and in the floor exercise (8.0).

"Tonight we celebrated our four seniors Gianina DelViscovo, Courtney Baharian, Mira Kutney, and Tyla Kelley," said coach Lennon. "They

have all been on the team for all four years and leaders and role models to the rest of the girls. We will truly miss them and wish them all the best of luck with the next chapter in their lives."

But the LHS crew still has a bit of important work ahead of it, with the state championship meet forthcoming and Pinkerton intent on staying champ.

"The next week and a

half we are really focusing and honing in on our routines. We have our eyes set on states at the University of New Hampshire on February 10," said the coach following that last regular season meet.



LHS senior gymnastics star Mira Kutney proved unbeatable on the balance beam in her team's last regular season meet. Photo by Chris Paul

Lancer Wrestlers Fall Under Tide, Fare Better in Fairfield

CHRIS PANTAZIS
LONDONDERRY TIMES

After falling by a lopsided margin of 68-12 to the always-tough Concord High Crimson Tide in the state capital last Wednesday, Jan. 31, the Londonderry High wrestling team found a good amount of success at the 21st Annual New Fairfield Duals in Connecticut over the week-end.

In the New Hampshire dual meet at Concord during the middle of last week, coach Jason Cucolo's Lancers received individual victories from Craig Santos on a pin at 145 pounds and Ben Psaledas on a pin in the 182-pound bout. Santos vanquished his opponent at the 2:39 mark of their match, and Psaledas pinned his rival some 2:55 into their bout.

But at the annual Connecticut duals event on Saturday, Feb. 3, Londonderry balanced out team losses to Bristol Eastern (69-17) and Simsbury (47-30) with victories over New Fairfield (24-22) and



Veteran Londonderry wrestling standout Craig Santos tallied one of just two bout wins his squad got against Concord recently. Photo by Chris Paul

Harding (24-3).

The locals were scheduled to cap off their regular season by hosting the Bedford High Bulldogs at Londonderry High School on Wednesday, Jan. 7 - after Londonderry Times press time - but winter

weather looked as though it would postpone that event and with it, the team's scheduled Senior Night festivities. The locals will also play host to the Division I championships on Saturday, Feb. 17.

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Local Girls Help NEGTC Teams to Success at Bay State Event



The New England Gymnastics Training Center's Level 4 team got strong performances from a number of Londonderry girls in winning its age group's title at the Winter Carnival Invitational in Massachusetts recently.

CHRIS PANTAZIS
LONDONDERRY TIMES

No less than three New England Gymnastics Training Center teams collected first places and a total of five of them went top five at the Winter Carnival Invitational at Dracut (Mass.) High School in late January. And Londonderry gymnasts played important roles in much of the local center's success.

NEGTC teams and gymnasts took part in Level 3 through 8 competition as well as Xcel Bronze and Xcel Platinum action. And the local school's Level 3, 4, and 5 contingents all proved unbeatable. Additionally, the Xcel Bronze and Xcel Platinum contingents both finished fourth.

As far as individual performances from Lon-

donderry girls were concerned, Hayley Doyle had top-10 finishes in the all-around, vaulting, uneven bar, balance beam, and floor exercise competitions in her Level 3 Child division.

In the Level 4 Child class, Katherine Rowan took first places in the all-around (36.650), vaulting (9.050), and on the bars (9.450) and went top three on beam and floor as well. Her teammate Addison Doyle snagged a second on beam and had other strong finishes on vault, bars, floor, and in the all-around.

In Level 4 Junior competition, Shana Hatfield proved unbeatable in the all-around (37.300) and on beam (9.500), and collected seconds on vault, bars, and floor.

Also on that level, Cailee Anderson went top

10 in every event and the all-around as well.

Level 4 Senior stalwart Sophia Beauregard snared second on the bars and went top 10 in every other event as well as the all-around.

Level 5 athlete Faith Carrier bagged top 10 finishes in every event as well as the all-around, and Xcel Bronze Senior competitor Ava Bicchieri was a top-12 finisher in every event as well as the all-around.

And in Xcel Silver Intermediate action, Riley Doyle did her team and her athletic family proud with top-15 efforts in all events and the all-around.

The NEGTC squads are coached by owner/coach Tim Madore, Mel Stoller, Justine Turner, Sherry Harper, Georgia Dougherty, and Robin Flaven.



Buoyed by strong performances from Londonderry girls, the NEGTC's Level 3 squad (shown above) and Level 5 crews joined the Level 4 bunch in bagging titles at the recent Winter Carnival event in Massachusetts. Courtesy photos

Londonderry High Skiers Show Plenty in Meets in Henniker and Newbury

CHRIS PANTAZIS
LONDONDERRY TIMES

Londonderry High School's girls' and boys' ski teams competed quite well in meets at both Pat's Peak in Henniker and at Mount Sunapee in Newbury last week.

