

# Londonderry Times

April 9, 2015 ♦ Volume 16 – Issue 15

A FREE Weekly Publication



## Eager Eggers

Hundreds of eager egg hunters descended on the fields at Londonderry High School for an egg hunt hosted by the Class of 2016 on Saturday morning. Along with the hunt, attendees were treated to lots of games. See more photos page 19.

*Photo by Chris Paul*

## State's Aging Population, Lack of In-Migration Noted

KAITLYN G. WOODS  
LONDONDERRY TIMES

Rockingham County is expected to see a significant increase in jobs over the next decade, but participation in the workforce is expected to decline as the state's population ages.

This creates an economic problem, econo-

mist Dennis Delay of the New Hampshire Center for Public Policy Studies told the Planning Board at its April 1 meeting.

Delay said the implication is the state's labor force will be a limiting factor on the ability of New Hampshire to grow in the future.

Member Chris Davies

asked if the drop in the workforce eligible population will put pressure on wages and impact how attractive New Hampshire is to people looking to move into the state.

"That's another way the market will solve the problem. I think you will see a lot of upward pres-

**continued on page 3**

## Town Manager Imposes Indefinite Spending Freeze

KAITLYN G. WOODS  
LONDONDERRY TIMES

Town Manager Kevin Smith informed town staff last week he is implementing a spending freeze on all discretionary spending.

The Town expended about 2 percent more of the budget by March 31 than Smith said he would generally like to see, and the spending freeze will remain in place until he sees spending more in line, under the expenditure level.

"Areas of overage are in legal bills, which historically have been on the high end for the last few years due to a number of issues we have had to use

the Town Attorney for," Smith told the Town Council at their April 6 meeting. "The Fire Department has over the last few years been running over. The number is trending right where it should be for the end of March, but due to a number of injuries and long-term illnesses the department is experiencing, we expect the department to be trending up at the end of the Fiscal Year."

The Town's Legal Expenses line was budgeted \$174,500; as of March 31, the Town had expended \$174,877 of the legal budget, or 100.2 percent.

Other overspent line items include the Town

Council's Miscellaneous Expenditures line; overtime and printing budgeted under the Zoning Board; and repairs and maintenance under General Government, which are overspent by \$38,000.

Councilor Tom Dolan expressed concern the Town is going to see an increase in the number of small road repairs that will have to be done this summer.

"I want to make sure we hold enough money in the reserve to fix potholes the town roads will give birth to as the weather gets warmer and we put this winter behind us," he said.

**continued on page 3**

## Options Sought to Pay for Fire Department Over-Expenditures

KAITLYN G. WOODS  
LONDONDERRY TIMES

The Town Council directed the Town Manager and Fire Chief to present this week options for subsidizing an estimated \$150,000 over-expenditure by the Fire Department due to unanticipated expenses related to injuries and long-term illnesses.

Londonderry Fire Chief Darren O'Brien said replacement costs associated with vacancies due to injuries, sick leave, vacation leave, and personal leave account for 88 percent of the Department's overtime costs of \$470,337 in FY15 to date.

The average overtime replacement cost per

month is \$52,259, according to O'Brien. Other overtime costs for off-duty response, concurrent duties such as public outreach and training account for the remaining 12 percent of overtime costs.

In August 2012, the administration adopted a staffing model intended to provide better service to the community and lessen response times to certain districts in town that calls for staffing a firefighter/paramedic, firefighter EMT (emergency medical technician) and battalion chief at all three stations, with the battalion commander stationed at Central Station.

And on March 10, the Town voted overwhelming-

ly in support of hiring an additional three firefighters to help fill in for vacancies and increase staffing levels to 10 firefighters on a 24-hour basis.

Still, the department is running over budget due to unanticipated costs, such as a vacant battalion chief position, which cost the Department \$40,953 between September of 2014 and February of 2015.

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# Electric Utility Updates Planning Board on Transmission Project

KAITLYN G. WOODS  
LONDONDERRY TIMES

Eversource Energy representatives updated the Planning Board on progress and plans related to their Merrimack Reliability Project.

Northeast Utilities became Eversource Energy on Feb. 2. Public Service Company of New Hampshire (PSNH) is among the subsidiaries of Northeast Utilities that is now operating under the name Eversource.

The purpose of the 345-kV (kilovolt) line project is to address a growing demand for electricity in the region, preventing potential overloads on existing transmission lines, Eversource Project Manager Suzanne Findlen told the Board at their April 1 meeting.

The new, 24 mile overhead transmission line will run from the Scobie Pond Substation in Londonderry to Tewksbury, Mass., passing through Hudson, Windham and Pelham. A total of 18.1 miles of the transmission line will run through New Hampshire, with 8.1 of those miles to run through Londonderry.

All work is to be completed in the existing utility right-of-way, and no additional land or easements will be required, Findlen said.

Work in Londonderry is expected to include the construction of about 75 new structures, with the average height anticipated

to be 90 feet above ground. The three tallest poles built in Londonderry are proposed to be 106 feet.

The total cost of the project is \$123 million, with \$31.5 million to be invested in infrastructure installed in Londonderry.

The project will include clearing in the utility corridor and the installation of additional towers from the Hudson town line toward Wiley Hill Road, as well as north from Wiley Hill Road toward the Scobie Pond Substation.

"We've come quite a way in terms of engineering for the project," Findlen said, noting the utility has a plan for how many additional structures will have to be constructed, and where they will be located.

But the project is still in the early stages, and engineering will be ongoing until the permitting process concludes.

Member Leitha Reilly asked Eversource representatives how the transmission project will benefit Londonderry, specifically.

David Plante, lead project manager for transmission projects, told Reilly the Town is a participant in the regional transmission system.

"We can't say Londonderry will see a decrease in rates or there will be specific reliability changes to any specific distribution circuit in the town," he said.

Member Ann Chiampa asked about electromagnetic fields (EMF) emitted from the overhead transmission line.

Findlen said they plan to have two EMF experts at their open house to address any questions residents may have.

Eversource presented a general overview of the transmission line project to the Town Council in November, and plans to meet with the Council again this month to share a more in-depth look at

their plans.

Additionally, Findlen said there will be many opportunities for members of the public to gather information about the transmission line project and provide input.

Before filing an application for the project with the New Hampshire Site Evaluation Commission (NHSEC), Findlen said Eversource will host a public open house with a formal informational session in Londonderry on May 6.

Additionally, Ever-

source and National Grid must hold a joint public information session in each affected county within 45 days after their application is filed; then, the SEC will hold additional public hearings within 90 days of their application's being accepted.

"Our goal is to do as much outreach as necessary to make sure everyone knows what the project is all about," Findlen said.

Eversource plans to file for federal permits

and with the NHSEC in the spring.

If regulatory approvals are granted and construction begins in the fall of 2016, the new transmission line could be in service by the fall of 2017.

More information related to the Merrimack Valley Reliability Project is available online at [www.MA-NHsolutions.com](http://www.MA-NHsolutions.com). Specific questions or concerns may be directed to Findlen by email at [suzanne.findlen@eversource.com](mailto:suzanne.findlen@eversource.com).

## Thanks to Tip, Three Arrested in Burglary Spree

KAITLYN G. WOODS  
LONDONDERRY TIMES

Thanks to a tip from a vigilant resident, Londonderry Police arrested three men in connection with a burglary spree that spanned several months and multiple jurisdictions.

After observing a suspicious vehicle in her neighborhood, the woman took what she thought was a photo of a red Ford Escape. About a week later, the woman found someone had broken into her home and she shared the photo she took with Londonderry Police, according to a press release.

Police put a descrip-



Corey Dusseault

tion of the vehicle out to area agencies as a possible suspect vehicle in a burglary, but the license plate wasn't visible in the photo.

When another burglary was reported in Londonderry the following day, an off-duty employee of the Londonderry Police



Robert Tenney

told detectives he saw a vehicle in the area of the victim's home that matched the description of the red Ford Escape.

When detectives followed up with the woman who took the photo of the vehicle, she realized she had also recorded a video of the suspicious vehicle that clearly showed a New Hampshire license plate.

The discovery led police to their suspects, and a series of search warrants resulted in the location of property stolen from victims in



Jeffrey Tenney

multiple jurisdictions.

On March 28, police arrested the first of the three suspects, Corey Dusseault, 21, of Manchester. He was charged with two counts of Burglary.

Jeffrey Tenney, 26, of Manchester was subsequently arrested on March 31; and Robert Tenney, 28, of Manchester was arrested on April 3. Both were also charged for their alleged role in the burglaries.

All three suspects are being held on cash bail.

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## Aging

Continued from page 1

sure on wages because employers won't have the people to hire," Delay said, explaining the biggest different between New Hampshire and neighboring states is that the Granite State experienced a "great migration" in the 1980s.

About 70 percent of New Hampshire's adult population was not born in the Granite State. Other states in New England have 40 to 50 percent of adults who were not born there, according to Delay, noting those other popu-

lations have grown more slowly.

"I think we're going to look more like Maine and Vermont, with slower population growth and slower economic growth" he said.

To grow the workforce, Delay suggests as viable options increasing productivity and increasing labor force participation rates for the state's fastest growing population - those over the age of 65.

Also important to consider when considering the decline in labor force participation rates is data that shows teenagers and

young adults are becoming less attached to the labor force, which Delay said has been shown to be the result of a steady increase in the number of young people who seek post-secondary education and training.

Additionally, most young people who attend colleges in New Hampshire are from out of state. And most graduates tend to go back home, at least at first, according to Delay.

When people ages 25-34, who are most closely tied to the labor force, are seeking a place to live, they are increasingly mov-

ing to large, metropolitan areas, according to Delay, who reported that reasons college students gave for staying in New Hampshire after graduation included quality of life, proximity to family and friends, personal safety, cost of living, cost of housing, lack of sales/income tax, and proximity to natural resources.

"I think we still have the New Hampshire advantage, with a relatively low tax burden and high quality of life. We're still a well-educated state," Delay said. "But the differences between us and Massachusetts are a lot smaller now. The New Hampshire advantage has shrunk."

Member Mary Soares said she has a more optimistic outlook for the state's future.

"Looking at our town, we see things different than what you're projecting," she said. "I know you can only base your projections on history; but

like the stock market, you can't project future earnings."

Delay said the only thing he would counter that with is that there has been almost no migration into the state in the last five years.

"We've also had no building in the state," Soares said. "We're seeing an increase in development, particularly here (in Londonderry), and I think that will make a difference in people coming to our town and into the state."

In addition to the implications on the future labor force, New Hampshire's aging population also raises concerns over housing.

Delay said most seniors age in place, but need low maintenance, smaller units that are easily accessible and feature wider entries and adapted kitchens and bathrooms. Seniors also seek housing that is accessible to public transportation.

"We will see an increase in people over the age of 65 who rent simply because there will be more of them," he said.

And despite ongoing discussions about the lack of assisted living in Londonderry, Delay said the anticipated demand for assisted living is years away, with the population of seniors ages 65 to 74 expected to peak in 2030.

The number of seniors over the age of 65 who remain tied to the work force is rising, and that trend is expected to continue.

"Looking at the elderly population in New Hampshire, it probably won't put a lot of pressure on the long-term care system initially. The biggest increase right now in the senior population is ages 65 to 74," he said, noting the largest portion of the senior population is still "very capable of taking care of themselves and working."

## Freeze

Continued from page 1

Smith said the Public Works Department is prioritizing what roads will be repaired most quickly, with Gilcreast Road the obvious choice most recently.

"The highest traffic roads will get highest priority," he said, noting the New Hampshire Department of Transportation recently informed the Town it will complete road repairs of its own in town this summer.

On the revenue side, the Town is doing well, Controllor Doug Smith reported.

The Town has already collected over \$300,000

more than the amount budgeted in 2015 under the Building Permits line. In total, the Town collected \$531,309, when \$225,000 was budgeted.

"If that continues, certainly the news just gets better in that particular category," the controller said.

Additionally, 100.55 percent of income from departments has been received; and the Town has received 81 percent of interest and costs on late property taxes, with an annual tax payment from Manchester expected to be realized in the full amount, according to the Town Controller.

