

Londonderry Times

January 15, 2015 ♦ Volume 16 – Issue 3

A FREE Weekly Publication



Going to Great Lengths Over 200 donors gathered Friday at Londonderry High School to donate their hair to the Pantene Beautiful Lengths organization for the ninth year in a row. Pictured from front are Liz Iaconnis, who is having her hair cut by Lauren Mullen, while Jillian Fitzgibbons cuts Mullens' hair. See story on page 9. *Photo by Chris Paul*

Proposed School Budget, Up By 1.5 Percent, Goes to Hearing

KAITLYN G. WOODS
LONDONDERRY TIMES

Satisfied that the recommended operating budget for the 2015-2016 school year is reasonable and fair, the School Board voted to move Article 2 to a Jan. 15 public hearing.

Member Steve Young

said with the proposed reduction in teachers, teaching aides, and other small items, he's comfortable going to the public hearing with the Superintendent's proposed budget of \$67.5 million, which is \$382,264 below the Default Budget. The proposed budget is a 1.5 per-

cent increase (\$1,051,691) over the FY15 budget.

The tax rate impact of the budget is a decrease of 6 cents from last year's tax rate, from \$12.65 to \$12.59. The budget request and the default budget do not contain salary increases for the

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Proposal Sought for Town-Based Assessment of Housing Needs

KAITLYN G. WOODS
LONDONDERRY TIMES

The Planning Board directed town staff to bring forward a proposal for a town-based assessment of housing needs.

The assessment would identify where and what type of housing is still needed in regard to what Londonderry's fair share of affordable housing is, as well as what kind of housing the Town is already providing, according to Town Planner Cynthia May, who noted an estimate of the cost of the assessment is not yet

available, but would be part of the proposal.

While a regional assessment is completed every five years, the assessment proposed would be a town-based housing needs assessment from the perspective of Londonderry to reveal how the Town relates to the region in its compliance with the "fair share" requirement.

Geographic Information Systems Manager John Vogl is providing information to the Southern New Hampshire Planning Commission (SNHPC) to be used in completing

the assessment.

"This is good. I think we're flying blind right now and we need to get a handle on it," member Laura El-Azem said at the Board's Wednesday, Jan. 7 meeting.

But member John Laferriere expressed frustration that the Town must take the lead and spend money on the assessment because the legislation doesn't clearly define a community's "fair share."

"Why are we not forcing the State to provide some clarity to this?" he

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Conservation Commissions Looks Favorably on Rail Trail Funding

KAITLYN G. WOODS
LONDONDERRY TIMES

The Conservation Commission told the Londonderry Trailways it may commit \$100,000 to help complete Phase Three of the Londonderry Rail Trail.

The 1.4 mile stretch connecting Liberty Drive to Seasons Lane, which runs past a peat bog, would make conservation land along the trail accessible to all residents, representatives of Londonderry Trailways said at a Jan. 6 public hearing before the Conservation Commission on the funding request.

"The trail is completely accessible to handicapped people," said Trailways Chairman Bob Rimol, noting that its paved surface also encourages use by seniors and families with

strollers.

"As the population ages, not everyone wants to drive far to do things," said Pollyann Winslow, a spokesperson for Londonderry Trailways. "On the Rail Trail, you feel safe, you can enjoy beautiful scenery you can't access from the roadways, and you run into your neighbors. I think it has a positive effect on the community."

Rimol estimates the project will cost about \$400,000 and told the Commission his group has two citizen warrant petitions ready to submit by Jan. 13, one for \$280,000 and the other for \$380,000, depending on whether the Commission approves the \$100,000 contribution.

"We'd like to keep the expense to residents down as much as possible,"

Winslow said.

Commissioner Mike Speltz said that in consulting with Town Attorney Mike Ramsdell regarding the legality of supporting the project, he learned the Town may invest funds in the trail corridor because of its agreement with the State to use that land.

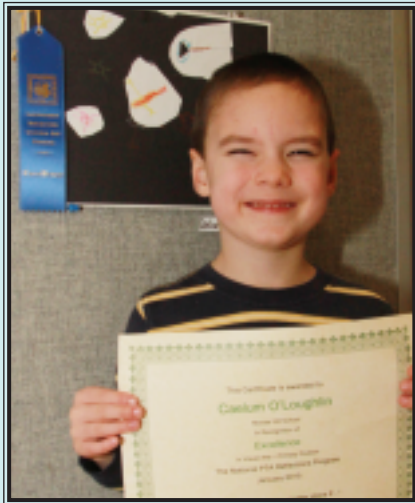
"The Conservation Commission is not a party to the agreement, but can be a party to a contract with Continental Paving, or whatever company is used

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Blue Ribbon Day



The annual Reflections Exhibit was on display Saturday with 44 Londonderry students receiving excellence awards and the right to go on to the state finals in March in Derry. Clockwise above left, Kennedy Brown, a Matthew Thornton fourth grader, displays some of her dancing abilities; Sarah Fitzpatrick from Moose Hill School shows off her excellence award for her painting; Caleb Haseltine, a second grader at North School, displays his award; South School first grader Jade Lang sings "Let it Go" from "Frozen"; and Caelum O'Loughlin of Moose Hill, is proud to be moving on to the state contest. *Photos by Chris Paul*



Some of the homes SOLD in 2014!

By Market Leader, Mark Oswald

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Passerby Saves Londonderry Woman from House Fire

KAITLYN G. WOODS
LONDONDERRY TIMES

A Good Samaritan's swift response saved a Londonderry woman who was asleep in her home when it caught fire last week.

Alan Lantz, the executive chef at Surf Restaurant in Nashua, was on his way to work when he noticed smoke coming out of a third-floor window of a white colonial at 77 High Range Road.

"I use all my senses to cook. When I smelled the smoke I knew something

was wrong. That's when I decided to stop. When I first looked, it looked like snow being blown around," said Lantz, who ran around the house banging on doors and windows trying to alert anyone inside of the fire.

Lorraine Elwood, 86, was sleeping inside and unaware her home was on fire.

When she finally came to the door, Lantz ran inside and grabbed blankets, wrapping them around Elwood and helping her to safety outside.

Battalion Chief Jim Roger said Lantz was a crucial link in their response.

"The fire was progressing rapidly. The home was built in 1782. There are no fire stops built into the walls," he said. "Another three minutes or so and the attic would have been totally consumed with fire. We were lucky this gentleman was passing by. If the timing had been different, there could have been a different outcome. He made a huge difference."

The Fire Department received the call reporting the fire at 10:52 a.m. Tuesday, Jan. 6. The fire started in a second-floor bathroom when a light fan malfunctioned, causing an electrical fire.

The Fire Department had a quick response, with all three engines arriving at the home in just a few minutes. Crews immediately ran a hose through the front door up to the second floor and checked the home to make sure there wasn't anyone else inside.

While firefighters were working to put out the flames, additional crews put down salvage covers to protect Elwood's property from water damage, according to Roger.

"Our crews did a fantastic job. They didn't miss a beat. It went like clockwork," he said.

Because the home is located in a non-hydrant area, three additional fire tankers, which hold up to 3,000 gallons of water each, were called in from Litchfield, Windham and Pelham, as well as a fire

engine from Hudson and an ambulance from Derry.

Lantz said while they were waiting for fire crews to arrive, a neighbor took Elwood into her home to get warm and said she was a little confused but unharmed.

"I hate to think what could have happened if I hadn't driven by when I did," he said. "Her family called me and thanked me. I don't think I did anything special, I just did what I was supposed to do."

Site Plan for 27 Single-Family Homes Gets Board OK

KAITLYN G. WOODS
LONDONDERRY TIMES

The Planning Board has approved the site plan and a Conditional Use Permit for the construction of a subdivision on Mammoth Road.

The site plan for "School House Square" features 27 single-family, detached housing units of various designs, ranging from 2,000- to 2,500-square-feet, according to Jack Szemplinski of Benchmark Engineering.

The Board additionally approved a lot line adjustment plan for the property, which results in a three-acre lot to the north and a southerly 17.5 acre lot, which is to be developed into School House Square. The three-acre lot is not to be developed as

part of School House Square.

The plan includes construction of an entrance called School House Road, as well as a small private driveway to be called Phillips Brook Lane, which will require a dredge and fill plan and Conservation Overlay District crossing. The Conservation Commission approved those requests on Jan. 6.

The plan includes 9,860-square-feet of wetland filling, with 2,600-square-feet of Conservation Overlay District to be impacted.

The Planning Board approved a Conditional Use Permit for the project, as well as nine other waivers to the Site and Subdivision Plan Regulations to complete utilities on the site, at its meeting

Jan. 7.

The nine waivers granted include a waiver from the minimum velocity in drain pipes, as the requirement is unachievable due to minimum pipe size requirements in the ordinance; from the minimum depth of cover for storm drain lines, as pipe lines in the proposal run cross county rather than under the proposed road; from a minimum 6-foot depth of cover for sewer lines to allow a 4-foot depth of cover; from a minimum 5-foot depth of cover for water lines to allow a 4-foot depth of cover; from a mandate that no certificate of occupancy may be issued by the Building Department until all on-site improvements are completed and inspected,

with the condition that the wearing course will be placed before the certificate of occupancy is issued for the last five houses constructed; from the requirement that a right of way must have a width of 50 feet; from a traffic speed requirement for the neighborhood of 35 miles-per-hour to allow a speed of 25 mph; from the requirement the applicant submit an illumination plan; and from the regulations that limit the maximum driveway width for a single-family lot to 12 feet at the right of way.

Member Mary Soares asked if the developer considered including a play area in the site plan as the subdivision would likely attract families with

young children.

Szemplinski said they had considered adding a playground, but could not find a suitable location for one and were concerned that over time it could become a "hang-out."