In the Monday, Jan. 29 slalom-only event in Henniker, the Lady Lancers tallied some 360 points to finish third behind Bedford (390) and Pinkerton (364) but ahead of the squads from Timberlane of Plaistow, Nashua South, and Winnacunnet

of Hampton.

The Lancer males finished fifth out of six contingents with a tally of 335 points that day.

The Londonderry crews then both played host to a bunch of opponents in slalom and giant slalom events at the Mount Sunapee resort on Thursday, Feb. 1.

The Lady Lancers took second in the giant slalom - one point ahead of Pinkerton - and third in the slalom. The LHS boys wound up fifth in the GS and the slalom as well.

Both Londonderry High crews will close out their regular seasons at Pat's Peak this Thursday, Feb. 8.



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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.

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 at Episcopal Church of the Transfiguration Derry, on Feb.11, from 5 - 6:30 p.m.; Dinner at St. Luke's, Derry, on Feb.17, from 5 - 6:30 p.m.; Dinner at Etz Hayim Synagogue Derry, on Feb. 18, from 5 - 6:15 p.m.; Dinner at First Parish, Derry, on Feb.23, from 5 - 6:30 p.m.; Breakfast at Episcopal Church of the Transfiguration, on Feb.25, from 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.; Lunch at St. Jude's Church, on Feb.25, from 1:30 - 2:30p.m.; For more information, please visit: reemealsin-derry.blogspot.com

Author Signing

Local artist and author, Debbie Curtin, will be signing her award-winning military novel, "Today is the Day" on Saturday, Feb. 24, from 1 - 3 p.m., in the Manchester Barnes & Noble store on South Willow Street. Stop by for a meet and greet with the author. In support of our military, Veteran's Count will receive a portion of the sales.

American Legion Meeting

On Feb. 12, the monthly General Meeting for American Legion Post 27 will be held at 6 Sargent Rd in Londonderry (behind the fire station on Mammoth Road). All members are welcome to attend. Nominations for the 2018 Executive Board will be made at the meeting.

Karaoke Night

On Feb. 16, the American Legion will host Karaoke Night with DJ Sharon, starting at 7 p.m. at 6 Sargent Rd in Londonderry (behind the fire station

on Mammoth Road). Non-members interested in joining Post 27 are welcome to attend.

VA Bingo

On Feb. 26, American Legion Post 27 will be playing bingo with patients at the VA Hospital in Manchester from 7 - 8:30 p.m. We'll be serving pizza and diet soda as well as providing \$150 in prize money.

Yoga Classes for Seniors

The Londonderry Senior Center is offering yoga classes to the senior community. Barbara Scott and Lisa Kress will conduct an eight-week series of affordably priced yoga classes which are designed especially for seniors to help increase balance, flexibility and strength, as well as maintaining well-being. Sign up for either the Tuesday or Thursday class, or both. New session begins on Tues., Feb. 27 from 9 - 10 a.m. at the Londonderry Senior Center, 535 Mammoth Rd., Londonderry. Pre-registration is required and begins two weeks prior to the starting date. For more details call the Senior Center at 432-8554.

Library Hours

The hours for the Leach Library during February; Mon.-Thur., 9 a.m. - 8 p.m., Fri.-Sat., 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. The library will be closed on Mon., Feb. 19, for Presidents Day.

"Honey and Mead"

Leach Library to host "Honey and Mead" on Thur., Feb. 15 at 7 p.m., the Leach Library welcomes Berniece Van Der Berg who will present "Honey and Mead".

Book Bingo

The Leach Library will host Book Bingo on Tues., Feb. 20 from 4 - 5 p.m. All participants will win, and have a chance to choose,

books from our special selection tables. 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 9:00 a.m. on Mon., Feb. 12.

Model Railroading

On February 9, the seacoast division of the National Model Railroad Association is running their Derry Fun Night program. The program is held the second Friday night of each month, 7 - 9 p.m., at the Marion Gerrish Community Center, 39 West Broadway, Derry. If you are interested in model trains and would like to join other like-minded hobbyists from beginner to expert for a fun evening program come to Derry Fun Night the second Friday of each month. For additional information go to the Division's website at seacoastnmra.org/calendar.

New Location Republican Committee

The Londonderry Republican Committee (LRC) has exciting news. We now have a new "home" for our meetings. The Victory Baptist Church under the direction of Pastor Tim Hawkins has graciously offered the use of their conference room for our monthly meetings. These meetings will be held there on the third Thursday of each month, 6:30 p.m.