And finally, due to a large influx of change in

land use values for this year, the Town in that transfer will realize just over \$250,000 in land use change tax.

"Revenues are really not a problem this year. We're in really good shape," Smith said.

Kevin Smith said although revenues are high, they cannot be used to offset expenditures because the Town is authorized by the voters only to spend up to a certain budgeted amount, regardless of income.

Moving forward, Smith said the spending freeze will remain in place as he continues to review the budget with the controller.

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### - PROVIDER ON CALL - WHAT IS SLEEP APNEA?

Sleep apnea is a common disorder in which you have one or more pauses in breathing or shallow breaths while you sleep. Breathing pauses can last from a few seconds to minutes. They often occur 5 to 30 times or more an hour. Typically, normal breathing then starts again, sometimes with a loud snort or choking sound. Sleep apnea usually is a chronic (ongoing) condition that disrupts your sleep 3 or more nights each week. You often move out of deep sleep and into light sleep when your breathing pauses or becomes shallow. This results in poor sleep quality that makes you tired during the day. Sleep apnea is one of the leading causes of excessive daytime sleepiness.

Sleep apnea often goes undiagnosed. Doctors usually can't detect the condition during routine office visits. Also, there are no blood tests for the condition. Most people who have sleep apnea don't know they have it because it only occurs during sleep. A family member and/or bed partner may first notice the signs of sleep apnea. The most common type of sleep apnea is obstructive sleep apnea. This most often means that the airway has collapsed or is blocked during sleep. The blockage may cause shallow breathing or breathing pauses. When you try to breathe, any air that squeezes past the blockage can cause loud snoring. Obstructive sleep apnea happens more often in people who are overweight but it can affect anyone.

Central sleep apnea is a less common type of sleep apnea. It happens when the area of your brain that controls your breathing doesn't send the correct signals to your breathing muscles. You make no effort to breathe for brief periods. Central sleep apnea often occurs with obstructive sleep apnea, but it can occur alone. Snoring doesn't typically happen with central sleep apnea. Untreated sleep apnea can increase the

risk for high blood pressure, heart attack, stroke, obesity and diabetes. It can also increase the risk for or worsen heart failure, make irregular heartbeats more likely, or increase the chance of having work-related or driving accidents. Lifestyle changes, mouthpieces, surgery, and/or breathing devices can successfully treat sleep apnea in many people.

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# Editorial

## Just Bad Planning

A report from the New Hampshire Center for Public Policy Studies at last week's Londonderry Planning Board raised interesting points.

While Rockingham County is expecting a significant increase in jobs over the next decade, workforce participation is expected to decline as the population ages. That suggests the state's labor force will limit growth, although it could also translate into a boost in wages to attract out-of-state workers.

But overall, the report suggests both slower population and slower economic growth.

That doesn't necessarily translate into bad news, depending on your viewpoint. If you moved from Massachusetts to get away from wall-to-wall apartment development and endless suburbia, a slower lifestyle with plenty of open space is what you presumably wanted. And now you probably don't like what's happening in Londonderry.

Know anyone who moved to one of our towns because they were just desperate to live in a multi-story apartment complex? We don't.

No, people want single-family homes with a big yard – close to services, for sure, but not so close that they can't sit outside without hearing diesel trucks and other people's business.

The report also noted the aging workforce, with the state's largest growing sector persons over age 65.

Londonderry officials are quick to tout the town as booming, a place that will continue to attract people moving into the state.

But everything circles back to housing, and in Londonderry, much of the housing "boom" is in workforce apartments, opposed by their immediate neighbors for their drastic alteration of neighborhood character, but approved nonetheless. And workforce apartments are priced at over \$1,400 per month, not a bargain to people moving to the area for "workforce" jobs.

That returns us to the increasing senior population, caught in a bind between wanting to downsize but uninterested in apartments that cost way more than their mortgages. Senior housing would be "accessible," with wider entries, adapted kitchens and bathrooms, and access to public transportation. That currently does not describe Londonderry or its workforce projects.

If our towns are home to older residents wanting to age in place – and fewer younger people, why the emphasis on workforce housing in Londonderry?

What about the jobs coming into this area – are they likely to attract our college grads seeking high-paying jobs? The answer is no.

Woodmont Commons may meet the needs of both seniors and young people because of its "walkability" and mixed use, but that's the only development addressing the new demographics.

People move to Londonderry to get away from endless apartment complexes; destroying the rural character of a town with more of the same on the "hunch" that people will like it is just bad planning.

# Letters

## Londonderry Times Documents Community

To the editor:

I think that the Londonderry Times is a quite valuable resource for those who live in Londonderry. It provides a record of the day-to-day life of our citizens as they go about living their lives. The Londonderry Times provides a good record of what is happening in the schools, local government and local events. Even when I am not able to be here, I can usually read about things of importance to me in the publication.

In a large town it is difficult to keep abreast of what is happening to the citizens as they participate in their different group or single activities. It is nice to have news of our school system when one has no children in it. Civic groups have events for many causes that are worthy of being noted in a chronicle of the times. Local government is often good for a laugh, but more seriously for the many people who volunteer to help make a better community throughout the range of interests. The Londonderry Times documents their efforts.

The Londonderry Times provides a venue for local businesses to advertise their goods and services for their own interest in growing and being viable in the community. At the same time, local businesses contribute support for the groups that are doing good for others without much backing by the public. The Londonderry Times acknowledges the contributions, large and small, made by many to improve the lives of the sick and the less fortunate.

Sometimes, it is the events of the challenged people, who support the ordinary citizen in think-

ing that they can do more for others. Sometimes, it is enough to know that you live among a wide-ranging community that all support each other. The Londonderry Times helps to document and spread the news of the common citizens as they live in this fine town.

David Lee Colglazier  
Londonderry

## Will Voters be Heard?

To the editor:

Thanks to the voters who spoke out about the elimination of instructional assistants from the '15-'16 budget, the school board now has the \$240,000 they need to fund the instructional assistants for 3 hours/day/classroom at the elementary level.

However, the school board has the right to decide how to use the additional \$240,000; they are not obligated to use it for the instructional assistants, despite the fact that the voters of this community have been clear about how they want the funds allocated.

Why wouldn't they? One reason might be Superintendent Greenberg's assertion that because enrollments are declining the assistants are no longer needed. However, I disagree with his opinion that support in the classroom can be met with existing personnel.

While enrollments have in fact decreased, the average class sizes have remained fairly consistent. According to the New Hampshire Department of Education's Attendance and Enrollment Reports, since 2001 (the first year data was collected), the average class size for 1st and 2nd grade has ranged from 19 to 22, with 20 being the typical size.

The same trend holds true for 3rd and 4th grade, with class size ranging from 20 to 23, with 21 being typical. I do not think this variance is sufficient to justify elimination of the assistants.

And while class sizes have remained relatively stable, the demands we are placing on our students and teachers are growing. I see it first hand with my daughter who is in first grade. Her curriculum is noticeably more advanced from what my third grader experienced just two years ago. I am not against increasing the rigor of our curriculum. My concern is for our children getting the instruction they need to succeed, and I firmly believe that these assistants will play a critical role in that success.

I sincerely hope that the school board members will listen to their voters and allocate the available funds for the instructional assistants to ensure our students have every resource they need to succeed.

I encourage community members to contact your school board members and let your voice be heard.

Lisa St. Hilaire  
Londonderry

## Response to Letter

To the editor:

I read Donald A. Moskowitz's letter to the editor last week entitled "Suppressing Americanism" regarding the recent Lexington, Mass., high school dance that was reported on by WHDH.

According to the report, the school wanted to hold an "American Pride" themed dance but some number of students objected due to the diversity of the student population.

Continued on page 5

# Londonderry Times

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**Owner/Publisher – Debra Paul      Editor – Leslie O'Donnell**  
**Art Director – Chris Paul**

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# Letters

**Continued from page 4**  
tion. In this letter he asked, "What is going on in Lexington, Mass., a cradle of American liberty?" and went on to say: "If these immature students care more about their ancestral heritage than their U.S. citizenship, they should move to their countries of ancestral origin."

I graduated from Lexington High in 1967. My father was a British immigrant who settled in Lexington because he truly believed that America was a place where, no matter who you were, you could make something of yourself. He said that to us more than once.

You might find it a bit ironic that a Brit would raise a family in the very town that ran his ancestors out at gunpoint 200-plus years ago. We lived no more than half a mile from John Hancock's original house, now a museum.

There are other stories of diversity in Lexington and at Lexington High, but I'll just tell one of a skinny, awkward immigrant kid from Kenya with a winning smile and an unpronounceable name. We just called him Kenny. One day Kenny broke up a fight, saying, "Cool it, man" to the fighting students. The story got around and within a week, everyone was saying, "cool it, man," all of us doing our best to imitate Kenny's accent.

I'm telling you this because I believe that if we were given the choice between an American

Pride dance vs. a dance that celebrated ancestral diversity, the diversity dance would have won hands down. And I'm saying this not because we didn't think of ourselves as Americans first and foremost. We did. I couldn't walk to school without being reminded that Lexington was a cradle of American liberty. I just think we would have loved to see some of us like Kenny come to a dance dressed in Kenyan garb rather than the white shirt, black pants and tie that he normally wore. What a hoot!

The Statue of Liberty is a gift from the people of France. The plaque at the bottom doesn't say "Give me your tired, your poor, Your huddled masses, yearning to breath free... But if you don't like it here, go back to where you came from." Diversity is the multicolored fabric America.

With baseball season in sight, count the number of Cuban, Dominican, and Japanese players on the field. What I'm trying to say is simply this: follow the lead of these Lexington High students and embrace diversity. Diversity is as American as baseball and the Statue of Liberty. Personally, I'm happy to see that it's alive at Lexington High.

John Webster  
Londonderry

## Questions Common Core

To the editor:

A recent article in the Londonderry Times regarding concerns about the new Common Core

aligned SBAC (Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium) test contained statements made by Heather Gage, Director of Educational Improvement for the New Hampshire Department of Education.

Ms. Gage asserted, "Somehow there's misinformation about us asking questions regarding social issues, such as gun control and sexual orientation. There's nothing in the assessment like that."

I agree, these exact questions are probably not part of the test. However, what Heather neglected to mention is the fact that in the U.S. Department of Education's Office of Educational Technology Draft, "Promoting Grit, Tenacity and Perseverance," it is clearly stated that "noncognitive factors - and particularly grit, tenacity, and perseverance - should play an essential role in evolving educational priorities." It also states, "we found common operating principles for designing supportive contexts and evidence that contributing psychological resources can, to a large extent, be taught and cultivated."

I'm not clear on exactly what the intent is here or how it will be implemented. However, if you couple this with the fact that FERPA (Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act) laws have been weakened and the fact that there has been a shocking lack of transparency regarding Common Core and its associated data collection through SBAC and other means from both the state and federal govern-

ment, this becomes greatly concerning.

In early February this year, upon approaching the New Hampshire Department of Education myself about my concerns regarding Common Core and SBAC, I was given a link that led me to the works of Linda Darling-Hammond, proponent of using psychometric tests and close friend and colleague of the Communist and Weather Underground founder, Bill Ayers. When I approached the New Hampshire Board of Education regarding these same concerns, I was urged by the board's chair, Tom Raffio, to acquaint myself with the works of Dave Coleman, head of the College Board and responsible for aligning the new SAT to Common Core. Instead of solid academic research, I was instead given biased information supporting Common Core.

Indeed, we need to be concerned about Common Core's experimental, one-size-fits-all copyrighted curriculum standards, scripted lessons, untested methods of teaching math, corporations making billions by helping to design and implement this "transformation," high-stakes tests, data mining, and emphasizing test scores which will encourage teaching to the test and inevitably nar-

row the curriculum. However, what we really need to worry about is the underhanded and undemocratic way that all of this has come about, who is in charge of education in this country and exactly what it is that they are doing.

I have yet to hear of a society that collects personal data on its citizens and uses one-size-fits-all instruction to effectively force sameness (forcing everyone to try to fit the same mold is not synonymous with equality) on its masses remain democratic or avoid violating the civil liberties of its citizens.