Szemplinski said the Tennessee Gas pipeline right-of-way crosses through the parcel, but they have worked with the company as well as Public Works staff to ensure the plan minimizes impact to the high-pressure lines. All utilities will be over the lines and no blasting will be required in that neighborhood.


"One of the conditions of our agreement is we can have absolutely no encroachment on that easement," Szemplinski

said, noting it's always a possibility the company could expand the gas line there.

"My concern is you'd have construction vehicles pretty much in your backyard," member John Laferriere said. "While that construction is going on, that house is pretty much going to be a mess."



Szemplinski noted when construction is complete, the project will provide for nice landscaping of the property, adding any impacted property would be fully restored and the route wouldn't cross near any important utilities on the site.

No abutters or members of the public spoke about the plan during the public hearing.



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Editorial

Pay Now or Pay Later

Last week the Greater Derry Public Health Network, including all the towns in the Nutfield Publishing area, hosted a legislative breakfast to get people talking about substance abuse and its prevention.

And while talk is vital, it's clear that action is long overdue.

The speakers noted, among other things, that New Hampshire is 49th out of the 50 states in providing substance abuse treatment. That raises some interesting questions, among them, how residents would react if New Hampshire were 49th – beaten by every state but Texas – in providing treatment for diabetes, or cancer, or heart disease.

It's been a long struggle for people to accept alcoholism as a disease, rather than a personal weakness. We're in the midst of a similar struggle in how we view substance abuse, and changing that viewpoint we must, as local and state officials repeatedly tell us that our towns are experiencing a heroin epidemic, and indeed, an overall drug abuse epidemic.

It wasn't that long ago that a stigma was attached to other diseases and conditions. People didn't talk about their ailments or those of their loved ones. Today we reserve that reticence – and embarrassment – for substance abuse, and we acknowledge the family of a Derry man who died of a heroin overdose the day after his birthday, and who made that

public in an effort to help others learn from his illness so they do not have to face similar tragedy.

Local drug treatment officials explained that drug addiction is a chronic illness, not something a person can combat on his or her own. Parents and others were urged to seek out help and treatment, even though it may be difficult to access.

And just as we hear that obesity has costs to society as well as to the individual involved, so too, the costs of drug addiction are already shared by society at large. In addition to crimes committed to support a drug habit, Derry police and fire officials told the gathering that responding to an overdose call depletes resources available for other emergencies. In Derry, at least seven personnel respond to an overdose.

Derry had 79 overdoses in 2014, of which 49 were heroin related; 16 deaths occurred. In Londonderry last year, police responded to at least 100 overdose-related calls, almost all of them involving heroin or opiates.

The need for more local treatment beds is clear. As Tym Rourke, Director of Substance Use Disorders Grant-making and Strategic Initiatives at New Hampshire Charitable Foundation, said, "treatment works but we just don't have enough of it....You can pay for this epidemic and lack of treatment resources now or you can pay for it later."

Letters

TIF Taxes

To the editor:

Congratulations on 15 years. It is too bad that in your Jan. 8 edition, where you talk about your growth, it has one of the worst headlines I have seen in your publication. The headline was "TIF District Taxes Would Otherwise Go To General Fund." No, this headline is misleading, and you could have done better.

I would have suggested "TIF District Taxes being Siphoned Away From General Fund," as that is far more accurate. All houses, buildings, and property in Londonderry are taxed. These tax revenues pay for the police and fire departments, infrastructure, and school system. If your property is improved, or increases in value, you have to pay

more to help sustain the town services. This is not what is happening in the TIF district.

Even as we watch several multi-million-dollar buildings be constructed in our town, the taxes going into the general fund remain equal to the value the land had when it was just dirt. New values, and hence new taxes, are not. According to Kevin Smith, only a small amount has been diverted so far, \$114,094, but next year, when the UPS, Fed Ex, and Milton Cat buildings are complete, we could see close to \$2 million in property tax revenue "siphoned" away from paying our teachers, police, and firefighters, and tucked away for who knows what purpose. In fact, will we have a say when it is spent? I doubt it.

It is said that this money, possibly close to \$2 million next year or the year after, is to pay for \$250,000 in streetlights. My first thought is that the property owners and investors making a profit on the building of UPS, Fed Ex, and Milton Cat put in their own traffic lights, but if we must, why not just take that from the \$4 million dollar undesignated fund we already have? Why are the property taxes in this high growth area being diverted?

Something is wrong when we take 77 properties, and siphon off any increases in tax revenues away from the general fund that pays for the services we all use in town, services even those 77 properties use daily.

Ken McLoon
Londonderry

Londonderry Times welcomes letters of up to 500 words on topics of local interest, and prints as many letters as possible. Please e-mail your letters to the Londonderry Times at londonderrytimes@nutpub.net. All letters must include the writer's name, address and phone number for verification if needed; name and town of residence will be printed. Londonderry Times reserves the right to reject or edit letters for content and length, and anonymous letters will not be printed.

One Town Council, Two School Board Seats Open

KAITLYN G. WOODS
LONDONDERRY TIMES

Candidate filing for the March 10 election opens on Wednesday, Jan. 21. The filing period closes at 5 p.m. Friday, Jan. 30.

Two seats are open on the School Board, as well as several positions with the Town.

The School Board seats currently held by Leitha Reilly and Steve Young will be open. Reilly confirmed she plans to run for re-election; Young declined to

respond to a reporter's request regarding whether he will run again.

Those who wish to run for a position on the School Board must file an application with School District Clerk Mary Soares. Contact Soares at 247-1679 to schedule an appointment. Soares will also be in the School District Office on Jan. 30 from 3 to 5 p.m. to accept last-minute filings.

On the Town side, positions open are: one Town Council seat, three-

year term, currently held by Jim Butler; Trustee of the Leach Library, three-year term; Trustee of the Trust Funds, two positions, each three-year terms; Town Clerk, three-year term; and Budget Committee, three-year term. Butler could not be reached for comment.

Those who wish to run as a candidate for a town position may file their application with any of the Town Clerk staff at the Town Offices weekdays until Jan. 30 at 5 p.m.

Correction: Recent Letters to the Editor have referred to a proposed 400-seat auditorium. The proposed auditorium at Londonderry High School calls for an 800-seat structure.

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FBI Arrests Londonderry Man in Shooting of Wife in Maine

KAITLYN G. WOODS
LONDONDERRY TIMES

Gregory Owens, 58, of 3 Winthrop Road, was arrested on Monday, Jan. 11, for charges related to the shooting of his wife and her friend in Saco, Maine last month.

Owens allegedly traveled from New Hampshire to Maine with the intent to kill or injure his wife, Rachel Owens, 55, on Dec. 18, 2014, and allegedly committed attempted murder and aggravated assault against his wife when he shot her with a pistol, according to court documents filed in the United States District Court of Maine.

On Dec. 18 around 2:47 a.m., police in Saco received a 911 call reporting a home invasion and shooting at the home of Steven and Carol Chabot, both 55.

Steven Chabot told police he had been shot and was hiding in a closet. Chabot's wife barricaded herself in a bedroom and was unharmed. Rachel Owens, who was sleeping in a guest room, was shot four times while she slept, one bullet striking the back of her head.

Steven Chabot, who had seen an intruder wearing dark clothing and a ski mask approaching his home carrying a handgun, had returned to his bedroom and attempted to shut and lock the door. The intruder shot through the door three times, striking Chabot in the arm, shoulder and back.

During the investigation of the shooting, police

learned Gregory Owens became involved in a romantic affair with a woman from Wisconsin around 2008. A friend of the woman told investigators Owens frequently visited her in Wisconsin.

When the woman came to the conclusion Owens would not leave his wife for her, she is said to have threatened to expose and end her relationship with Owens by publishing photos of them together in a local newspaper.

Based on statements provided to investigators, Gregory and Rachel Owens were married for over 35 years and have an adult son.

Carol Chabot told police her lifelong friend, who was visiting for pre-holiday shopping and to visit with family, had become suddenly ill sometime in 2014 despite previously enjoying years of good health and no known medical problems.

According to court documents, investigators gathered a substantial amount of evidence in their case against Owens.

Bullet casings found at the scene of the shooting matched 15 rounds of the same 27-year-old 9 mm ammunition found during a search of Owens' home. Approximately 26 firearms were also located and seized from Owens' residence.

A wet, black jacket and dark green cargo pants resembling the description of the dark-colored clothing worn by the intruder were also found in Owens' dryer during the search of his home, which was con-

ducted the same day as the shooting. And foot impressions left in the Chabots' flower bed are the exact size and tread of a pair of wet, black boots seized from Owens' car when police stopped him soon after the shooting had occurred.

Forensic computer evidence revealed someone searched the internet on the Owens' home computer for information about hiding the actual time of its use the day before the shooting, and that over the course of the following seven hours, the clock on the computer was changed three times for a total of three hours' difference.

According to the foren-

sic analysis completed by Saco Police Detective Fred Williams, a changed time stamp made it appear Owens' email and work-related projects were accessed at the time of the shooting when they had actually been accessed three hours earlier.

Owens was charged with Interstate Domestic Violence, a Class C felony, which carries a penalty of up to 20 years in prison and/or a fine up to \$250,000; and Discharging a Firearm During and in Relation to a Crime of Violence, a Class A felony, which carries a penalty of no less than 10 years and no more than life in prison, to be served consecutive-

ly to his sentence for Interstate Domestic Violence, and/or a fine of up to \$250,000.

Saco Deputy Police Chief Jeffrey Holland said his department's investigation is "still a very active and fluid investigation."

"We anticipate there will be additional charges, but we're still in the active part of investigation and we will make a determination on which charges we will be moving forward with," he said.

A combined preliminary examination and detention hearing of the case in the federal court in Portland, Maine, was continued to Jan. 21 at Owens' request.

Owens is being held at the Cumberland County Jail in Portland, Maine.

To respect the victims' privacy, their conditions are not being released at this time.