Arts Cafe

The Londonderry Arts Council's Arts Café returns Saturday, Feb. 10. A day of music, art and coffee returns for the 4th year from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. at the Londonderry Senior Center on 535 Mammoth Road (adjacent to Rockingham Road/Mammoth Roads. Admission to this event is free. For more information Email: Events@londonderryArtsCouncil.org



Local Rotary Supports Liberty House

The Londonderry Rotary Club held its semi-monthly new member open house on Wednesday, Jan. 31 at the Coach Stop Restaurant. While several new, prospective Rotarians attended the event, the highlight of the evening was a donation made to Liberty House of Manchester. Pictured, Michael Dolan, Londonderry Rotary President, presents a check in the amount of \$5,650 to Jeff Nelson, Executive Director of Liberty House. This donation supports the mission of Rotary, "service above self" and continues in the Londonderry Rotary's

tradition of support for Liberty House. For more than a decade, Liberty House has been providing a safe, supportive, substance-free housing community for American veterans transitioning out of homelessness. Since 2004, it has helped over 300 homeless veterans. Londonderry Rotary will hold another open house for prospective members in March. For those interested in joining Rotary and helping organizations such as Liberty House, contact Michael Dolan mikepdolan@comcast.net or Faye Sell faye@martinellitravel.com.

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.

Needle Crafts

Although the long winter months lie before us, the needlecraft books we have on display at Leach Library this month will help you have fun and keep warm indoors. Whether you are a beginner or a seasoned expert, we have something for you. If you have a specific craft or project in mind, the Leach Library Reference Staff can help find the right book for you.

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.

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.

LEEP Applications

Are you considering preschool for your child? If your child turned 3 by September 1st 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. Programs for three-year old preschoolers meet from 8:45-11:00 AM either 2 or 4 days per week and our

program for our prekindergarten students meet from 12 - 2:30 p.m. either 3 or 4 days per week. How do I apply? 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.

Community Meals Network

Join the Community Meals Network 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. Feb.11, Dinner at Episcopal Church of the Transfiguration Derry, 5 to 6:30 p.m. Feb.17, Dinner at St. Luke's, Derry 5 to 6:30 p.m. Feb.18, Dinner at Etz Hayim Synagogue Derry, 5 to 6:15 p.m. Feb. 23, Dinner at First

Continued on page 19

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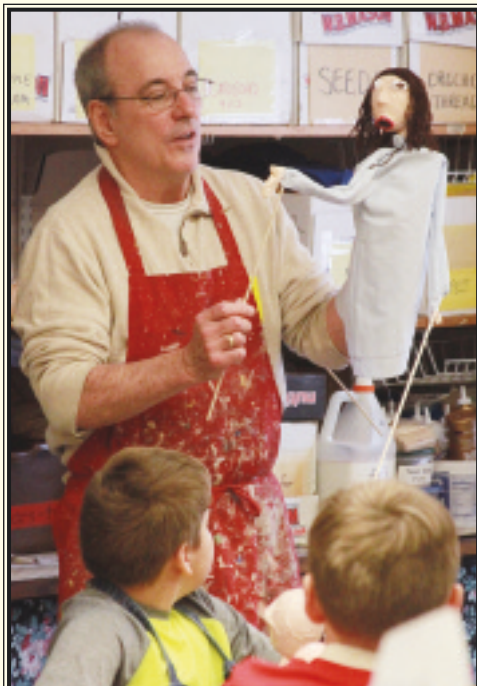
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South School Fifth Graders Learn the Fine Art of Puppetry



Fifth grade students in Marcia Connors Art Classes have been visited by Artist in Residence, Pat Picciano, on a weekly basis. He has been showing students how to create, paint, and assemble puppets over the past few weeks. He will soon be attaching the heads to bodies and practice operating the puppets and making up creative stories for the puppets over the next two weeks.

Photos by Chris Paul

Police Log

Continued from page 18

Mart on Nashua Road. Jeannea Keenan, 27, of Manchester charged with

Disobeying an Officer, Driving after Revocation or Suspension, Obstructing Government Administration and two Bench Warrants.

4:45 p.m. Attempted Suicide transported to hospital from Garden Lane.

9:10 p.m. Assault victim on Winterwood Drive transported to hospital.

Around Town

Continued from page 16

Parish, Derry 5 to 6:30 p.m. Feb.25, Breakfast Episcopal Church of the Transfiguration, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Feb.25, Lunch at St. Jude's, 1:30-2:30 p.m. For more information, visit: reemealsinderry.blogspot.com.

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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.

Greater Manchester Lyme Disease Support Group

Hosted by David Hunter, the group meets on the third Wednesday of every month at 6:30 p.m. at the Bedford Presbyterian Church 4 Church Road Bedford. For more information call 660-3425 or email dhunter31@gmail.com

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