Diane Rose Sekula  
Londonderry

## Congratulates Londonderry Times

To the editor:

Congratulations on 15 years of serving the citizens and businesses of Londonderry! I look forward to receiving my copy of the "Londonderry Times" every Thursday. As a Londonderry parent, homeowner, and (very, very) small business owner, the news contained in the weekly paper is relevant, current, and well-presented.

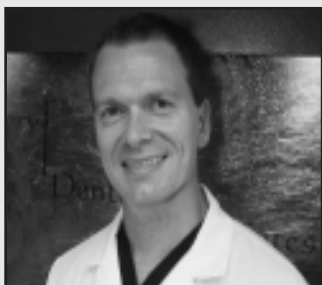
Nutfield Publishing has been extraordinarily supportive of the efforts

of locally-based artisans and has been a key resource for promoting and recognizing the creative work of members of this community. Word of my handweaving business has spread on the local level, thanks to written features and photographs that the editor and staff writers have included in the Londonderry Times. I've had the opportunity to chat with many of my Londonderry neighbors about weaving history and looms. I've also had the opportunity to weave on commission for area residents. Many people who have visited me at locally-based exhibits and demonstrations say, "Aren't you the lady that I read about in the Londonderry Times?"

Nutfield Publishing has provided an avenue through which people can support and encourage the efforts of local businesses and artisans. Shopping locally makes good economic sense, and it contributes to the vibrancy, character, and pride of a community. It is my hope that Nutfield Publishing continues its partnership with Londonderry businesses and artisans for another 15 years!

Kate Kilgus  
Juried member,  
League of New  
Hampshire Craftsmen  
Londonderry

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## South School Travels to a Mythological Time



Fifth grade KEY students at South Elementary School recently hosted a night of mythology. Participants in the program invited family and friends to the school, where they tried to guess what character in Greek mythology the student researched. After a stage presentation, students showed off presentation boards and dioramas and offered Greek-themed snacks. *Photos by Chris Paul*

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# Londonderry High Math Team Qualifies for New England Meet

KAITLYN G. WOODS  
LONDONDERRY TIMES

**L**ondonderry High School's Math Team finished second in their league and came in third at the State Math Meet earlier this month.

Team Advisor Mike Wenger said this year's group is the strongest team he has worked with since a team took the

state title about four years ago.

To qualify for the New England Championship on May 1, teams must either perform well in their league or the state tournament. Londonderry's team did both, earning the chance to compete against about 60 of the best math teams in the region.

The math team competes in the Tri-state Math League, which is comprised of schools in New Hampshire, northern Massachusetts, and previously, one school in Maine, although that school no longer competes in the league, according to Wenger.

Wenger said the team practices every Wednes-

day, working through packets of math problems and exams from previous competitions to prepare for math meets throughout the year. At meets, students complete a combination of math problems and essay questions, such as written proofs.

"Some of the problems we tackle are basic problems. The league is not terribly difficult, but it's challenging. When we go to New England or Nationals, it's incredibly challenging," Wenger said.

And the students enjoy all the extra work?

"It definitely helps to be into math, and most of our kids are really into math," Wenger said. Most of the students who compete on his team go on to major or minor in mathematics in college.

"Most have such a gift in mathematics, it would



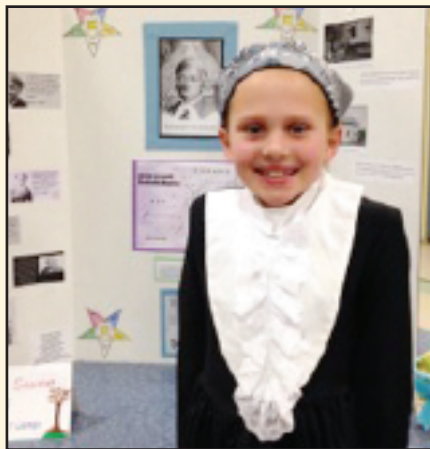
The Londonderry High School Math Team finished in third place at the 2015 New Hampshire State Mathematics Competition. Pictured are Mike Wenger, advisor to the team; Robbie Kilgore, Elijah Ellis, Logan Ford, Nick Nigro, Ben Stoller, Rachel Pepin, Lindsey Guenther, Katy Gore, Lizzy Stubbs and Emma Breslow, clockwise.

be foolish not to," he said.

In addition to the New England Championship, students from Londonderry's math team will travel to compete at the American Regions Mathematics League's national competition at the University of Pennsylvania.

"It's a really fun trip," said Wenger, who also serves as coordinator for the State math team.

All teams who wish to participate are invited, and Wenger said he hopes to take two teams from New Hampshire to compete in Philadelphia in May.



**Greatness on Display** Students in South Elementary School's Images of Greatness program for fourth graders in the KEY program researched an eminent person and wrote a bio-riddle about their lives. They also created a project and shared a food item about their person, and presented their work to family and friends. Pictured from left and clockwise are Owen Barth as Milton Hershey; Liam Stott as George Washington, Ava Seaman as Harriet Tubman and Ava Ruppel as Deborah Sampson.

Courtesy photos

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# Portion of Ammon Drive to be Relocated at Airport

KAITLYN G. WOODS  
LONDONDERRY TIMES

Construction to relocate a portion of Ammon Drive at the Manchester Boston Regional Airport has been put out to bid and is expected to begin by the end of April.

The portion of Ammon Drive to be relocated begins at the air traffic control tower and runs down to the Ammon Center and Freudenberg-NOK, according to Assistant Airport Director Rich Fixler.

"The reason the road is being relocated is it sits in the runway object free

area (ROFA)," he said at the Planning Board meeting April 1. "Per the standards for safety areas, it needs to be moved. It has been grandfathered in and has been on the FAA's (Federal Aviation Administration) radar and the airport's radar to be moved when the time is right."

Ammon Drive, which carries about 1,800 cars per day, sits in both Londonderry and the City of Manchester, and is completely within the Airport District. Most of the airport is in Londonderry.

Impacts from the project will mostly be to park-

ing lots and the Ammon Center, according to Stephen Haas of Hoyle, Tanner and Associates, a civil engineering firm in Manchester.

Ammon Drive will be shifted out of the 400-foot ROFA and will feature 11-foot lanes and a four-foot shoulder along the east side for pedestrian accommodation, according to Haas.

Existing water, telephone lines and gas lines on Ammon Drive are to be maintained, while fire hydrants will be relocated to the new Ammon Drive, and a few Eversource poles will need to be relo-

cated in the Freudenberg and Ammon Center areas.

It's possible sewer reconstruction under Freudenberg and the Ammon Center will be necessary if bids to relocate lines along the new Ammon Drive come in too high, Haas said.

Construction is to be completed in four phases, with the first phase to begin at the end of April.

During the first phase of the project, traffic will be maintained while a new portion of Lot C is constructed, as well as a portion behind Freudenberg.

Parking will shift into

the new lots during phase two, allowing for the majority of construction of the new drive and most of the Ammon Center parking to be completed.

Phase three will include Freudenberg parking and construction of the remainder of the service road in that location, according to Haas.

Finally, in phase four construction, old Ammon Drive pavement and parking will be removed.

The project will result in a reduction to impervious area by 54,000 square feet. All construction will be in accordance with New Hampshire Depart-

ment of Transportation standards.

Bids on the project were opened this week, with construction to begin at the end of the month and to finish at the end of November.

"We have always tried to work with you folks. We will try to implement whatever we can if you do have suggestions," Fixler said.

"We will provide Rich and Steve with some comments, and we will work through them," Assistant Director of Public Works and Engineering John Trottier told the Board.

# Heritage Commissioner Working on Legislation for Historic Preservation

KAITLYN G. WOODS  
LONDONDERRY TIMES

In an effort to encourage the preservation of historic and architecturally significant residential structures, Londonderry Heritage Commissioner David Colglazier is proposing legislation that would offer tax breaks for such efforts.

The legislation was inspired by a 2007 task force born out of the 2004 Master Plan that created an index of 137 historic homes in Londonderry, and subsequent discussions about how to help the owners properly preserve those properties, according to Planning Board Chairman Art Rugg.

"It's not inexpensive to maintain any house. But for a historic house, it's

just a little bit more," Colglazier said.

The group drafted legislation to offer tax breaks for the restoration of historic homes; however, the bill was deemed inexpedient to legislate, primarily because there wasn't enough criteria related to what qualifies as a historic home. Rugg, who testified in Concord on behalf of the legislation, said the assessor in Portsmouth testified that half the homes in his town would qualify for the tax breaks, based on the limited criteria in the original legislation. Colglazier and John Dahlfred, who has since died, went back to the drawing board and drafted new legislation with much input from members of the preserva-

tion community, the Heritage Commission and local planning commissions; and it includes provisions that allow individual towns to vote on whether or not to enact it. The new legislation also includes extensive criteria homes must meet to qualify for the tax breaks.

The bill also allows a municipality to stop offering the tax break after enacting the law.

If adopted by a local municipality, the law would allow the local assessor to cut the assessed valuation of qualifying structures, resulting in a small reduction in the taxation.

Residential structures that would qualify for the tax break should be at least 100 years old or qualify for the Federal or

New Hampshire State Registry of Historic Places; should currently be used as the domicile for permanent or temporary residents who rent or lease, or by small businesses; and exceptional structures may qualify if they are on the New Hampshire or Federal Register for Historic Structures or places without regard to age, according to the draft legislation.

Applicants seeking the tax break would hire an approved consultant to complete their application, determining how closely their property adheres to the requirements detailed in the legislation.

Also to be taken into consideration include style integrity of the structure; the presence of

original materials; sufficient preservation maintenance to preserve the structural elements and appearance of the historic residence; location; design; setting; materials used; workmanship; the feeling the structure evokes; and whether or not there is a design significance to the residence, important owner or local historical event that adds a value to the structure.

If the material used for a new roof, for example, isn't consistent with the requirements, the applicant would get a lower score to be submitted to the municipality's assessor, Colglazier said.

In municipalities that have a Heritage Commission or Historic District Commission, the Assessor would obtain a recom-

mendation for the application for tax relief, with the Commission to recommend a zero percent, 5 percent, 10 percent or 15 percent reduction of the assessed value of the historic structure.

"Someone submitting an application could get a zero percent reduction because they don't meet the criteria," Colglazier said.

Those who qualify for a reduction in the assessed value of their home (the reduction is only applied to the structure) would have to re-apply for the relief every five years.

Moving forward, Colglazier said he is in the process of speaking with local legislators and finding a sponsor for the bill, which will be submitted for consideration in 2016.

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# LHS Grad Helps Wife Through Dramatic Birth on Side of Highway

KAITLYN G. WOODS  
LONDONDERRY TIMES

While driving his pregnant wife to the hospital, it became apparent to Londonderry High School graduate Jon Nelson that his baby would arrive sooner than they expected.

Amanda Nelson, a fifth grade teacher, went into labor in the early hours of March 26 at their home in Germantown, Md., and the couple set out to the hospital along Interstate 270; but before they could get there, Nelson's waters broke and "she felt a foot coming out," according to proud grandmother Sally Nelson of Londonderry, who works at the Leach Library.

"Jon pulled over to the side of the highway and

called 911, but everything was happening so fast that he ended up delivering a breech baby with only the help of the 911 dispatch officer before an ambulance could arrive," Nelson said in an email she wrote while visiting her son, daughter-in-law and grandchildren following the dramatic birth.

In an emotional voice recording of the 911 call, which Montgomery County fire officials released last week, Amanda Nelson is heard crying out in the final stages of labor.

After baby Jacob is born, Amanda said, "He's not crying or anything. Help me, please!"

"Jacob was blue and not breathing, so his daddy massaged his chest and

cleaned his airways until he started crying," Nelson said.

"Breathe, little boy. Breathe, little boy," Jon can be heard saying on the voice recording.

The 911 operator instructs Jon to tie a string or shoelace around the umbilical cord. He found a first aid kit in the SUV and used medical tape to clamp the cord.