According to the New Hampshire Corporation Division, Gregory Owens is president and sole proprietor of Owens Consulting Group at 3 Winthrop Road. It is listed as registered by Gregory, Owens A., but the application was signed by Gregory A. Owens. The business is described as a provider of training services and training devices, and reseller of goods to U.S. Military at overseas locations. It was organized in 2008.

Rail Trail

Continued from page 1

to complete the construction," he said. "Our funds, if we approve, would be going directly into contract with a paving contractor, and that has been vetted by the town attorney."

The land use change tax can be used for any purpose within the Commission charter under state statutes - primarily, preserving open space.

"We're trying to preserve a unique feature of the Town. We're saying, let's give more access to open space," he said.

Ann Chiampa, a member of the Planning Board, asked if the Commission is moving away from using funds for more natural trails in the Town's wooded areas, and if the Commission would be amend-

able to contributing funds to develop handicapped accessible trails in areas such as the Town Forest.

Commissioners said they would consider that.

Speltz noted the Commission would only be dedicating a small fraction of the money available in the fund to support a trail that would expand access to open space and conservation areas in town.

About \$1.5 million is available in the Commission's fund and land use change tax is coming in soon, according to Chairman Deborah Lievens.

"We're only contributing around 25 percent of the entire project," Vice

Chairman Eugene Harrington said.

Rimol noted the importance of raising the money as soon as possible to complete work as construction moves north on Interstate 93 and plans for Woodmont Commons ramp up. Pillsbury Realty, the Woodmont Commons developer, owns part of the trail slated for Phase Four development. Construction services can often be contracted at a reduced cost when done in conjunction with another project.

"We want to be able to leverage the fact that we have the Rail Trail completed down to Seasons Lane and Derry has completed

the trail to Hood Park. The State should pay for part of that trail to fill that gap," he said. "We're in constant dialogue with the Derry Rail Trail Alliance. We know what's at stake. They're at a stopping point and we need to get to ours."

Although the Commission could not vote on the \$100,000 commitment the night of the public hearing, Commissioners present for the meeting expressed their support for the project.

"Taking just a quick test of how things are going, I think in three weeks we will be voting to approve it," Harrington said.

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Two Residents Sponsor Petition Warrant Article to Dissolve TIF

KAITLYN G. WOODS
LONDONDERRY TIMES

Residents Richard Bielinski and Ken McLoon are sponsoring a warrant article petition to see if the Town will vote to dissolve the Londonderry Airport Tax Increment Finance (TIF) District.

"The fact is that the people never had the choice as to whether or not they wanted the TIF to begin with. The Town Council took it upon themselves to establish it," said Bielinski, who argued that the developers should be responsi-

ble for all costs associated with building the road, as well as the \$225,000 traffic light to be funded by revenue from the TIF District. "They own it; if it's zoned correctly, they can do as they want. But it shouldn't be paid for out of the taxpayers' pocketbook."

The warrant article calls for any funds sitting in or due to the Airport TIF District bank account to be transferred to the general fund for the sole purpose of offsetting the tax rate.

As of the 2014 tax year, \$114,000 is in the TIF Dis-

trict account.

"My opinion is the Town Council is using tax money not to offset the tax rate, but to leave it in there and if they need to put an extra two lanes on Pettengill Road, they'll use that money to do it," Bielinski said. "Why should that money be held two or three or four years while they decide when people in this town need tax relief?"

"As long as there's a balance in the TIF District account, that money can be used for any infrastructure improvements in that area," Town Manager Kevin Smith said. "If the council wanted to use TIF money to do that (add two lanes to Pettengill Road), it could. I haven't heard the council is inclined to do that at this time."

Smith noted his immediate concern with the proposed warrant article is that the town is already obligated to meet its agreement with Pettengill Road

developers to pay for the traffic signal - and the plan was to use money from the TIF District to do that.

Additionally, the Town is using its sewer use fees to pay for sewer infrastructure in the area.

"This is what you call a public/private partnership," Smith said. "One can take the stand that it should be funded all private and no public, which the town did for 10 years, and that land sat dormant for 10 years. Any of the developers would tell you, had the town not partnered and paid for the quarter-million traffic light through the TIF, (Pettengill construction) wouldn't have happened."

"One can take the position that municipalities shouldn't be at the table," Smith added. "I prefer to see progress and development happen so we can generate tax revenue to offset residential development. It's no coincidence

private parties started coming to the table when the road was built. The fact that the Council showed they were willing to have skin in the game was vital to getting the project through."

If the warrant article passed and the traffic light couldn't be funded with money from the TIF District, Smith said he doesn't know where the funds would come from. But the Town would still be responsible to pay its \$250,000 share of the agreement, and the funding would need voter approval.

"They keep saying it's not costing anything, but it is," Bielinski said. "It's money that could be going to offset the tax rate. I know a lot of people who are just barely making it, and \$500 to \$600 can be the difference between eating well or getting good health care."

But once the businesses locating along Pettengill Road are online, the Town will see a major increase in

revenue to the Town that will more than return the taxpayers' initial \$250,000 investment, according to Smith.

"A conservative estimate is over \$1 million in tax revenue annually for UPS, FedEx, and Milton CAT," he said. "And that's not counting what is yet to come in because that road is going to be there now. If another large user comes in, like a hotel, it would be much more."

Bielinski argues that although residents may expect to see their taxes offset in the future, if they move before the TIF is dissolved, whoever purchases their home will see the benefit of the additional tax revenue from the businesses that come in, not the seller.

"I think the people should have been given the right to vote if they wanted the TIF," he said. "If the people want to put this in and keep it, at least they had a voice."

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- PROVIDER ON CALL - TETANUS

Tetanus is a serious bacterial disease caused by a toxin that leads to stiffness of your jaw muscles and other muscles. Tetanus can cause severe muscle spasms, make breathing difficult and, ultimately, threaten your life. Spores of the tetanus bacteria, *Clostridium tetani*, usually are found in the soil as well as dust and animal feces, but can occur virtually anywhere. If deposited in a wound, the bacteria can produce a toxin (tetano spasm) that interferes with the nerves controlling your muscles. Treatment for tetanus is available, but the process is lengthy and not uniformly effective. Tetanus may be fatal despite treatment. The best defense is preventing it by getting a tetanus shot and by properly caring for wounds.

Signs and symptoms of tetanus may appear anytime from a few days to several weeks after tetanus bacteria enter your body through a wound. The incubation period for the disease is usually between three days and three weeks, with an average of eight days. Signs and symptoms of tetanus may include spasms of your jaw, neck and other muscles which occur as the toxin spreads to nerves and can affect your face and jaw muscles with strong spasms. Spasms can also affect muscles in your chest, abdomen and back.

You could have a stiffness of your jaw, neck and other muscles which is why tetanus is commonly referred to as lockjaw. The stiffness may lead to difficulty swallowing. Severe spasms can also affect respiratory muscles and make it difficult to breathe. Other signs and symptoms can include a fever and muscular irritability.

Treatment may consist of certain medications, as well as supportive care. Types of medications include antitoxin, antibiotics or vaccines. Your doctor may give you a tetanus antitoxin, such as tetanus immune globulin (TIG). However, the antitoxin can neutralize only toxin that hasn't yet combined with nerve tissue. Your doctor may also give you antibiotics, either orally or by injection, to fight tetanus bacteria. You'll also need to receive a tetanus vaccine in order to prevent future tetanus infection. Tetanus infection often requires a long period of treatment in an intensive care setting. You may need drugs to sedate you and to paralyze your muscles, and

that may result in shallow breathing that needs to be supported temporarily by a ventilator.

People who have had tetanus often recover completely. However, some people have lasting effects, such as brain damage caused by a lack of oxygen when muscle spasms in the throat cut off the airway. See your doctor to obtain a tetanus booster shot if you have a deep or dirty wound and you haven't had a booster shot within the past five years or aren't sure of your vaccination status. Or see your doctor about a tetanus booster for any wound if you haven't had a booster shot within the past 10 years.

As a Family Practitioner for over 20 years in Southern New Hampshire, I have treated new borns to individuals in their Golden Years. My staff and I believe that prevention is the best cure. And we like to do it the old-fashioned way, by listening and caring for each patient as if they were our own family. At the same time, we do not ignore the innovations that are taking place in medicine and participate in the EPIC electronic medical records in conjunction with the Elliot Hospital.

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Speltz Cautions on Funding for I-93 Wetlands Impact

KAITLYN G. WOODS
LONDONDERRY TIMES

There has been an increase in the amount of wetlands in Londonderry to be impacted by Interstate 93 corridor improvements, but no guarantee that funds will mitigate those impacts in the Town, Conservation Commissioner Mike Speltz said last week.

"As they have gotten

into the final engineering, they have gotten a better handle on things. Where there was going to be 27 acres of impact in Londonderry, there is to be 30 acres of impact," Speltz said following the Commission's Jan. 6 meeting. "What I wanted to point out is that mitigation going along with that increased impact is \$1.9 million; but the way it's structured, there's no

guarantee any of that money will come into Londonderry."

To mitigate the 27 acres of impact, the State purchased 253 acres of land to be protected from development, including a significant amount of land on both sides of South Road, as well as land at Scobie Pond and around the Musquash Conservation Area.

"The land chosen is

located around streams and wetlands, with the idea being that if you're destroying wetlands, you're protecting other wetlands," Speltz said.

In addition to the \$1.9 million for mitigation, the State will make a contribution to the Aquatic Resource Mitigation Fund, which is used to purchase land anywhere in the Merrimack River Watershed, meaning funds donated to

mitigate wetland impacts in Londonderry could be used to purchase land in Pelham or Hudson.

"We want to match the mitigation to where the impacts are," Speltz said. "There's no guarantee the money will come to Londonderry. To me, that's a problem."