Mom was in good spirits following the birth, joking with her husband and thanking the dispatcher.

"I had a natural birth. It was not that bad," she says.

Nelson said her daughter-in-law had wanted a natural birth, but was scheduled for a Cesarean section the following week because the baby was breech.

Jacob Kenneth Nelson, born 6 pounds 10 ounces and 19-3/4 inches long, was welcomed by his brother, Brett, 15; and sister, Isabella, 2-1/2.

"He's beautiful," Nelson said.

Jon, a helicopter mechanic, is a Scout Master in Maryland. His troop presented him with a certificate to have his SUV detailed, as well as a bronze baseball mitt trophy for a "good catch." He graduated from LHS in 1997.

"Mommy, Daddy and Jacob are all doing well, and are somewhat celebrities down here," Nelson said. "People talk about the I-270 baby and are amazed that a helicopter mechanic with no medical training handled a breech birth."



Londonderry High graduate Jon Nelson is pictured with his newborn son Jacob. He delivered Jacob in a breech birth in his SUV in Maryland.

## Buggy Spring Predicted, Mosquito Control Begins

KAITLYN G. WOODS  
LONDONDERRY TIMES

It's going to be a buggy spring, Sarah MacGregor of Dragon Mosquito predicts.

"If winter ever releases its icy grip, we might see mosquitoes in May," she said.

And not just mosquitoes. Other insect populations, like black flies, are expected to have a strong spring, with record amounts of snowfall melting and filling depressions as temperatures rise.

Dragon Mosquito's control program is to begin this week in Londonderry, with crews checking swamps,

marshes, woodland pools, ditches, storm drains and other shallow, stagnant water for mosquito larvae.

"Hopefully some of the ice will melt," MacGregor said.

If mosquito larvae are found in water, they will be treated with a bacteria, not the insecticides used to treat adult mosquitoes.

The state begins testing mosquitoes for Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE) and West Nile Virus in July. If EEE or West Nile Virus is found in or near Londonderry, emergency spray treatments may be done at the schools, Town Common and local recreation

fields.

Control of adult mosquitoes may also be done in preparation for the Old Home Day Celebration at the Town Common, Matthew Thornton Elementary School, the middle school and the high school.

"It's difficult to predict what the summer will be like," Macgregor said, noting there were three human cases of EEE reported last summer - in Manchester, Conway and Hopkinton. Two were fatal.

Additionally, horses in the area were found to have EEE, as well as a mule in Candia.

"That tells us that it's

still a very active disease in our area," MacGregor said. "It all will play out in the water at first, then we'll see how the summer pans out. If it's a rainy summer, we tend to see more EEE. But last summer was dry and we still saw EEE. We have to be ready for more EEE."

If spraying in the Town is necessary, further communication would be provided to residents.

Those who do not want

their wetlands treated may use Dragon's No-Spray Registry online at [www.DragonMosquito.com/No-Spray-Registry](http://www.DragonMosquito.com/No-Spray-Registry) or write to Dragon Mosquito Control, P.O. Box 46, Stratham, NH 03885. Be sure to include name, physical address, phone number and a description of the property with boundaries.

Residents who would like to have their stagnant water checked for mosquitoes may call Dragon's office at 734-4114 or email [Info@DragonMosquito.com](mailto:Info@DragonMosquito.com) to request the free service.

Any further questions about spray dates, location, materials used, precautions or other concerns should go to Dragon Mosquito by phone or email.

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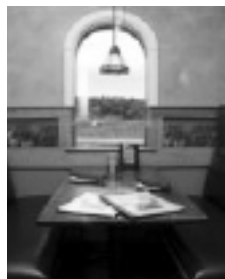
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# Council Rezones Mohawk Drive Lots for Wine Bistro

KAITLYN G. WOODS  
LONDONDERRY TIMES

The Town Council voted 3-2 Monday night to approve rezoning two Mohawk Drive properties to be developed into an upscale wine bistro, Cabonnay Wine and Cuisine.

Chair John Farrell and Councilor Joe Green voted against rezoning 6 and 8 Mohawk Drive from Commercial-IV to C-I.

Attorney Thomas Aylesworth, who represented the condominium owners abutting the parcels to be rezoned, said the request has the appearance of spot zoning and argued that Windham developer Cornelius de Jong does not need the zoning change to build his bistro.

But Town Attorney Mike Ramsdell said it's his opinion the ordinance, if passed, would not result in spot zoning.

"Spot zoning requires that a parcel of land gets singled out for treatment

inconsistent with any of the other surrounding land for a variety of circumstances," Ramsdell said. "Rezoning here would not result in singular treatment, but rather it would be consistent with the majority of land that surrounds the property. I don't think there's any reasonable challenge based on spot zoning."

The proposed bistro is to be housed in a long, townhome-style structure with a brick façade, featuring an atrium and upstairs art gallery.

In order to establish upscale gardens on the property, the design for the site takes advantage of setbacks on the property and features a curved design for the parking lot that increases green space.

De Jong said the property must be re-zoned to accommodate the height of the bistro's art gallery, noting the office building already located on the

site was developed under C-I zoning.

"To actualize the full use of the concept with the gallery and the atrium is only possible in C-I. If zoned C-IV, the properties cannot accommodate the atrium concept, the gallery or the office space," de Jong said. "I want to reiterate, this is not a restaurant. It's a quiet, restful wine house."

In addition to fully utilizing the lot in developing the bistro and gardens, de Jong's attorney said rezoning the parcels would expand potential use of the site.

When asked if he is still willing to work with abutting condominium owners, who are opposed to construction of the bistro, de Jong said he has reached out to Harvard Management "and it has been an arduous process."

De Jong told the Council he received an email from Aylesworth saying Harvard Management isn't willing to negotiate, but is interested in over \$50,000 for renovations to its building.

"This has been a very aggressive stand against

us," he said. "Everything on this building so far has been me showing up saying, let's fix what has been a failed lot. We're spending virtually thousands of dollars for gardens unheard of for a commercial property. It's incredibly disheartening to find myself in these circumstances where I have stood up and said let's do something nice and we have gotten this incredibly negative response."

But Sharon Reed of 77 Granite St., noted de Jong purchased the properties knowing what restrictions existed.

Additionally, Reed expressed concern because the building is so specialized, saying it would likely be knocked down and something else would go in if the bistro were to go out of business.

"I think this is setting a dangerous precedent for any other business owner," she said.

Green said he takes his vote to change zoning seriously, and that it would be possible for the bistro to be constructed without rezoning the parcels.

Councilor Jim Butler

said he has walked the site, and the architectural style de Jong is asking for is close to the design of Mr. Steer Meats.

"Historically this has been zoned for Commercial-I, and it was rezoned to C-IV," he said. "If you want to talk about spot zoning, it could have been spot zoning then."

Butler added it's highly unlikely the building would be knocked down if de Jong's bistro does fail.

"I talked to a lot of people in town, and the general consensus is people would like to see this happen," he said. "I have lived in town for 28 years, and have gone to the property. I think it would be a good addition and I think it would strengthen the properties around it."

Councilor Tom Dolan said his primary concern when changing zoning is the "bait and switch," when residents buy a property under certain zoning, and then an arm of the government comes and changes the zoning of a parcel abutting their property.

However, "well over 90 percent of the current owners bought abutting properties when this property was C-I, so the expectation when they bought their homes was the property was a C-I. That took that concern

away from me,"

"I have heard from some people who live at Kendallwood (Condo Association). I have heard the pros and cons," Farrell said. "I hope, if this goes forward, Mr. de Jong lives up to what he has stated in public and works with these good people. I hope they work very closely together and something good comes out of it."

"We are glad the zoning for 6 and 8 Mohawk Drive has been restored to the C-I zone it has been for decades and that it is again consistent with all neighboring commercial parcels. We thank the Londonderry Town Council for their consideration, their strength in leadership, and their judiciousness," Rivierview said in an official statement following the Council's decision. de Jong is owner-manager of Rivierview.

"We extend our deepest appreciation to all those who encouraged and supported us and will work hard at making Cabonnay Wine and Cuisine a proud addition to the Londonderry landscape. For us, this project remains about hope, heritage, community, quality and fixing decades of deterioration through beautification," the statement reads.

**Correction:** The Londonderry Times April 2 edition listed the wrong name of Londonderry Middle School's Destination Imagination coach. The coach is Bill O'Connor.

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## Fire Budget

Continued from page 1

Long-term injury and sick leave since July of 2014 have cost the department \$88,138, and O'Brien said he expects that cost to rise with new injuries and long-term illnesses.

Additionally, the Department saw significant unanticipated expenses due to the need for additional coverage during the winter storms, which cost \$16,732; as well as the Hall Road fire at Murray's Auto Salvage, which cost the department \$4,950.

A vacant firefighter position cost the department \$12,389; an injury to a battalion chief has cost the Department \$7,999 thus far; and additional injury costs are at \$5,121, but that amount is also expected to increase.

The total unanticipated funds spent to date total \$191,795, with ongoing additional injuries expected to result in an increase in that cost.

O'Brien said had the Department not experienced the unanticipated injuries and long-term illnesses, it would have come in under the Council's goal of ending February of 2015 at 66.64 percent of overtime costs, with overtime costs at 63.2 percent.

O'Brien told the Council he anticipates a number of future budgetary challenges moving forward, including ongoing long-term sick leave for three employees, the potential for additional injuries, a vacant position for which the Department is in the process of hiring a firefighter, vacation time moving into the summer season and personal leave.

O'Brien said he has implemented a number of changes to address overtime costs, including cost-saving partnerships that allow training to be completed in the Town, the elimination of administrative time, a department-wide spending freeze implemented on Feb. 1 and maintaining a staffing level of nine firefighters on a 24-hour basis.

An additional change O'Brien presented as a potential method of addressing the over-expenditures is continuing to reduce staffing levels by leaving Central Station with administration and communications only, resulting in no emergency apparatus responding from

Central Station. The reduction would cause staffing levels to drop to seven personnel, with all emergency resources responding from two substations. Apparatus would be relocated along with certain pieces of apparatus being taken out of service.

O'Brien also suggested the Department "brown-out" command staff positions during normal business hours, which would result in not having a dedicated incident commander.

However, without a dedicated incident commander, O'Brien said the risk for additional injuries increases, which would further increase overtime costs.

"I'm looking at the additional changes and I've got to tell you, I don't support them," Councilor Tom Dolan said. "I can think of at least two consequences, but there are probably more; one, we're going to end up with more injured firefighters and a sub-optimal level of staffing, and we already

have injuries trying to backfill with overtime. It will also result in a level of service to the community that's unacceptable. We need to provide a consistent level of service, and dropping from three to two operating fire stations, I think that's unacceptable."

Kathy Wagner of 7 Fiddler's Ridge said she was at home watching the meeting on television and drove down to speak when she saw the proposed drop to seven firefighters.

"That scared the absolute bejeezus out of me," she said. "Shutting down Central, are you kidding me? If we're okay with going down to seven firefighters, are the communities that support us OK? We're really taxing them now. We know they'll show up, but I'm really scared the burden we'll put on Derry, Bedford and Windham will be to the point they will have to choose between us and them."

Wagner additionally noted it costs Londonderry

money to utilize mutual aid, as the Town must return the favor.

"This is a consistent problem that needs to be addressed. I'm expecting all of you to figure it out so it doesn't keep happening year after year. I think there's a way we can solve this, but this can't continue to keep happening," she said.

"I'm assuming they need more money," Councilor Tom Freda said of the Fire Department. "Where's (O'Brien) going to get it?"

"There is no money to take, per say," Town Manager Kevin Smith said. "In the past, when the Department has needed money, we have had underages, usually in the Police Department and Public Works."

Smith noted O'Brien told him before the April 6 Council meeting he's tired of having other departments subsidize the Fire Department, and that he has implemented a number of changes to try to make that possible.

"The Chief came to me with this plan, and it's not optimal or ideal; but all departments are making sacrifices trying to stay on budget or to come in under budget," Smith said, noting shutting down a station is not an option and that O'Brien is doing everything he can to hold the line on other costs to make up for the overages.