Overall, about 35 percent of all wetland impacts resulting from the project are in Londonder-

ry, but only 25 percent of mitigation up to this point has come to the Town, Speltz said.

Speltz recommended writing a letter to the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services asking that in re-issuing the permit for the project, the State require money for mitigation go to the areas that are impacted.

Housing

Continued from page 1

asked. "Why should we have to take the lead because the legislation is so vague? I just feel there are other venues to go after first."

"I don't think anyone else is having the same issues the Town of Londonderry is," said Chairman Art Rugg, who attended the meeting with Planning staff, the SNHPC, and the Housing Authority at which the assessment was discussed. "We have to be in a legally defensible position to say no to workforce housing. We either pay up front or we pay when get into court."

The assessment is about Londonderry and

finding out how much workforce housing is already offered there, member Mary Soares said. "If we don't have that number, we can't deny someone a variance to develop more workforce housing because we already have enough," she said.

"I am of the opinion we far exceed our fair share, but we need to prove it," Soares added. "And the only way to prove it is through this study. The money is being spent wisely."

Town Councilor Jim Butler asked if there's anything the Planning Department can do to compile data during the months the assessment is being completed to help address new workforce housing projects coming

forward.

"A lot can happen in four months and we can still be inundated," he said.

"We don't have the complete picture and it needs to be done by someone with the time and expertise to look at those numbers and compile them in a way that's real and makes sense. It has to be done by people who do that for a living," May said.

"That's what we need to get - numbers that have a legal basis," Rugg agreed.

El-Azem asked if there's

anything the Board can do to table the workforce housing ordinance until it has complete and accurate data.

"That could get us into legal difficulties," Rugg said. "We'd rather have something done accurately that we can stand on than do something quickly and end up in court. To suspend or discontinue the ordinance, we have to have proof and rationale behind it to do so. That's what the report will do."

The Board authorized May to move forward with seeking a proposal from the SNHPC for the

assessment, which is expected to be available for the Board to review in the next two weeks.

Members directed May to ensure the assessment includes a set of deliverables in addition to how much the assessment will cost.

Also approved was \$10,000 to be paid to the Arnett Development Group to begin the process of completing the Town's zoning audit, as well as the review process related to moving "parking and loading" from the ordinance to regulations, where May said zoning

has more flexibility.

May also announced the Town's zoning ordinance is now available online through the Planning and Zoning page on the Town's website at londonderry.nh.org.

"The beauty of the tool is we as staff can do these updates and go through the process of approvals, then implement them right away," May said.

The cost of the workforce housing assessment and zoning ordinance audit is to be paid from the Planning Department's budget, with no impact to the taxpayer.



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Heroin Epidemic, Lack of Treatment are 'Everybody's Business'

PENNY WILLIAMS
LONDONDERRY TIMES

Saying "prevention is everybody's business," Pam Santa Fe, Regional Substance Misuse Prevention coordinator for the Greater Derry Public Health Network, opened a legislative breakfast in Derry Friday morning, held to get people talking about substance abuse and its prevention.

While people at the meeting talked about what they termed a heroin epidemic in the area, Tym Rourke, Director of Substance Use Disorders and Grantmaking and Strategic Initiatives for the New Hampshire Charitable Foundation, defined the issue as a "drug epidemic" and noted that New Hampshire is 49th in the country in providing treatment for substance abuse.

Patty Shea, Hampstead Hospital Director of Clinical Operations, spoke of 25-year-old Peter Mazzola

of Derry, who recently died of a heroin overdose one day after his 25th birthday. His family wanted his story told in the hope other families would not have to go through what they are enduring.

Shea spoke of Peter's attempts to handle his addiction and explained how it takes over and "tricks them into thinking they can do drugs one more time." She emphasized that Mazzola's disease, drug addiction, is a chronic illness.

"Treatment can work when the disease is recognized as a chronic disease," Shea said, but noted there are "no quick fixes." Parents should reach out for help and treatment, she said, and added that Mazzola had fought hard to deal with his addiction. She said she had thought he would be one of those who would beat it.

Derry Director of Emergency Medical Ser-

vices Chuck Hemeon referenced a "Derry epidemic" of heroin. He noted an overdose often renders the user unable to breathe, and said the department had used Narcan 69 times in 2014 - a 130 percent increase from 2010. Narcan is a drug administered to counter the effects of an overdose and will usually reverse the depression of the central nervous system, respiratory system, and hypotension.

But responding to a drug overdose is a tremendous drain on the town's resources, Hemeon said, with an engine responding with three men, an ambulance responding with two aboard and police responding with at least two officers.

"This depletes our resources to deal with other calls and it is going to get far worse before it gets better," he said.

He said Narcan is not available over the counter in New Hampshire so families, to procure it, must go to Massachusetts or Rhode Island.

"We admitted eight overdose victims to the hospital in one December

night," he said. "This is an epidemic and we need the community and the State to help."

Derry Police Lt. Detective John Breen agreed that a heroin epidemic exists. He said in 2013 the department dealt with 41 overdoses, 10 of which were heroin, and seven deaths. That number rose to dealing with 79 overdoses in 2014, of which 49 were heroin related and 16 deaths occurred.

"In January alone we have already responded to six overdoses, five of them heroin related," he said. "But responding ties up 50 percent of our available manpower and drains our resources."

He said many heroin addicts start out as marijuana users and go on to commit crimes to support their habit. The community needs to "recognize this is a major epidemic and to provide the level of services needed," he said.

Eric Spofford, director of the Granite House rehabilitation home for men in downtown Derry, said he is and always will be an addict and will always have to fight his addiction, but he has straightened out his life and become a productive

community member with a family and several businesses that employ 50 residents. He said the current epidemic is worse now than it was when he was young and involved in abusive behavior.

"The kids who are addicted aren't bad kids," he said. "The disease drives them to do bad things. In order to get better there is a need for more treatment beds in this state. There is a long waiting list for any resource for the addicts of at least four to six weeks, and at that point you don't have four to six weeks."

Rourke said that while the drug of choice right now is heroin, a drug epidemic has been around for many years. He called drug addiction "a preventable disease" but noted it is not possible to determine in advance who will become an addict.

"Treatment works but we just don't have enough of it," he said, noting that waiting for treatment for diabetes, for example, would not be considered acceptable, and having to wait for treatment for addiction shouldn't be acceptable either.

Rourke said of all the 50 states, only Texas has

less treatment available for addiction than New Hampshire. He noted the absence of treatment is an economic issue both from a funding perspective and from the impact substance abuse has on the state's economy.

Rourke talked about the need for legislators to work on bills to support and increase funding for substance abuse treatment and said the Affordable Care Act would change things, as private insurers will be required to provide coverage for medically diagnosed substance abuse.

He recommended support for the Prescription Drug Monitoring bill and for all Narcan bills that are being considered. And he noted that he plans to start a campaign to get the Alcohol Fund appropriately funded. This would provide 5 percent of in-state alcohol sales to support treatment. It was passed in 2000, but funded only in 2001.

"You can pay for this epidemic and lack of treatment resources now or you can pay for it later," he said. "I see New Hampshire as out of time to fulfill the commitment made back in 2000."

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Lancers Celebrate Life and Spirit of Giving at Beautiful Lengths

KAITLYN G. WOODS
LONDONDERRY TIMES

Londonderry High School's ninth annual Day of Giving was a celebration of the many heroes who make the community a better place.

Hundreds of students, staff and community members packed the LHS gymnasium on Friday, Jan. 9, to celebrate the small and large gestures that have provided comfort to others in their time of need, whether it was by donating hair, canned goods, or time to help friends in crisis.

"Today we honor Lancer Nation for a year of giving. Our hallways are crowded with angels and heroes," said Steven Juster, English teacher and event organizer.

Over 200 students, staff, family members, and members of the community sat on the floor of the gymnasium, hair tied into ponytails, ready for the countdown. "Three, two, one," the crowd cheered as scissors were lifted and ponytails were cut away to be donated to Pantene Beautiful Lengths to make free, real-hair wigs for those fighting cancer and involved in cancer treatment.

There is only one way to obtain the priceless material needed to make a wig, Juster said. "Cora



Allie Cardinal has her hair measured for length by Meagan Wipf.



Leanna Geiger, left, ties up the hair of Michaela Tarquinio as Angelis Thibedeau looks on. Photos by Chris Paul

Donovan says she loves having long hair. Caroline Russell says she will miss her hair a lot. Rachel Simkevitch told me she looks terrible with short hair. Bethany Carver is nervous because, in her words, 'cutting my hair is letting go of the past.' Yet each of these women is here, on the floor, each stating that they have made the right decision," he said. "Lancers, angels, thank you."

Tears were shed as scissors cut away years of length – but all seemed to be tears of happiness to have an opportunity to celebrate life with family and friends and to help others battling the disease they had to watch loved ones endure.

Juster recognized Kiley

White, who brought her mom to cut her hair after watching her mother "fight breast cancer and lose her hair, but never her spirit."

Haylie Nee also had her mother cut her hair. Nee's mother is a two-time cancer survivor.

Michelle Lambert, who has been battling cancer for 14 years and was diagnosed with bladder cancer the day before the

event, attended to cut daughter Megan Butler's hair.

Returning to this year's event were Myranda Brodsky, now a student at the University of New Hampshire, who shaved her head last year to raise awareness and \$10,000 for breast cancer; and Debbie Tarr, the mother of student Caroline Case, who received a wig as she began surgery

and chemotherapy treatments a few years ago.

In remission, Tarr attended the event to donate her own locks and to return her wig to help someone else.

Also returning to this year's event was Ava Doiron-Frankland, an inspiring 6-year-old who is

beating the odds after enduring surgery and a year of chemotherapy to treat her cancer.

Last year, student Sophie Bartlett, who knows Ava's dad as her cheerleading coach, arranged to find a petite wig for the little girl and helped raise

continued on page 10



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Katie Sullivan cuts 8 inches of hair from Marissa Duragano at the ninth annual Pantene Beautiful Lengths event.