Councilor Joe Green said he doesn't believe they should disregard O'Brien's suggestions.

"To say we don't want to even look at any of these would not be doing our due diligence. I applaud you for your recommendation for browning-out command staff," he said. "There are things on here I believe we can look at and maybe not affect the personnel as much."

Dolan said he finds the idea of reducing fire staff on-duty diametrically opposed to what the voters asked for on March 10.

"Input from voters

across the community at the election is their will is to add additional firefighters on duty; yet tonight, we're talking about reducing a number of firefighters on duty," he said. "I have a fundamental dilemma with that."

Dolan said they want the budget to live within the Town's means, but he has a dilemma when the voters asked for additional firefighters and approved spending the money to fund that.

"What I would like to suggest is we direct the town manager to give an answer by Wednesday morning (April 5, after the Londonderry Times goes to press) what options there are. Do we have to lay off someplace else? Give us all the options so we can work collectively with the town manager," said Councilor John Farrell, who also advised O'Brien to have a serious conversation with his staff. "These are extreme circumstances that require extreme out-of-the-box thinking."



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# Matthew Thornton Students Prepare 'Sound of Music Jr.' for Stage

KAITLYN G. WOODS  
LONDONDERRY TIMES

Matthew Thornton Elementary School's Drama Club is excited to take the stage for their spring perform-

ance of "The Sound of Music Jr."

Members of the cast said the performances and costumes are "mind-blowing," and that those who love the movie will enjoy

seeing their adaptation of the classic come to life.

"It's based on an actual story, so people will be able to relate to it more," said John Baumann, a fifth grader who plays the part of Max Detweiler.

"The Sound of Music Jr." is based on the memoir of Maria von Trapp, and many of the songs from the musical remain popular, such as "My Favorite Things," "Climb Ev'ry Mountain," and "Do-Re-Mi."

Baumann said he has all the songs stuck in his head.

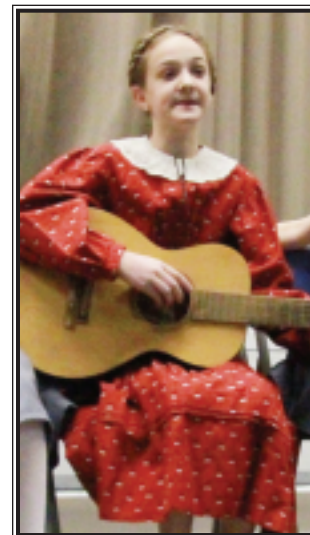
The musical tells the story of a young woman who leaves the convent and becomes the governess to seven children. With her music, charm and love, Maria wins the hearts of the children and their father, Capt. Georg von Trapp. But when Nazi Germany unites with Austria, Maria and the family must attempt a daring escape.



Sarah Tssetsilas as Maria leads children in a song during a dress rehearsal for Matthew Thornton's "Sound of Music Jr." Photos by Chris Paul



Sarah Tssetsilas, left, plays Maria Rainer in "The Sound of Music Jr." She is pictured with the Mother Abbess, played by Kaitlyn Koza.



Sarah Tssetsilas plays the lead as Maria.

The cast is comprised of fourth and fifth graders, except for first grader Tommy Brown, who is playing a goat, and third grader Melanie Nadeau, who is playing the youngest von Trapp child, Gretl.

"It is an amazing process to watch where they start out, and where they end up," Nadeau said. "For a group of kids in elementary school, I think they've done a good job."

"The Sound of Music Jr." will open on April 17 at 7 p.m., with an additional showing on April 18 at 7 p.m.

Tickets are \$5 for students and \$8 for adults if purchased in advance, and \$5 for students and \$10 for adults at the door. So far, both showings are half sold.

Tickets may be purchased in advance on Tuesdays and Thursdays leading up to opening night in the school lobby from 3 to 4 p.m.

That's because the elementary school students are performing the "junior version" of the Broadway musical - it's not as long as the three-hour version, and some of the more adult content has been edited out of the script, according to Brooke Nadeau, choreographer of the production.

Other parents who volunteered their time to make the production pos-

sible are Meg Gore, director; Jen Brown, musical director and costumes coordinator; and Krista Dwyer, financial manager.

Nadeau said this year's cast is a talented group of kids who were very easy to work with - many of them have performed with Kids Coop Theatre in Derry and the Palace Youth Theatre in Manchester.

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# —LONDONDERRY SPORTS—

## Talent Mix Has LHS Boys' Tennis Looking Competitive

CHRIS PANTAZIS  
LONDONDERRY TIMES

With two of its top six singles players back in even more important roles and other returnees and newcomers aiming to make a difference, the Londonderry High boys' tennis team steps into the 2015 season with reason for optimism.

Coach Janice Norwesh's 2014 Lancer crew enjoyed a strong 11-3 season but had the campaign

end with a 6-3 loss to the Winnacunnet High Warriors of Hampton in the tournament quarterfinals.

Four of the top six singles players from that 2014 team are gone, but returnees Cam Letalien and Dan Pleva have taken their moves up the singles ladder seriously and prepared themselves for heightened roles with off-season efforts.

Senior Letalien played his first competitive tennis last spring, starting in

the sixth singles spot but playing at five and then four before the campaign was over. He lines up as the Lancers' number one guy at the start of the present season. And Pleva is set at second singles to start with.

"Dan and Cam worked all winter on their games, also knowing they would be leading the squad with the Herculean challenge of going into positions one and two," said Norwesh.

Other returnees include juniors Sean Enright (presently number three singles) and Luc Velie (fourth singles) and senior Cody Woods (sixth singles).

The team's promising newcomers include number five singles player Ryan Leo (a freshman), his fellow ninth graders Tyler Cullen, Brian Parrot, and Denis Geiger, juniors Casey Tardif and Gage Johnson, and sophomore Kevin Letalien.

"Some of the newcomers have tennis experience, but the ones without are like fresh pieces of clay waiting to be molded," said the coach. "After our great year last year with very little experience behind the players, I am not worried what these wonderful athletes will produce."

When asked what the keys will be to a successful season for her 2015 bunch, Norwesh said, "I go into this season with

no expectations. For me, success is not rated in the win or loss columns but by what goals we are able to accomplish with this young, exciting team. Teaching these boys to be better tennis players and working together as a team is what I believe makes us successful."

In looking at the makeup of the Lancers' division, the coach stated that she expects Bedford, Hanover, Derryfield of Manchester, and Keene to be among the top contingents.

The LHS men's new campaign started officially in Hampton against the Winnacunnet Warriors Monday, April 6 with a rather rocky start in chilly conditions.

"Despite an 0-8 loss to Winnacunnet, I couldn't be more proud of this team," said Norwesh. "It was 39 degrees with a strong wind, but there were no bagels (shut-outs). There were some long rallies and many deuce games. The Lancers walked away beaten but far from defeated."

The tightest singles matches were played by Woods (4-8), Leo (3-8), and Velie (3-8).

## LHS Girls' Tennis Contingent in Rebuilding Mode

CHRIS PANTAZIS  
LONDONDERRY TIMES

After waving goodbye to a number of standouts from its 2014 crew, the Londonderry High girls' tennis

team of veteran coach Tom Meighan has moved into a rebuilding mode this spring.

Stars Cassie Burbine and Ana Milosavljevic, who helped to lead their

2014 Lady Lancers to an excellent 11-3 record and the sixth seed in Division I, left via graduation, but their fellow stalwart Marissa Beaton is back.

However, beyond sen-

ior Beaton, Meighan's mob is largely rebuilding, and it began its 2015 campaign this past Monday with a 9-0 loss to the visiting Lady Warriors of Winnacunnet High School from Hampton.

Along with senior Beaton, the Lady Lancers' present contingent includes 12th grader Margaret Phillips, juniors Samantha Board, Yuly Cabeza, Hailey Gilbert, and Elizabeth Mak, sophomores Sarah Court, Sarah DePasquale, and Kathryn Dwyer, and freshman Julia Turk.

The 2014 LHS crew had its campaign ended with a 6-3, quarterfinal-round tourney loss to third-seeded Exeter. But coach Meighan and his present team would love to be anywhere the sixth seed this spring.

The line-up, as it stood on Monday, the number one spot was taken by Beaton, with DePasquale earning the number two, Phillips take the third spot in the line-up, and with the official number four, Mak, absent on Monday, Dwyer assumed that role for the afternoon.



Senior MARRISA BEATON is an important returnee to the LHS girls' tennis team.

Photos by Chris Paul



Sophomore SARAH DEPASQUALE is looking to increase her role with the Lady Lancers' tennis squad.

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# Defending D-I Champion LHS Baseball Team Ready to Roll

CHRIS PANTAZIS  
LONDONDERRY TIMES

In the wake of rising up from the fifth seed and winning the Division I

baseball championship last spring, coach Brent Demas' superb Londonderry High Lancers lost a lot of talent to graduation.

But as he assesses his 2015 Lancers following a three-day scrimmage trip to Connecticut last week, Demas finds himself with an athletic group with plenty of promise that still needs some seasoning but may be capable of plenty of good stuff on the diamond.

Londonderry, which went 19-7 last spring in bagging the D-I crown, has battle-tested returning starters in seniors Colby Joncas (catcher), Geoff Kayo (second base/pitcher), and Mike Ryan (outfield), and sophomores Jonny Meskell (third base) and Nick Salcito

(OF/P).

Other varsity returnees include versatile senior Fred MacKay-Wright (OF/2B), juniors Nick Musto (P/first base) and Jimmy Zimolka (OF), and sophomore Brody Dupuis (infield/designated hitter).

The squad's list of promising newcomers is lengthy and includes senior Matt Ross (P), juniors Cam Fennell (IF), Noah Tavano (P/IB), Tim McEachern (IF/OF/P), and Bailey Hamilton (P), and sophomore Xander LaPlante (P/C/3B).

When looking at what he thinks his 2015 group's

keys to success will be, Demas said, "A lot of our strength lies in the work ethic and attitude this team has demonstrated. We still have a lot of moving pieces, but feel we will be competitive again this year. The team has some first-year players that we have confidence in, but they need to adjust to the speed of the varsity game. The quicker we can get them to that point, the better off we will be. This is a very athletic team, and we plan on utilizing that."

And when he looks at the rest of D-I and notes opponents he thinks will

be among the strongest, the LHS skipper pointed to Spaulding of Rochester, Dover, Nashua North, Bedford, and Pinkerton.

Weather and field conditions permitting, the Lancers will begin playing their official 2015 games next Monday, April 13, on the old junior varsity field behind the plateau parking lot at the north end of the school. They will play host to the rival Pinkerton Academy Astros that afternoon in a rematch of the 2014 Division I title game.

A scrimmage at home against Salem High is scheduled for April 10.



Veteran infielder Geoff Kayo and the LHS baseball team will have their hands full this spring.

## Lancers' JV Hockey Squad Developed Talent

CHRIS PANTAZIS  
LONDONDERRY TIMES

With veteran varsity coach Peter Bedford having stepped down from his position at the top of the Londonderry High hockey program, that program is presently in a period of transition.

But there are reasons for Bedford's as-yet-unnamed successor to feel

good about what the LHS skaters can do in the near future, and the development of junior varsity coach Brittany Skudder's 2014-15 crew from December to March shows that there's talent ready to compete for spots on the varsity after the top Lancer team missed out on a Division I tournament spot this winter.

Skudder's squad put

together a modest 3-6-2 record in its 11 contests, but its two meetings with the rival Pinkerton Academy Astros at different points in the campaign show that the JV Lancers grew along the way.

"Our top performance of the season came when we tied Pinkerton at the end of the year," said Skudder, who is a former University of New Hampshire hockey forward from Plainview, N.Y. "Earlier in the year we lost to them 6-0, so to be able to tie them at the end of the year showed how much we had grown as a team and how much better we got."

When asked if her charges had lived up to her expectations, the coach stated, "Yes. They were a great group of players, always willing to work hard, and they loved the game of hockey."

The Londonderry High contingent's 2014-15 roster included senior Collin Correia, juniors Elise Isaak and Gary Richard, sophomores Brian Tausky, Bryan Murphy, Nathaniel Cohen, Ryan Watts, Sean Cotter, and Bill Croteau, and freshmen Graydon Geraghty, Jared Tuccolo, Josh Morin, Matt Maheras, Mike McCormick, and Pat McKinnon.

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# After Shaky 2014 Season, Lady Lancer Stickers Seek Rebound

CHRIS PANTAZIS  
LONDONDERRY TIMES

Veteran lacrosse coach Bob Slater has once again taken over leadership of the Londonderry High girls' lacrosse program and, more specifically, the varsity team.

Slater is returning to the Lady Lancers' lax fold for the third time - after two years away this time - to right the program's ship after a 9-8 regular season during the 2014 campaign that saw the Londonderry team have assistant coach Meredith Jackes finish up for departed head coach Mike Boyle through the final several matches. Those games included a first-round tournament loss to the tough Exeter High Lady Blue Hawks.

Slater led his Lady Lancer teams to four consecutive Division I title matches, with three con-

secutive championship victories from 2009-11.

The coach and his charges headed down south to Orlando, Fla., recently to play some pre-season lax and see where they stand, and the results were pleasing, with the locals dropping only one decision.

And when he peruses his 2015 roster, Slater finds many skilled veterans. But whether or not the Lady Lancers will be able to climb back toward the top of the tough Division I ranks is very much a wait-and-see proposition.

Among the senior stalwarts are Mariah Eacrett (defense), Noelle Lambert (attack and co-captain), Rachel Stevens (defense and co-captain), Annika Skov (midfield), Chelsea Lewis (attack), Sarah Bell (attack), Jenna Conroy (defense), Michaela Kewley (goalie), Michelle Hen-

nessey (middie), and Jackie Curtin (middie).

The returning juniors include Breda Holland (middie), Sarah Jackes (defense), Gabbi Morris (middie), Dominique Breault (middie), Jill McIntire (middie), and June Cranmer (middie), and the lone sophomore returnee is Sami Lecaroz (defense).

"We also have eight other players that have been selected to our varsity team that have great potential," said Slater.

When asked to outline the keys to a successful 2015 campaign for his LHS bunch, Slater said, "It's my first year back, so we are building one day at a time. We are working on a great conditioning program to stay healthy and strong. The girls are working extremely hard to learn the game and execute at a high level."

Despite the fact that

he has been gone from the LHS lax environment for several years, Slater knows that the likes of Souhegan and Pinkerton make Division I interesting at least and dangerous at most for a team looking for major success. But the returning mentor is intent on making sure his charges look past nobody.

"As I have always coached and prepared our team for one game at a time, I am expecting the competition in Division I to be extremely competitive across the board. And we will not take any team lightly," he said.

The Lady Lancers are scheduled to start their 2015 campaign on April 17, away against Hollis-Brookline High, followed by a game the next day, April 18, at home against Manchester Central High School.



Senior co-captain Noelle Lambert and the LHS girls' lacrosse team hope to rebound under the leadership of returning coach Bob Slater this spring.



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# Ex-Lancer Iceman Thompson Faces Adversity, Then Excels

CHRIS PANTAZIS  
LONDONDERRY TIMES

It's said that it doesn't matter how many times you fall down, what matters is how many times you get back up. But former Londonderry High star ice hockey and lacrosse player Tommy Thompson hasn't done much falling down.

However, after being ineligible to play collegiate ice hockey at Saint Lawrence University in Canton, N.Y. during the 2013-14 season for academic reasons, the ex-Lancer came back with a superb 2014-15 season this past winter for the Saints.

Thompson helped his Saint Lawrence squad to a 20-14-3 overall record - with a 14-7-1 mark in the Eastern Collegiate Athletic Conference (ECAC) and an 11-5-1 record on home ice - during the campaign, which ended with a heart-breaking 4-3 overtime loss to Colgate in the ECAC tournament semifinals in March.

The 6-foot-1, 185-pound junior forward was named the ECAC Player of the Week for the span covering Feb. 25 after potting goals in wins over Harvard and Dartmouth, and he finished his personal season with nine goals, 14 assists, and 23

points after playing in every one of the Saints' 37 contests.

Anybody who has had to sit out a season - knowing full well that they could be out on the playing surface making significant contributions to the squad - will attest to the fact that there are few things tougher in sports. But Thompson did it, survived that adversity, and came back strong.

The former LHS athletic stalwart, who is majoring in economics with a minor in government, was a regular center-man for the Saint Lawrence squad during his freshman season of 2011-12, and he tallied three goals that winter, with the first coming against Michigan, and his first ECAC marker coming against Brown. He later bagged his first playoff goal against Dartmouth.

During his sophomore season of 2012-13, the ex-Lancer netted five goals and assisted on five others with key markers coming against Colgate, Union, and then against Yale in the playoffs.

After enduring the 2013-14 season off the ice but maintaining that year of athletic eligibility, Thompson finished third on the team in goals this past season with his nine, fourth in assists with those 14, and third in points with his 23. He also placed an impressive second on the team in plus-minus rating (plus 17), and he bagged a game-winning goal at Brown in early November.

While excelling on the ice for the LHS Lancers during his high school days, Thompson also skated with the Eastern Junior Hockey League's (EJHL) New Hampshire Monarchs, for whom he was good for nearly a point per game.

The talented local bagged 18 goals and 22 assists for 40 points in 43 games in a Monarchs' uniform and helped them to an EJHL championship as well.



Former LHS hockey star Tommy Thompson enjoyed a superb season for the Saint Lawrence University team this winter. Photo courtesy Tara Freeman

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**Spirit Standouts** The East Celebrity Elite Cheer Gym prep level two competitive squad of Londonderry had one heck of a month of March, excelling at major competitions. The local youngsters finished first at a national cheerleading competition at the Connecticut Convention Center in mid-March, and then ended the month by taking top honors at the Advanced Spirit Nationals at the DCU Center in Worcester, Mass. The locals then ushered in April with a superb effort at the University of New Hampshire last weekend.

*Courtesy photo*

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# Londonderry Woman Publishes Novel Honoring Soldier

KAITLYN G. WOODS  
LONDONDERRY TIMES

Londonderry writer and illustrator Deborah Curtin is releasing a self-published novel honoring the memory and service of a young soldier who grew up in town.

While attending the funeral for the young Air Force pilot at Arlington Cemetery in 2011, which included a flyover, Curtin said she was inspired to write the story.

"Today is the Day" shows the determination of a young man who joins the Marines to protect his family and homeland. The thriller, which parallels issues facing the United States today, tells the

story of a soldier who sacrifices the life he loves for his country.

The hero of Curtin's novel, Pete Alexander, fakes his own death and goes undercover to "follow the snake back to his lair, holding the lighted torch of justice."

"Interpret that as you will," she said. "He overhears questionable conversations that hint at terrorist events that will happen, but he doesn't know where or when."

While Curtin's story is a work of fiction, she did a lot of research to make the content as accurate as possible. She even hired as an editor a military veteran, who also gave her

creative suggestions and questioned her on some of the details.

"I worked with a lot of military and veterans, including a Marine sniper, who gave me all his old manuals to read through," she said.

Curtin also included details that relate to life in Londonderry, and the real soldier whose memory her story honors.

The self-published novel, winner of the New England Book Festival in 2014, also honors the men and women in Curtin's family who have served, including her daughter, who serves in the Air Force.

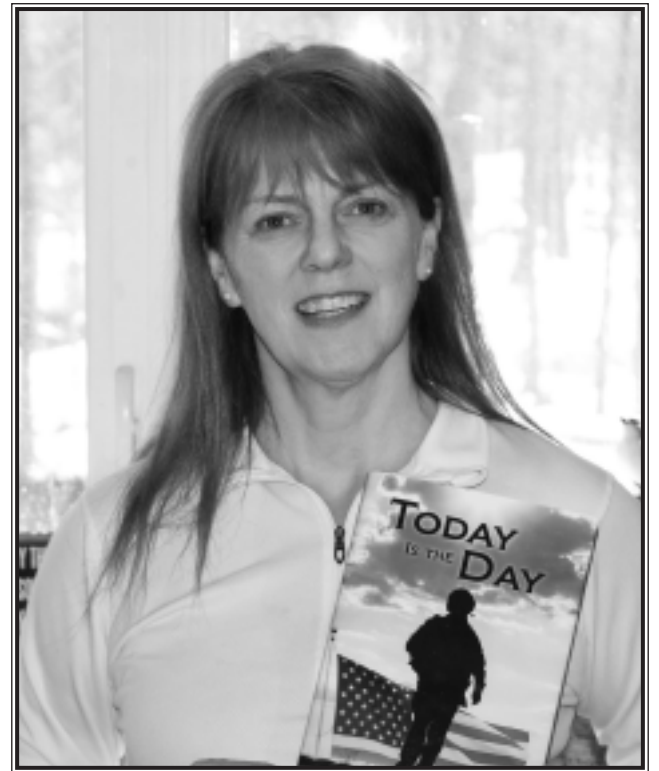
Curtin will be at Cof-

feeberries on April 18 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. for a book signing.

"Today is the Day" was published through Xlibris and can be purchased online through Barnes and Noble and Amazon. To watch a trailer for the book, search for 'Debbie Curtin' at youtube.com, or visit [www.youtube.com/watch?v=uNG39uMP3IQ](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uNG39uMP3IQ).

Curtin is also author of an award-winning children's illustrated book titled "Peril on the High Seas - A Two Tail Adventure," and she is working on her second novel.

For more information about her work, visit Curtin online at [www.debbiecurtin.com](http://www.debbiecurtin.com).



Londonderry writer Deborah Curtin displays her self-published book, "This is the Day," honoring the memory of a Londonderry soldier.

## NEGTC Gymnasts Collect 2015 State Championship

CHRIS PANTAZIS  
LONDONDERRY TIMES

Powered by a crew of talented athletes from Londonderry, the New England Gymnastics Training Center's (NEGTC) Level 3 girls' squad snagged a slim but impressive title victory at the state championship tournament in Stratham on March 29.

The NEGTC crew performed consistently and well throughout its season leading up to the championship event, and then the locals did what it took to collect the state trophy.

The Level 3 bunch tallied a team score of 185.475 to snag first place by a scant 1.2 points.

The impressive work of 10-year-old level stand-out Ella Houghton sat at the center of the team's success as she won the

all-around with a score of 37.225. The Londonderry youngster also proved unbeatable on the uneven bars and in the floor exercise.

Her teammate Lilly Maher was an inspiration to the rest of the squad as she battled through an illness to place fifth in the all-around (36.375) and grab second place on the bars.

The 10-year-old crew also received contributions from Olivia Colliton, who took fourth on bars (9.25) and went top-20 in the all-around (18th, 34.30) and on the balance beam (18th, 8.725), and Alyssa Parsons, who was seventh on vault (9.20), 13th on beam (8.975), and 19th on bars (8.75).

And among the Level 3, 6- and 7-year-olds, Londonderry and the NEGTC crew were represented by



The NEGTC Level 3 gymnastics team continued its great season with a state title recently.

Sophia Magee, who ended up 15th in the all-around (34.30), seventh on vault (9.15), ninth on beam (8.60), and 16th on floor (8.70).

The Level 3 girls' title-winning team is coached by Tim Madore, Nicki McCarthy, and Rryan Angers.

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# South Students to Stage 'Girl with the Golden Locks'

KAITLYN G. WOODS  
LONDONDERRY TIMES

South Elementary School students will take the stage next week, presenting "The Girl with the Golden Locks," a "whodunit" that puts a spin on the classic fairytale.

Goldilocks and Rose Red are top agents at the Fairytale Bureau of Intelligence and send Agent Wolf undercover to save the kingdom from the Three Bears.

Playing the leads are Laura Haas as Agent Gold, Rebecca Quimpo as Agent Red, and Kayla MacLaren as the cow.

"This is not a normal fairytale story. There's a twist to it," said fifth grader Ella Houghton, who plays the part of Chief Granny.

"Other plays we have done have been pretty serious. This one is funny, and you don't know what's coming next," said Noelle Dobe, also in fifth grade, who is playing the part of Momsy.