Ava Doiron-Frankland is introduced to the capacity crowd as one of the past recipients of a Pantene wig. With her is Sophie Bartlett.



Aly Aramento sings "Homeless Heart" by Jennette McCurdy at the Day of Giving celebration at Londonderry High School last Friday, just before the 3-2-1- cut is announced. Photos by Chris Paul

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Pantene

Continued from page 9

awareness and funds for her recovery.

Doiron-Frankland was smiling as her dad, Mike Doiron, spoke of her incredible strength and spirit, saying she is doing well and got a lot of use out of her wig, but that her confidence has soar-

ed and she no longer wears it.

Of having the opportunity to attend the Day of Giving, Doiron said, "You really treasure every day you have. It's nice to do something like this."

After the ponytails had been cut, donors headed down to the basement of the gymnasium, where a room full of volunteer professional stylists wait-

ed to shape their locks into new styles.

Spirits were high and everyone appeared to be happy with their decision to part with their long hair to help someone in need. Friends were posing together for photos and chatting excitedly about their new hairstyles.

Rebecca Depasse, a fourth-grader and one of the youngest donors at

the event, smiled from ear to ear when asked about her experience. A second-time donor, DePasse said she had been a little nervous, but enjoyed the opportunity to participate and give her hair to those who need it.

Packing the gymnasium to have over 160 ponytails simultaneously cut by friends and family, many cancer survivors, sounds like a spectacle, but it's so much more. It's a journey each of the students has taken - to change lives with a priceless gift that cannot be replicated, their Beautiful Lengths, Juster said, adding, "It's a wonderful day."

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—LONDONDERRY SPORTS—

LHS Boy Hoopsters Stay Unbeaten With Pleasing Wins

CHRIS PANTAZIS
LONDONDERRY TIMES

Three high school boys' basketball squads tried and



Sophomore Jake Coleman continues to help the LHS boys' basketball team run successfully. Photos by Chris Paul

failed to blemish the Londonderry High male hoopsters' perfect Division I record last week.

Coach Nate Stanton watched his Lancers down the Bishop Geurtin High School guys by 16 points, the Concord High Crimson Tide fellas by a full 40 points, and the Exeter Blue Hawk males by 10 in bumping their divisional record up to 5-0.

The Lancers ran their D-I mark up to a perfect 3-0 Tuesday, Jan. 6, with a 74-58 defeat of the Guertin Cardinals on that opponent's home court in Nashua.

Stanton's squad raced out to a 22-10 lead in the first quarter, and by halftime the advantage sat at 21 points at 39-18.

The host Cardinals (1-2) showed more life and enjoyed more success in the second half, outscoring their guests by a 40-35 tally. But Londonderry still won handily.

Senior guard Cody Ball, who recently committed to playing his collegiate hoops at Saint Anselm College, led the winning cause by netting 22 points. Marc Corey and Jake Coleman each con-

tributed 17, and Joey Kwiatkowski was good for nine of his own.

In the Londonderry crew's 73-33 hammering of Concord at LHS last Friday night, Jan. 9, Corey enjoyed the big night for the local side.

The senior forward was good for a career-high 32 points in that crowning of Concord, and with Ball netting 18 of his own and Coleman contributing 14 there was plenty with which to be pleased on the LHS sideline.

Kwiatkowski was left to cheer his teammates on as he recovered from a knee injury

The hosts had sprinted out to a 21-8 lead by the close of the first quarter, and their halftime advantage sat at 29 big points (43-14) as the locals went on to win every quarter.

"I liked how we worked together on the defensive end, and that's our priority," said Stanton. "We caused 19 turnovers and held them to 33 points, and that's what I'm most proud of. Also having different guys step up each night is huge for us."

Then last Saturday, Jan. 10, Stanton's squad made the ride to the seacoast to take on the host Exeter High Blue Hawks in a make-up game. And the locals needed to put forth a serious fourth-quarter push to drive away with a 67-57 win in hand.

Londonderry led 17-12 after one quarter and 35-25 at halftime, but the host Hawks outscored the Lancers by a 21-12 margin in the third quarter to slice the LHS lead down to a single point at 47-46.

The visitors managed to outscore their hosts by a 20-11 tally in the decisive fourth period and win the contest.

Marc Corey tallied 21 points and Cody Ball netted 20 to lead the LHS charge, with Brandon Radford contributing 11.



LHS senior hoop stalwart Marc Corey netted 32 points vs. Concord and 21 against Exeter.

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Lady Lancer Gymnasts Snare Second Spot in Home Meet

CHRIS PANTAZIS
LONDONDERRY TIMES

The Londonderry High gymnastics squad narrowly missed out on a win but still bagged a solid second place in a five-team meet at LHS Thursday, Jan. 8.

The Bishop Guertin

High Lady Cardinals of Nashua snagged the team victory by tallying a point total of 128.1, with Londonderry less than a full point behind in second place with a 127.2. The Exeter Lady Blue Hawks finished third (108.55), the Dover High Green

Wave claimed fourth (102.7), and the Spaulding High Lady Red Raiders were a distant fifth (92.8).

The host team had standout Jill McIntire tie for first place on vault (9.0) and claim third places in the floor exercise and the all-around.

Mira Kutney collected a second place on the balance beam (8.9) and Maddy Britting took second on floor (8.2), and Courtney Baharian finish-

ed third on the uneven bars.

The Lady Lancers also received strong work on vault from Taylor MacKenzie, Kutney, and Baharian (8.15); on bars from Baharian, McIntire, Kutney, and Jessi Pignone; on the beam from Maddie Baumann, Baharian, and McIntire, Pignone, and Kutney.

Other gymnasts who competed for Londonderry were Gianna DeVisco-

vo, Skylar Roy, Jordan Dufresne, Hailey Endyke, Camille Lamont, and Rachel Larkin.

"Each meet our girls are putting up harder skills and getting more bonus in their routines," said head coach Heather Tuden. "The assistant coaches and I love seeing this because it brings us closer to higher start values, which will raise our scores. We have a lot of talent on our team this

year, and I look forward to our meet Thursday (Jan. 15) with Salem, BG and Nashua North and South."

Assistant coach Emily Myers added her thoughts by saying, "The girls had an awesome meet. It was their first meet of the season on a non-spring floor, and they adjusted well. We see an improvement every meet with new skills and confidence, and we're one step closer to the state meet."



Maddy Britting had the Lady Lancer gymnasts' high score on floor with an 8.2 in their home-opener on Thursday, Jan. 8. Photo by Chris Paul

LHS Swimmers Perform Well Again

CHRIS PANTAZIS
LONDONDERRY TIMES

Londonderry High School veteran swim coach Chrys Ewen walked away from her girls' and boys' squads' home meet last Friday night, Jan. 9, with a slew of reasons to be both pleased with and proud of the work of her charges.

The Lady Lancers dominated three opponents in pulling off a clean sweep that night, and the Lancer guys bested two of the three teams they battled.

"This was a good meet," said Ewen. "The kids are swimming consistently. And this coming Friday night (Jan. 16) is against Pinkerton, with Dover and Somersworth competing as well."

GIRLS

The LHS girls out matched Souhegan of Amherst (116-48), Keene (120-35) and Campbell of Litchfield (140-4) on a productive evening.

Lady Lancers won a bunch of events, but they also swept the top two or three positions in a num-

ber of events to bank up the points.

Individual event victories were tallied by Brian-na Nowicki in the 200-yard freestyle (2 minutes, 9.42 seconds) and in the 100-yard backstroke (1:09.24), Allison Martin in the 200 individual medley (2:34.38) and the 100-yard butterfly (1:07.31), and Allyson Gillespie in the 100-yard breaststroke (1:24.80).

But Martin and Nowicki also teamed up with Anna Gruchot and Emily Buttafuoco for wins in the

200 free relay (1:51.84) and the 400 free relay (4:08.57).

BOYS

The Lancer males defeated Keene (87-62) and Campbell (88-56) but fell to Souhegan (84-76) despite strong work from a bunch of sources, including Kyle MacKenzie who snared first place in the 200 free (1:56.84) and second in the 100 backstroke and contributed to second places as a part of several relay quartets as well.

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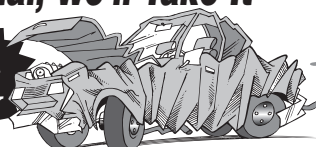
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Lancer Icemen End Short Skid With Victory Over Astros

CHRIS PANTAZIS
LONDONDERRY TIMES

After suffering two straight losses, the Londonderry High ice hockey team reversed its fortunes with a solid defeat of its arch rival last weekend.

The LHS icemen saw their Division I record slide to the .500 mark with a one-goal loss to Nashua North during the middle of last week. But

coach Peter Bedford and his Lancers then reversed their course with a superb effort against the Pinkerton Academy Astros last Saturday.

After starting their 2014-15 Division I season with two straight wins, the Lancer icemen suffered their second consecutive loss at the Salem Icenter Wednesday, Jan. 7, with a 4-3 defeat at the hands of the surging

Nashua North Titans.

North, which had begun its D-I campaign with two consecutive losses, bagged its third straight divisional win that night.

Londonderry drove its record up to 3-2 Saturday afternoon, Jan. 10, at the Icenter with a fine 4-2, Ball Family Trophy defeat of the arch-rival Pinkerton squad, following which Bedford was one happy man.

"I was very pleased. This was the best game we've played so far," said the coach. "They're really starting to listen, we're finding some maturity, and I think the lines have solidified at this point."

The now 2-2-1 Astros started the scoring with 6:39 left in the first period when Ethan Landry was set up by teammates Ryan Monte and Tim Cronin.