This year's play features a talented cast, a fun



South Elementary School students perform a line dance in one of the final scenes of "Girl with the Golden Locks," the school play. Photos by Chris Paul

song and dance number, handmade costumes by Reading Specialists Jerrie Blier and Hillary Walter, and the grandmother of a cast member; professional makeup by Gabby Diefenbach, a parent; and choreography by Alex Burnell, a former South School student.

Talented student artists have been meeting for weeks to create the set for the play, and the cast has been rehearsing since

shortly after auditions in October.

"This is a tough play, there were a lot more lines. The leads had to learn over 100 lines. For

fourth and fifth graders, that's pretty remarkable," Reading Specialist Judy Martin said.

When the snow days started interfering with



From left, leads are Kayla MacLaren, Laura Haas and Rebecca Quimpo.—

practices, Martin said the parents and students were wonderful about adjusting the schedule and making up for missed days.

The show will open on April 16 at 7 p.m., with an additional showing on April 17 at 7 p.m.

Admission is free and open to the public.

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## Book Donation

Local author Janice E. Spina, center, displays the children's book "Broose The Moose on the Loose," which she wrote with the help of her grandchildren, Jason and Joseph Cain, pictured. She donated copies of the self-published book to be put on display at Moose Hill Kindergarten. With her at the presentation last week is her husband, John, who illustrated the book. Accepting the books is Moose Hill Kindergarten Coordinator Bonnie Breithaupt.

Photo by Chris Paul

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# High School Class Hosts Egg Hunt



The Londonderry High School Class of 2016 hosted an Easter egg hunt at the school gymnasium Saturday morning. Hundreds of children made their way inside to play games, visit with the Easter Bunny, make crafts, and get their faces painted. The day ended with an Easter egg hunt on the field hockey field next to the gymnasium, where thousands of eggs lay in wait.

*Photos by Chris Paul*



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# AROUND TOWN

**New Policy for Around Town:** 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 \$30.00/week per paper. All Around Town/Calendar Items will be held to 100 words maximum; anything over will incur a charge of \$30.00/week for up to another 50 words. All free announcements in the Around Town/Calendar section can run a maximum of 3 weeks. Deadline for submissions is Monday at 5 p.m. **Additionally:** We will run the full versions of any calendar items online free of charge at [www.nutpub.net](http://www.nutpub.net). Please send items to [calendar@nutpub.net](mailto:calendar@nutpub.net).

## International Night

The Londonderry High School International Club holds its fourth annual International Night on Friday, April 17, from 6 to 8 p.m. at the school cafeteria. The evening features ethnic music, dance, food, displays and activities, along with live performances and booths representing many countries. Admission is free, with a small fee for food and activities. This year all funds earned will be donated to Heifer International, an organization providing livestock, seeds, or training to families around the world who are struggling with hunger and poverty. International Night is appropriate for all ages.

## Ted Cruz to Speak

An event featuring U.S. Senator Ted Cruz, R-Texas a candidate for President, will speak to "the 2nd Amendment Community in New Hampshire" Sunday, April 19, from 11:45 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Londonderry Fish & Game Club, 5 Lund St. Litchfield. The event is free but space is limited and pre-registration is required. The event is sponsored by: Gun Rights Across America, Gun Owners of New Hampshire, New Hampshire Firearms Coalition, NRA (National Rifle Association) ILA (Institute for Legislative Action) New Hampshire, Pro-Gun New Hampshire and Women's Defense League of New Hampshire. For questions and ticket information, contact MediaWDLNH@gmail.com.

## Chris Christie Visit

Leadership Matters for America PAC, Inc. Honorary Chairman Governor Chris Christie will visit New Hampshire as part of the "Tell It Like It Is" Town Hall Series to discuss why America needs leadership now. The Town Hall meeting is set for noon to 1:30 p.m.

Wednesday, April 15, with doors opening at 11 a.m., at the Londonderry Lions Club, 256 Mammoth Road. Seating is on a first come, first serve basis. Christie, Governor of New Jersey, has been mentioned as a possible Republican Presidential candidate. RSVP to: [www.leadershipmattersforamerica.org/NHTownhall](http://www.leadershipmattersforamerica.org/NHTownhall).

## Toy Swap and Sale

Londonderry Women's Club's 13th annual Toy Swap and Sale takes place from 9:30 a.m. to noon Saturday, May 16, at the Matthew Thornton School gym. It is a consignment sale, with the price set by the owner, who receives two-thirds of the sale price. The Londonderry Women's Club keeps one-third. Proceeds will benefit Moore Mart, which sends supplies to soldiers in Iraq and Afghanistan. Registration forms are at Leach Library. Children's items in good condition may be sold, including bassinets, strollers, sporting goods, Halloween costumes, games, books and wooden puzzles. Stuffed animals, cribs, car seats and clothing cannot be accepted.

## White Elephant Bingo Night

Londonderry Women's Club's annual White Elephant Bingo Night will be held at the Londonderry YMCA, 206 Rockingham Road on Wednesday, April 15, at 7 p.m., with snacks and refreshments provided. Bring an unwanted item or souvenir to trade. For questions, contact [londonderry-womensclub@hotmail.com](mailto:londonderry-womensclub@hotmail.com).

## 'Sandwich Generation'

Community Caregivers of Greater Derry, a nonprofit volunteer group providing free in-home and transportation services to the elderly and disabled, hosts a free information session, "Sandwich Generation -

Caught Between a Rock and a Hard Place," on Wednesday, April 15, at 7 p.m. at Birch Heights Holiday Retirement Living, 7 Kendall Pond Road, Derry. Facilitator is Community House Calls. The discussion focuses on dealing with aging parents and young adults. Refreshments will be served and a door prize given. For more information or a copy of materials for those who cannot attend, contact Cindee at 432-0877.

## Car Seat Check

The Londonderry Car Safety Program holds car seat check appointments every second Saturday of every month from 9 a.m. to noon and every fourth Tuesday of every month from 6 to 8 p.m. Call 432-1118 for an appointment.

## Legion Meeting

American Legion Post 27's monthly general meeting is April 13 at 7:30 p.m. Board officers will be installed. The American Legion is at 6 Sargent Road.

## Legion Bingo

American Legion Post 27 plays bingo with patients at the Veterans Administration Hospital in Manchester from 7 to 8:30 p.m. April 27. Donations are welcome, or stop by and help out. Legion members will serve pizza and diet soda and provide \$150 in prize money.

## Miss New Hampshire Voting

New Hampshire residents are invited to vote for one contestant to be included among the 10 semi-finalists in the 2015 Miss New Hampshire Scholarship Competition, which takes place at the Stockbridge Theatre at Pinkerton Academy in Derry from April 30 to May 2. Vote on the Miss New Hampshire Scholarship Program Facebook page: (<https://www.facebook.com/home.php#!/MissNH>). A panel of five judges will



## LHS Trip

The Advanced Drawing class at Londonderry High School took its annual field trip to the Harvard University Museum of Natural History. The students were assigned a variety of drawings of animals from the zoological galleries. They were also encouraged to enjoy the botanical galleries, which feature the internationally acclaimed Glass Flowers collections, in addition to the Mineralogical galleries, which display minerals, meteorites and gemstones. The students came home with a broader sense of their environment and a collection of work they created.

*Courtesy photo*

determine nine contestants earning the greatest number of points in the five phases of preliminary competition (Private Interview, Lifestyle & Fitness in Swimsuit, Evening Wear, Talent and On-Stage Question competitions) to join the one contestant gathering the largest number of popular votes.

## Miss New Hampshire

The Miss New Hampshire Scholarship Competition takes place April 30 through May 2 at the Stockbridge Theatre at Pinkerton Academy, Derry. The final competition is May 2. To purchase tickets, call the Miss New Hampshire office at 437-9027.

## Senior Art

Art classes for April for seniors at the Londonderry Senior Center, 535 Mammoth Road in Londonderry, include the following: Mondays, 12:30 to 2 p.m., ceramics; Thursdays, 10:15 to 11:15 a.m., beaded jewelry; Thursday, April 9, 12:30 to 2 p.m., decorative metal art; Friday, April 10, 12:30 to 2 p.m., wooden craft kit; Friday, April 17, 12:30 to 2 p.m., Earth Day crafts; Friday, April 24, 12:30 to 2 p.m., paint afternoon; Thursday, April 30, 12:30 to 2 p.m., May basket. Pre-registration is required, with payment at sign-up. For details and cost, call 432-8554 and visit: [www.londonderry-nh.org/Pages/LondonderryNH\\_Senior/index](http://www.londonderry-nh.org/Pages/LondonderryNH_Senior/index).

[h.org/Pages/LondonderryNH\\_Senior/index](http://www.londonderry-nh.org/Pages/LondonderryNH_Senior/index).

## Garden for Wildlife

On Thursday, April 16, at 7 p.m., the Leach Library will host a free program in the lower-level meeting room titled "A Garden for Wildlife: Natural Landscaping for a Better Backyard" with Sigrid Salmela, a trained volunteer from the University of New Hampshire Cooperative Extension's Speaking for Wildlife project. Audience members will learn how to modify a backyard, garden, or landscaped area to help wildlife. Salmela will discuss wildlife and habitats, plant choice, native plants, nest boxes and feeders, and invasive plants. "Speaking for Wildlife" is a volunteer effort of UNH Cooperative Extension. Light refreshments will be served.

## Hats for Veterans

The Londonderry Athletic Leadership Council at Londonderry High School is selling camouflage hats in support of veterans through Operation Hat Trick. Two styles are available this year: 72 adjustable clamp ones such as were sold last year,

and 72 flex-fit caps. Prices are \$15 and \$20 respectively. Delivery date is May 1. For questions, email [crich@londonderry.org](mailto:crich@londonderry.org).

## Magic Show

Kick off National Library Week with a visit with Ed Popielarczyk on Monday, April 13, from 4 to 5 p.m. at the Leach Library. Magic skills and lots of audience participation are planned. Advance registration is required. To register, call 432-1127 or come by the Children's Room.

## Library Week Raffle

Starting Monday, April 13 through closing on Saturday, April 18, during National Library Week, for each children's item checked out from the Leach Library that week, a raffle ticket will be provided for a chance to win a book bag. Stop by the display case in the Children's Room to see the book bag.

## National Library Week Craft

Starting Monday, April 13, through closing on Saturday, April 18, during National Library Week,

**continued on page 21**

## Co-Ed Softball Sign up

Londonderry Co-Ed Softball is looking for new players! We are hoping to add a team, looking for a coach as well. This is a fun, semi-competitive league which plays Thursday nights. Starts late May and goes through the summer. If interested, please contact Mike Costello at [Ltowncoed@gmail.com](mailto:Ltowncoed@gmail.com).



## Around Town

Continued from page 20

Leach Library patrons will have a chance to create their own "been caught reading" picture frame. Stop by the Children's Room desk to pick up the supplies and create a frame at home or at the library.

### Great Stone Face Voting

Raffle tickets for books read by students in grades 4

through 6 may be dropped off until closing on Saturday, April 11, at the Leach Library. After reading the books, youths may vote for the Great Stone Face award beginning Monday, April 13, at 9 a.m. Voting continues through closing on Saturday, April 18. Everyone who votes will receive a book-mark.

### Arts Academy Open House

Granite State Arts Acad-

emy, a public chartered high school in Derry that accepts students from other towns, holds an Open House from 10 a.m. to noon April 11 at the school, Brookstone Park, Building 4, Route 111, Derry. Meet the Head of School, faculty and members of the Board of Trustees; take a tour, learn about the curriculum and participate in a question and answer session. The school is free to New Hamp-

shire residents. Enrollment forms will be accepted in the main office. For more information, call 912-4944.

### Farm Fun

Leach Library presents a children's program about farms on Monday, April 20, from 4 to 5 p.m. Participants will hear stories of the animals that live on the farm as well as learning about what life on a farm is like. A tour through "Old MacDonald's

Farm" is also featured. All participants will receive a red bandana. Advance registration is required and begins at 9 a.m. Monday, April 13. To register, call 432-1127 or stop by the Children's Room.