But the Lancers potted the equalizer 3:01 later when Andrew Morrisette was set up by Mike MacKenzie and Nick Donnelly, and 1-1 was where the score sat when the first period finished.

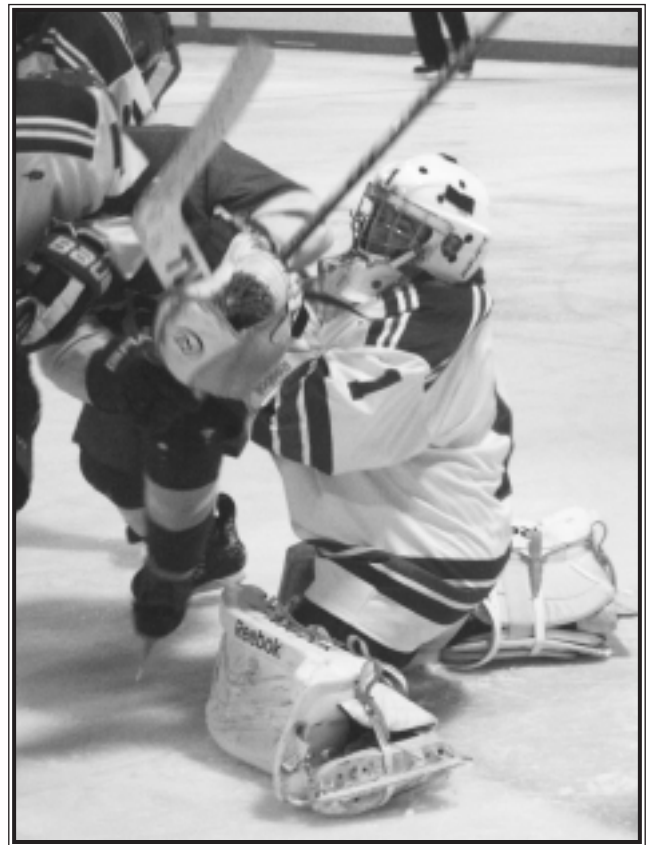
Bedford's bunch then scored the first of its three power-play goals - and the only goal of the second period - with 8:58 left in the middle stanza

when Ryan Cotter was set up by Alex LaPlante. And 2-1 was where the score was going into the final 15 minutes of action.

The Lancers then bumped their lead up to 3-1 on another man-up marker with 7:30 left in the contest when Pat Maloney was set up by Cooper Roy.

Pinkerton got that marker back with a mere 3:50 left when Tyler Poole scored a power-play tally, but Londonderry got the last word where scoring was concerned when Maloney potted his second man-up marker - this time on a set-up from Colby Austin - with just 51 seconds showing on the game clock.

Lancer goalie Cody Baldwin contributed 21 saves to the performance, while Pinkerton goalie Brendan Murphy turned aside 25 Londonderry blasts in the losing effort.



Londonderry High goalie Cody Baldwin attempts to keep his crease free of Pinkerton Academy Astros during the Lancers' 4-2 besting of their arch-rival at the Salem Icenter last week. Photo by Chris Pantazis

Athletes of the Week

For the Week of Jan. 5



**Kyle Foden, Junior,
Boys' Track and Field**

This skilled junior had his best shot put performance of the season recently with a throw of 44 feet and 7 inches. He has also taken on an important leadership role among the LHS throwers.



**Natalie Howes, Senior,
Girls' Track and Field**

This veteran standout starred recently with her personal bests in both the 55-meter hurdles and the long jump. Every day she provides her team with great efforts and leadership on and off the track.

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LHS Varsity Wrestling Crew Keeps On Tallying Wins

CHRIS PANTAZIS
LONDONDERRY TIMES

The Londonderry High wrestling team is doing a convincing impression of a steamroller these days.

Coach Jason Cucolo's crew did simply masterful work both in dual meets and at a tournament last week, closing out that span by winning the annual Merrimack Hall of Fame tourney last weekend and collecting plenty of hardware.

After throttling Nashua South by a 64-10 tally at LHS Wednesday afternoon, Jan. 7, the Lancers trounced the illness-racked Pinkerton Acade-

my Astros by an even larger margin (65-4) at Londonderry High that night.

In the hammering of South's Purple Panthers in the afternoon, Cucolo's host team received pin wins from Jake Barr at 152 pounds, Kyle Byrd in the 160-pound contest, Sebastian Rozczenko at 182 pounds, Kevin Robischeau at 106 pounds, Craig Santos in the 113-pound bout, Tyler Byrd at 120 pounds, Ryan Cabezas in the 132-pound battle, and Jean-Luc Lemieux in the 138-pound contest.

Technical falls were delivered by Richard Bilodeau at 195 pounds and

Colin Reardon at 145 pounds.

Missing four of its top grapplers, Pinkerton was no match for the Lancers in the Ball Family Trophy match between the arch rivals later that day.

Mahdi Achab began the fun for the host team by nabbing a pin of Astro Christian Sullivan with just 17 seconds left in the first period of their 170-pound bout.

Next at 195 pounds, Bilodeau pinned Jacob Weishaar just 44 seconds into their bout, and after Nehemyah Dion took a forfeit at 220 pounds Kevin Robischeau grabbed a last-second, 7-6 win



Lancer Kevin Robischeau, left, pulled out a 7-6 decision over Derek Wilson in the 106-pound weight class in the LHS win over PA. Photo by Chris Paul

over Derek Wilson.

At 113 pounds, freshman Craig Santos snared a pin of Keygan Nacos with 24 seconds left in the first period, but 120-pound LHS grappler Tyler Byrd lost a major decision to PA standout Shayne McCann.

Ryan Cabezas then claimed a pin of Nathan Barnhart late in the second period of their 126-pound bout, but Drew Chase nabbed a 9-8 decision in the final seconds of his match against his 132-pound opponent Eric Daigle.

The hosts then completed the match with convincing wins from Lemieux (16-0 major decision), Reardon (early second quarter pin) and Barr

(early second quarter pin).

The victorious LHS bunch also received a forfeit win from Rozczenko.

And the production simply kept on coming at the Merrimack Hall of Fame event last Saturday, Jan. 10, with the Lancers taking first place as a team with 197 points (Salem was a distant second with 127) and eight LHS grapplers making it all the way to the finals in their respective weight classes. Senior star Lemieux was also named the top wrestler at that event after powering his way to a divisional title.

Weight class crowns were claimed by Robischeau at 106, Santos at 113, Lemieux in the 138-

pound division, Kyle Byrd at 160 pounds, and Bilodeau at 195.

Barr, Achab, and Rozczenko were runners-up in their divisions, and third places were claimed by Tyler Byrd and Cabezas.

Fourth-place finishes were registered by Caleb Moscoso at 120 pounds, Chase at 132, and Reardon at 145.

"I was pleased with the overall performance," said Cucolo. "We had a few upsets in the semifinals, and I was pleased with Ryan and Colin's ability to wrestle back strong and not give up. They both showed a lot of heart with that."

"I was also happy with the fight and heart the whole team showed, and how we continue to get better each day," he said.

Regarding senior stalwart Lemieux's Wrestler of the Meet status, a proud coach stated, "I was very pleased. He has been working hard and seems to have refocused himself and was very dominating."

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Lancer Girls' Basketball Gets Winning Streak Rolling

CHRIS PANTAZIS
LONDONDERRY TIMES

New Londonderry High girls' varsity basketball coach Nick Theos saw his hoopsters claim their second, third, and fourth consecutive divisional victories

last week to push their Division I record up to a glittering 6-1.

The Lady Lancers upped their D-I mark to a strong 4-1 by handing the tough Bishop Guertin Lady Cardinals a 45-37 defeat for their first divi-

sional loss at LHS Tuesday night, Jan. 6.

The win came despite the fact that the home team could muster only five points in the second quarter.

Theos' crew made hay in the decisive fourth quarter, outscoring its guest by a 16-9 tally during those important eight minutes of action to break open a tight contest.

The hosts led 14-8 after one quarter, but their advantage sat at just one point (19-18) when the teams adjourned for halftime.

The Lady Lancers were still up by one slim point at the start of the fourth quarter (29-28), but they put the game away with their strong showing in that final period.

Ashley Berube led the LHS charge by scoring 14 points, with Kelsey Coffey contributing eight and Jackie Luckhardt claiming seven.

And the Lady Lancers' record grew to 5-1 with a 47-31 thrashing of the winless Concord High Crimson Tide in the state capital last Friday night, Jan. 9.

The visitors led by a 29-12 margin at halftime

and never saw their advantage dip below a dozen points at any second-half juncture.

And the Londonderry crew had no trouble with the visiting Exeter High Lady Blue Hawks in a 63-38 blowout in a make-up contest at LHS last Saturday, Jan. 10. Exeter fell to 2-4 with the lopsided loss that day.



Junior hoop standout Ashley Berube puts up a shot in the faces of Bishop Guertin defenders during the Londonderry win over that opponent last week.

Photo by Chris Paul

LHS Boys' Track Team Excels at Dartmouth

CHRIS PANTAZIS
LONDONDERRY TIMES

The Londonderry High boys' track and field team definitely got itself noticed at the prestigious 46th annual Dartmouth Relays in Hanover late last week.

Coach Matt Smith's Lancers' placed seventh overall out of more than 50 teams from throughout the Northeast at that event on Friday and Saturday, Jan. 9 and 10, with senior star Starlin Ortiz contributing points in three top-five perform-

ances.

The athletic track and field veteran finished second on his own in the high jump with an effort of six feet and six inches, he was a member of the Lancers' 4x200-meter relay team that also snared a second place (1 minute, 35.70 seconds), and also tallied a fourth place by himself in the 55-meter hurdles (7.99 seconds).

Ortiz's relay teammates in that second-place crew included Trevor Guay, Eric Fairweather, and Jimmy Zimolka.