### Free Meals

The Community Meals Network offers the following free meals in Derry. Derry residency is not required. Every weekday, dinner, 4 to

5 p.m., Sonshine Soup Kitchen. April 12, noon, lunch, Seventh Day Adventist Church; April 12, 5 to 6:30 p.m., dinner, Church of the Transfiguration; April 16, 5 to 6:30 p.m., dinner, West Running Brook Middle School; April 18, 5 to 6:30 p.m. dinner, St. Luke's United Methodist Church; April 19, noon, lunch, Seventh Day Adventist Church; April 19, 5 to 6:30 p.m., dinner, Etz

Continued on page 22

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#### HELP WANTED

Looking for part-time wait staff, bartending, and delivery driver (clean driving record and dependable vehicle). Please call 617-669-6888.

#### LESSONS

Writers welcomed, Derry Writers Group, workshop format includes *Smart Nursing* author, poetry, fiction. Marion Gerrish Center, 6:30pm 2nd & 4th Mondays; April 13, 27.

#### MASONRY

Michael’s Masonry- Specializing in repair work. Steps, retaining walls, walkways, stone work. Free Estimates 603-421-0686.

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## Around Town

Continued from page 21

Hayim Synagogue; April 24, 5 to 6:30 p.m., spaghetti supper, First Parish Church; April 26, noon, lunch, Seventh Day Adventist Church.

#### Lions’ Concert

The Londonderry Lions Club Valentine’s Day Concert, cancelled because of snow, is rescheduled to Saturday, May 9, from 7 to 11

p.m. at the Lions Hall, Mammoth Road. Bobby and the Sharptones will play classic rock and roll from the ‘50s through ‘80s. The concert benefits Londonderry High School scholarships, local sight and hearing, and Thanksgiving and Christmas baskets. Tickets purchased for the February concert will be accepted. Cost is \$20 per person, \$35 per couple, and includes popcorn, chips, pastries and coffee. Soda and water can be purchased. Alcoholic beverages can be brought. For tickets, call Jerry at 434-5307.

#### Free Children’s Clothing

St. Gianna’s Closet gives out children’s clothing of all sizes free to any family in need. Call Liz at 247-8654 to arrange a pick-up time to receive clothing. Donations of gently used children’s clothing are accepted. Drop-off locations are St. Mark’s Church in Londonderry and St. Thomas Aquinas Church in Derry during office hours, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Mondays through Thursdays, and at 5 Isabella Drive in Londonderry.

#### Crafters Wanted

Londonderry Senior Citizens, Inc. (LSCI) will hold a

Summer Arts and Crafts Fair from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. June 20 at the Londonderry Senior Center, 535 Mammoth Road, Londonderry. Space is available to local artisans. Funds raised from the fair will be used to purchase equipment and materials for the Senior Center. Crafters must provide their own table and chairs. LSCI will have food and drinks available for purchase and will sell raffle tickets for donated items from participating artisans and local businesses. Applications and fees are due by May 1. For more information, call Bonnie Ritvo at 432-8554.

#### First Parish Fundraiser

First Parish Congregational Church, UCC of East Derry hosts a Noche Mexicana Fundraiser on Sunday, April 26, from 4 to 10 p.m. at Margarita’s Mexican Restaurant, 1037 Elm St., Manchester, with 15 percent of pre-taxed food and beverage sales from participants donated to First Parish Congregational Church. Those attending should tell their server on arrival that they are part of the fundraiser. Call 434-0628 or email

Continued on page 23

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# Londonderry Police Log

Selections from the Londonderry Police Logs

**Monday, March 30**  
**9:07 a.m.** Amanda Holmes, 34, Capital Hill Drive, Londonderry arrested for Domestic Violence Simple Assault. Bail set at \$1,000 personal recognizance, with Derry Circuit Court date of May 5. Felipe F. Velasquez, 38, Capitol Hill Drive, Londonderry arrested for Domestic Violence Simple Assault. He

was released on a hand summons.  
**9:16 a.m.** Troy A. Gay, 48, Baldwin Street, Laconia arrested on warrant at Brentwood jail for Theft: All Other. He refused bail and was to be arraigned March 31 in Derry Circuit Court.  
**12:23 p.m.** Auto theft reported at S&S Metals, Rockingham Road.

**Thursday, April 2**  
**1:44 p.m.** Theft of merchandise from Rent-A-Center.  
**3:33 p.m.** Contacted Fish & Game about "mangy looking fox" running down Albany Avenue.  
**4:02 p.m.** Thomas Bajek Jr., 17, Estey Drive, Londonderry turned himself in on warrant for Simple Assault. Released on per-

sonal recognizance bail.  
**4:46 p.m.** Report of three vehicles drag racing on Sargent Road daily from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m.

**4:59 p.m.** Jordan Theodore Urban, 31, Laurel Street, Manchester arrested for three counts of Stalking. No bail set due to stalking charges, with Derry Circuit Court date of May 26.

**Friday, April 3**  
**7:26 a.m.** Brush fire northbound at Exit 5 of Interstate 93.  
**7:07 p.m.** TMT Fireworks

employee on Nashua Road reported two subjects lit small fire in parking lot and then put it out.  
**8:44 p.m.** Caller on Thornton Road reported generator taken from garage.

**10:51 p.m.** Caller on Pinyon Place reported loud music coming from trailer.  
**11:51 p.m.** Multiple callers report loud explosion in area of Brook Hollow Pit, Auburn Road.

**Saturday, April 4**  
**4:44 p.m.** Andrew Walker, Jefferson Drive, Londonderry arrested for Domes-

tic Violence Simple Assault. Released on \$2,000 personal recognizance bail, with Derry District Court date of May 5.

**Sunday, April 5**  
**8:32 p.m.** Steven Pimenta, 37, Portsmouth Street, Cambridge, Mass., arrested for two counts of Domestic Violence Simple Assault. Bail set at \$3,000 personal recognizance, with Derry Circuit Court date of May 5.

**Monday, Aug. 6**  
**4:48 a.m.** Motor Vehicle stop at Burger King on Nashua Road. Keith Bruno Rodrigue, 33, High Street, Derry arrested for Obstructing Government Administration, Possession of Drugs (in a motor vehicle) and Possession of Controlled/Narcotic Drugs. Personal recognizance bail set, with May 5 Derry Circuit Court date.

## Around Town

Continued from page 22

officemgr@fpc-ucc.org for more information.

### Garden Thinning

The Derry Garden Club holds its annual Plant Sale on Saturday, May 16. As soon as the weather permits, the club will be sending diggers out to gather perennials for the sale. Garden club members will dig perennials free from areas that have become overgrown or that can be dug up to plant something new. To arrange a visit, call Wanda at 434-6681.

### HU Chant

A free Community HU Chant is offered Thursday, April 16, at 7:30 p.m. and continuing on the third Thursday of each month at the Holiday Inn, 2280 Brown Ave., Manchester. For more information, call 800-713-8944 or visit [www.eckankar-nh.org](http://www.eckankar-nh.org)

### Eckankar Worship

An Eckankar Worship Service is offered Sunday, April 12, from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. and continuing the second Sunday of each month at the Holiday Inn, 2280 Brown Ave., Manchester. For more information, call 800-713-8944 or visit [www.eckankar-nh.org](http://www.eckankar-nh.org).

## Council Approves Expenditures, Appoints Fillio to Conservation

KAITLYN G. WOODS  
 LONDONDERRY TIMES

The Town Council voted 5-0 Monday night to approve the expenditure of \$4,150 from the Special Revenue Funds for the Londonderry Police Department to install a garage lift that will enable the Department to perform routine maintenance on vehicles in house.

By performing tire

rotations, protective undercarriage skid plate installations and fixes and oil changes, it's anticipated the department will realize an annual cost savings of \$6,000.

The one-time expenditure does not have a tax impact as the fund is derived from fees paid by police service users.

The Council also voted 5-0 to approve a \$3,627 expenditure from the

Maintenance Trust Fund for winter maintenance at the Town Hall, Police Department, Leach Library, Cable Access Center, and Senior Center; as well as for sprinkler pipe repair at the Police Station.

And the Council voted 5-0 to appoint Roger Fillio as an alternate member to the Conservation Commission.

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Announcement-  
**Free electronic hearing tests** will be given from Monday-Friday 9am - 5pm at Avada Hearing Care Centers at 8 locations in New Hampshire. Call to find the location nearest to you. The test has been arranged for anyone who suspects they are not hearing clearly. People who usually say they can hear but have trouble with understanding words are encouraged to come in for the tests. The testing includes newly-developed tests that determine your ability to hear speech in noisy environments. Everyone, especially those over 55 who have trouble hearing words clearly, should have a test annually. Demonstrations of the latest devices to improve clarity of speech will be available, on the spot, after the tests. You can HEAR for yourself if the latest methods of correction will help you understand words better.

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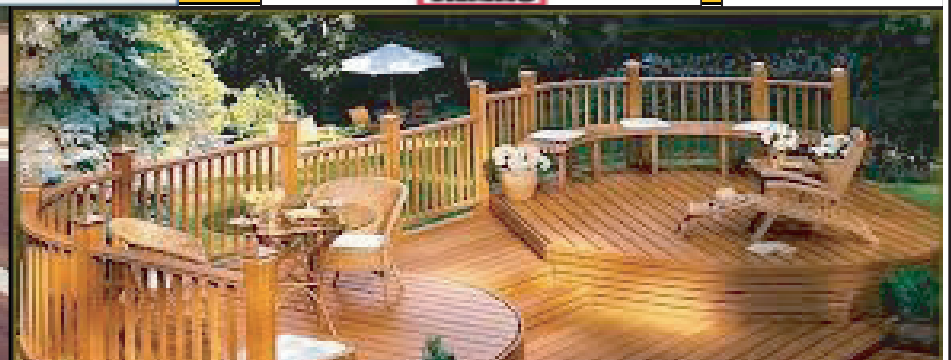
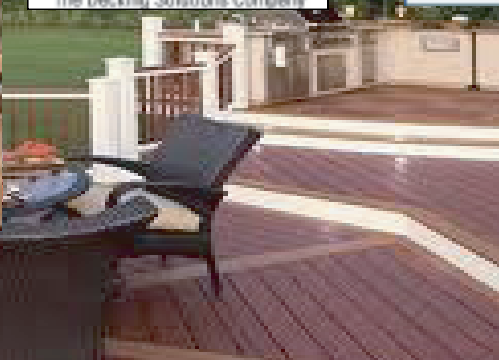
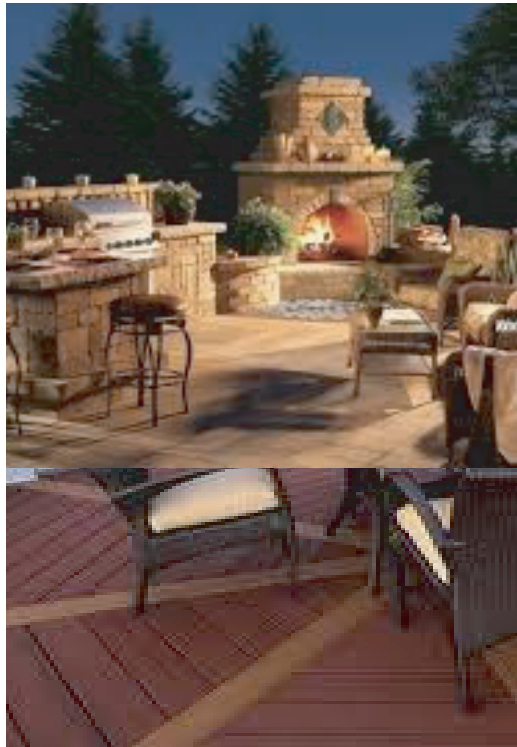
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\*Example vehicle: 2007 Mitsubishi Outlander: Stk# 7Z009713, 100k miles. College Grad and Military Veterans are not included. Vehicles subject to prior sale. Best vehicles sold cosmetically as is. Adweek is for representational purposes only. Not responsible for typographical errors. Offer ends 4/13/15.

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