The Lancer males were without point-scoring ace Ortiz when they competed in a regular New Hampshire Indoor Track and Field League meet at the University of New Hampshire in Durham this past Sunday, and largely as a result they finished eighth out of eight teams that evening.

Londonderry tallied eight points in that meet, with Kyle Foden bagging eight of them by finishing first in the shot put (44 feet, 7 1/2 inches) and the 4x160 relay team of Shane

McEachern, Jon Deschamps, Cam Taranto, and Colin Frasier claiming the other two points by finishing sixth overall.

Coach Sue Johnson's LHS girl tracksters also competed at that Sunday night league meet and ended up fourth out of nine teams.

The Lady Lancers had Madison McKivergan grab second place in the 3000-meter run and Kalin Gregoire and Natalie Howes notch third places in the 1500 and 55-meter hurdles respectively.

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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. Please send items to calendar@nutpub.net.

Lions Club Concert

The Londonderry Lions Club hosts a concert from 7 to 11 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 14, at the Lions Hall, Mammoth Road, to benefit Londonderry High scholarships, local sight and hearing, and Thanksgiving and Christmas baskets. Bobby and the Sharptones will perform classic rock and roll from the '50s through '80s at the Valentine's Day-themed concert. Admission is \$20 per person, \$35 per couple and includes popcorn, chips, pastries and coffee. Soda and water will be sold. Alcoholic beverages will be allowed; B.Y.O.B. Gift certificates, 50/50 drawings, and prizes are featured. For details or to purchase tickets, call Jerry at 434-5307.

Book Fair, Ice Cream Social

Londonderry Middle School holds its annual Scholastic Book Fair for grades 6-8 Jan. 26-30. Students may purchase books during their assigned time to visit the fair or before and after school. A Family Ice Cream Social is Wednesday, Jan. 28 – snow date Thursday, Jan. 29 – from 6 to 8 p.m. in the 6th grade pod; the book fair will be open. All students must be accompanied by a parent/guardian. Fifth-grade students and their families are encouraged to attend. LMS Principal Richard Zacchilli will give tours of the school, and the Reading Department will discuss Lexiles and reading levels.

Dying and Death

On Thursday, Jan. 22, from 7 to 8 p.m., Rabbi Peter Levy of Etz Hayim Synagogue, 1 1/2 Hood Road in Derry, will present "Dying and Death: The Jewish Perspective." He will discuss the contemporary Jewish view of death and the afterlife, trace its historical roots, and list basic preparations people should make. This free talk is part of a series titled "Key Issues in Contemporary Judaism." For more information, see www.etzhayim.org or call 432-0004.

Potter's Bowl

Community Caregivers of Greater Derry hosts its 10th annual Potter's Bowl fundraiser from 5 to 8 p.m. Jan. 30 at Promises to Keep, Route 28, Derry. For \$40, select a

handcrafted pottery bowl donated by local artists and all-you-can-eat soup donated by Derry area restaurants, along with breads and desserts. Take-away soup is sold at 7 p.m. for \$5. The event includes a 50/50 raffle, music, and silent auction of items donated by area artists. Buy tickets from Caregivers at 432-0877 or its office at 1 B Commons Drive, Unit 10, Londonderry. For soup menu and auction items, visit www.comcaregivers.org.

Democrats

The Londonderry Democratic Committee will hold its annual officer elections on Saturday, Jan. 17, at 10 a.m. at Leach Library, 276 Mammoth Road. Londonderry residents are invited to run for office or for Democratic state delegate. For more information, visit www.londonderrydems.org or www.facebook.com/LondonderryDems, call 866-623-7684 or email Tam Siekmann, chair@londonderrydems.org.

Women's Club

Londonderry Women's Club hosts a presentation called "Five Things You Don't Know About Food and Exercise That Are Making You Sick, Fat and Tired" by

Melissa Koerner of Friend Your Body. on Wednesday, Jan. 21, at 7 p.m. at the YMCA of Greater Londonderry. Snacks and beverages are provided.

Volunteer Tutors

A volunteer tutor orientation workshop for Adult Learner Services of Greater Derry will be held at the Derry Public Library on Wednesday, Jan. 28, from 6:30 to 8 p.m. Tutors work one-on-one with adult learners to help them improve reading, writing, math or English skills, or prepare for the HiSET high school equivalency test. Scheduling is flexible, once or twice each week for two hours, usually at the library. Training, materials, and ongoing support are provided. For information or registration, call 432-1907, email als.greaterderry@yahoo.com, or visit www.GreaterDerryLiteracy.org.

Holiday Closure

The Leach Library will be closed on Monday, Jan. 19, in honor of Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

Dale Freeman Concert

Dale Freeman will be at the Leach Library on Monday, Jan. 26, from 4 to 5 p.m. for a concert of original music and well-known favorites on guitar in a variety of different musical styles, including rock and roll, country, and blues. The fun-filled, interactive performance consists of lots of dancing, movement and singing for all ages. Advance registration is required and begins at 9 a.m. Tuesday, Jan. 20. To register, call 432-1127 or stop by the Children's Room.

History Program

On Thursday, Jan. 15, at 7 p.m., the Leach Library hosts

author-historian Matthew Thomas in "Historic New England Powder Houses" in the library's lower-level meeting room. Thomas is president and curator of the Fremont Historical Society. The free one-hour slide presentation reviews the history of colonial New England, home to more than 200 powder houses built to store gunpowder, guns and armaments. The spark from a single metal shoe nail could ignite the contents of these houses. The storehouses played a key role in the country's fight to earn and preserve independence. Light refreshments will be served.

HiSET Prep Class

A free "HiSET" High School Equivalency Prep Class will be offered by Adult Learner Services of Greater Derry at the Marion Gerrish Community Center, 39 West Broadway, Derry. Registration is Wednesday, Jan. 21, at 9 a.m. Classes meet Mondays and Wednesdays from 9 a.m. to noon for 12 weeks, beginning Jan. 26. The "HiSET" test replaces the GED. For more information, call 432-1907, email als.greaterderry@yahoo.com, or visit www.GreaterDerryLiteracy.org.

Supervisors of Checklist

The Supervisors of the Voter Checklist will meet at Town Hall on Tuesday, Jan. 20, from 6 to 7:30 p.m. to register voters and correct the checklist. They will also be at Town Hall on Saturday, Jan. 31, from 10 a.m. to noon. Anyone who has not previously registered may do so on these dates for the Town and School Deliberative Sessions. Proof of citizenship, identity, and residency is needed, or affidavits may be signed.

OBITUARY

Joseph McClellan



Joseph R. McClellan, 32, of Londonderry and formerly of Derry, died at Elliot Hospital in Manchester surrounded by his family and friends on Jan. 8, 2015.

Born on Oct. 29, 1982 in Methuen, Mass., he was the son of Randy and Ann (Melia) McClellan.

He was raised in Derry and attended Derry schools and Pinkerton Academy.

He had been employed by the International Tape Company, Demers Nursery and Landscaping, and most recently the Mobil/Exxon Company of Londonderry.

His favorite pastimes were hiking, camping, and gardening. He was a car enthusiast.

In addition to his parents, he is survived by his partner in life, Matthew Bernard; maternal grandmother, Jane E. Melia; brothers Patrick (Kathryn) McClellan and Brian; sister, Meaghan (Richard) Ivey; niece, Evelyn Ivey; and many aunts, uncles, and cousins. He was predeceased by his maternal grandfather, Martin F. Melia; paternal grandparents, Richard McClellan and Marion Jean McClellan; uncles Martin G. Melia and Rick McClellan; and aunt Linda Barrish.

Calling hours were Jan. 12 at the Peabody Funeral Homes and Crematorium, Londonderry. A Mass of Christian burial was celebrated at St. Thomas Aquinas Church, Derry on Tuesday, Jan. 13. The burial will follow in Holy Cross Cemetery in Londonderry. To send a condolence or for more information, visit, www.peabodyfuneralhome.com.

OBITUARY

Tyler Boles



Tyler Christian Boles, 15, of Richlands, N.C., died Dec. 8, 2014 at home.

Tyler is survived by his parents, Christian and Holly Boles, and a sister, Catherine, all at home; paternal grandparents Curtis and Linda Boles of Londonderry; aunts and uncles Jeff and Rachel Boles and Ryan and

Patty Boles; cousins Riley and Devin Boles, all of New Hampshire, maternal grandparents, John and Candy McConochie of Old Saybrook, Conn.; great-grandparents William and Dorothy and Gifford of Old Saybrook, Conn.; aunt and uncle John and India McConochie of Maine; and a cousin, Willow McConochie, as well as a large extended family of great-aunts, great-uncles, and cousins.

A celebration of his life was held Dec. 12 at Jones Funeral Home in Richlands, N.C., with casual dress in blue and gold in honor of Tyler and the Richlands High Wildcats. Memorial services were held Dec. 13 in Richlands. A calling hour was held Dec. 20 in the Peabody Funeral Homes and Crematorium, Londonderry. Funeral services followed, officiated by Dr. Gary Edens. Burial was in Pillsbury Cemetery, Hovey Road, Londonderry. In lieu of flowers, donations to Richlands High School may be made to start an annual scholarship foundation in Tyler's memory.

To send a condolence or for more information, visit www.peabodyfuneralhome.com.

— Thank You —

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The family of Brian E. Colbert

Londonderry Police Log

Selections from the Londonderry Police Logs

Monday, Jan. 5

7:05 a.m. Theft of copper fittings from new FedEx building, Industrial Drive.

11 p.m. Francesco William Powers-Collins, 24, Dubuque Street, Manchester arrested for Criminal Threatening (intimidation, etc.). Bail set at \$5,000 cash, with Jan. 6 Derry Circuit Court date.

11:15 p.m. Town Highway called out due to road conditions.

Tuesday, Jan. 6

10:52 a.m. Londonderry

Fire toned out for possible house fire on High Range Road. **10:57 a.m.** Smoke showing at roof line.

1:15 p.m. Someone doing donuts in soccer field at Victory Baptist Church, Litchfield Road.

5:32 p.m. Theft at Continental Paving, Continental Boulevard.

6:50 p.m. Caller advised of two vehicles doing donuts in soccer fields on West Road.

11:08 p.m. Corey Masson,

19, Auburn Road, Londonderry arrested on warrant for three counts of Simple Assault, one count of Conduct After an Accident, one count of Reckless Operation, and two counts of Criminal Mischief (vandalism). Bail set at \$2,000 personal recognizance with Derry Circuit Court date of Feb. 10.

Wednesday, Jan. 7

12:59 a.m. Anthony Maldonado, 17, Gregg Circle, Londonderry arrested on warrant for two counts of

Fraudulent Use of Credit Card. Bail set at \$1,000 personal recognizance, with Derry Circuit Court date of Feb. 10.

8:27 a.m. Highway foreman reports three vehicles parked on Capitol Hill Drive, impeding snow removal.

Thursday, Jan. 8

12:44 a.m. Anthony Maldonado, 17, Gregg Circle, Londonderry arrested for Driving Under the Influence of Drugs or Liquor, Resisting Arrest or Detention, Operating Without a Valid License, Unauthorized Use of Propelled Vehicle, Unattended Vehicle, Tail Lights and Reflectors Required, and two

counts of Conduct After an Accident. Hit and run accident reported at Nashua and Buttrick roads, suspect took off in vehicle, then on foot. Maldonado refused bail and was transported to Rockingham County Jail to await Jan. 9 arraignment.

4:14 p.m. Dawn Assad 49, Fairway Drive, Derry arrested on warrant for three counts of Theft: All Other. Bail set at \$1,500 personal recognizance, with Derry Circuit Court date of Feb. 10.

6:33 p.m. Christopher M. Enokian, 39, Lillian Street, Woburn, Mass., arrested on warrant for three counts of Simple Assault. Bail set at

\$1,500 personal recognizance, with Derry Circuit Court date of Feb. 10.

6:47 p.m. William Morris Blanchard, 49, Lucas Road, Londonderry arrested on warrant for two counts of Felon in Possession of Dangerous Weapon. Bail set at \$1,000 cash, with Derry Circuit Court date of Feb. 17.

7:31 p.m. Kyle Jeffrey Keegan, 17, Jewel Court, Londonderry arrested on warrant for Receiving Stolen Property. Bail set at \$1,000 cash, with Derry Circuit Court date of Jan. 9.

9:19 p.m. Londonderry Fire responding for smoke in building on Pinyon

continued on page 18

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Police Log

Continued from page 16

Place.

Friday, Jan. 9

5:46 p.m. Jacqueline Ann McQuarrie, 48, 24 Stage Coach Circle, Londonderry turned herself in on warrant for Penalties: Control of Promises where Controlled Drug is Kept, and Possession of Controlled/Narcotic Drugs. Bail set at \$2,000 personal recognizance plus \$40

bail commissioner fee, with Derry District Court date of Feb. 10.

6:34 p.m. Gary Newton, 43, 47 Rogers Road, Center Barnstead in custody in Barnstead Police Department on Londonderry warrant for Theft, All Other. Bail set at \$1,000 personal recognizance plus \$40 bail commissioner fee, with Derry District Court date of Feb. 10.

Saturday, Jan. 10

9:11 a.m. Report that salt truck hit awning of CVS

Pharmacy, Mammoth Road and did damage.

11:08 p.m. Caller on Pendleton Lane reports male trying to break into house. Brendon Michael Morris, 35, 100 Orange St., Apt. 3, Manchester arrested for Criminal Mischief (vandalism), Disorderly Conduct, Driving Under the Influence of Drugs or Liquor, Open Container of Alcohol and Possession of Controlled/Narcotic Drugs. He was released on \$2,500 personal recognizance bail, with Derry District Court date of Jan. 27.

Sunday, Jan. 11

6:38 p.m. Londonderry Fire responding to Fieldstone Drive for oven fire.

8:50 p.m. Daniel Steven Holm, 23, Mary Jo Lane, Derry turned himself in on warrant for two counts of Criminal Threatening (intimidation, etc.). Bail set at \$2,000 personal recognizance, with Derry Circuit Court date of Feb. 10.

9:19 p.m. Jessica M. Mafera, 28, Linlew Drive, Derry arrested for Criminal Trespass. Bail set at \$2,000 personal recognizance, with Feb. 10 Derry Circuit Court date.

Monday, Jan. 12

2:05 a.m. Illegal dumping in corner of parking lot of Workout Club and Wellness Center, Orchard View Drive.

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LONDONDERRY SCHOOL DISTRICT

LONDONDERRY SCHOOL BOARD FILING PERIOD

The Londonderry School District has two (2) School Board Members' positions open for the School District Elections to be held on March 10, 2015. The filing period is January 21 through January 30, 2015. To make arrangements to file, please contact Mrs. Mary Wing Soares, School District Clerk, at (603) 247-1679. Or, for information, please contact the Londonderry School District Office at 432-6920 Ext. 1103.

Please note that Mrs. Soares will be at the Londonderry School District Offices, 268C Mammoth Road, Londonderry, NH from 3:00PM to 5:00PM on Friday, January 30, 2015, for the purpose of final filing.

Police Seek Public's Help in Protecting Cemeteries

KAITLYN G. WOODS
LONDONDERRY TIMES

Londonderry Police are asking for the public's assistance in protecting and preserving the sanctity of the town's cemeteries.

In recent months, the town has seen an increase in trespassing on the cemeteries, particularly during the winter months by people using the areas for snowmobiling and other OHRV (off-highway recreational vehicle) activities.

"Using these areas can cause damage to the property and personal plots that are located at the cemeteries throughout town. Furthermore, it disrespects the sanctity of what the cemeteries are meant to be," Det. Christopher Olson wrote in a press release.

In October, police discovered and investigated damage to a mausoleum and two other crypts at Glenwood Cemetery. Olson said someone kicked in a door to one of the

tombs and ripped one of the knobs off the door of another in an effort to gain entry.

There may have been items of value inside the tombs, Olson said, noting it was the first he had heard of vandalism of that sort in Londonderry.

In addition to being prohibited by the Town, trespassing on the cemeteries is a violation of state statutes.

A person in violation could be charged with Criminal Trespass and

Criminal Mischief, which becomes a Class B felony, carrying a three-and-a-half-year to seven-year prison sentence, if the mischief or damage is done to public or private property that holds sentimental value that cannot be restored by repair or replacement.

The mischief or damage does not have to be intentional. Under the statute, it can be damage committed recklessly.

There are eight cemeteries located in London-

derry: Glenwood Cemetery on Mammoth Road, near the Town Common; Kendall Cemetery on Kendall Pond Road; Pillsbury Cemetery on Hovey Road; Pinkerton Cemetery on Hovey Road; Pleasantview Cemetery on Mammoth Road, south of Litchfield Road; Sunnyside on Litchfield Road; Towne Cemetery on John Street; and Valley Cemetery on Pillsbury Road near Willow Lane.

Olson urged residents to be cognizant of the

cemeteries and their boundaries.

The Londonderry Police will be conducting routine patrols of all the cemeteries in town and enforcing any laws and ordinances deemed necessary. Anyone who witnesses any incidents of Criminal Trespass, Criminal Mischief, or any other suspicious activity at any of the cemeteries is asked to contact the Londonderry Police Department at 432-1118.

Budget

Continued from page 1
teachers' union and Allied Health contracts, which the voters will decide on in the election.

"It looks like the way the budget is presented, a level budget won't give us the result we want. Most of the cuts look like reasonable cuts to make," Budget Committee member Mark Aronson said.

Asked to bring forward proposed cuts for a level-funded budget, Superintendent Nate Greenberg presented a list of other possible cuts, noting he would not recommend making any of the reductions.

"What we do is build a budget around what we intend to do over the next several years, and we try to do it in a sequential way," he said. In the case of materials and books, for example, learning materials are directly tied into the curriculum and program.

"We have what I consider to be a frugal cycle for our books at eight to 10 years," Greenberg said.

Staff development opportunities offer teachers a chance to hone skills and develop new instructional strategies. And co- and extra-curricular activities are becoming an important aspect of students' college applications, according to Greenberg, emphasizing the importance of increases in those areas of the budget.

"We're looking to meet our college and career ready goal of 95 percent of students accepted to two-

and four-year colleges by 2020," he said.

Greenberg said even if the board chose to make any of the additional cuts on his list, such as school materials and coaches needed to satisfy demand for sports programs, he still couldn't get to a level-funded budget.

"I just had nowhere else to go," he said, noting any reductions below what he has proposed in his operating budget would affect the quality of education and hinder schools' ability to meet the District's goals.

Of concern to Donna Traynham of 11 Faucher Road, who spoke during the meeting, is the proposed reduction in instructional assistant hours at the elementary school level.

"We moved here because of the school system," she said. "Over time, we have seen a number of cuts come due to the challenge of generating support from the taxpayer base. While we have done our best to maintain quality education, eventually these cuts are going to hurt."

Traynham noted in a time where children are expected to meet higher standards and achieve competencies, it's critical teachers have enough support in the classroom.

"I hope at some level the dialogue is more about how we increase the supports we provide to teachers to do their job and do it well," she said. "With too many pressures, they will go somewhere they can get paid better and have more resources."

"The last time the Superintendent came to us with these type of changes, I advocated for the teaching assistants then and I advocate for them now. I found having assistants in the classroom a very progressive and supportive idea for students at the elementary level," Vice Chairman Nancy Hendricks said. "When we have teachers leading reading groups and students who may not have heard directives, how long will they wait before someone comes and helps them? I didn't really get an adequate answer to that."

"I don't have a background in education, so I don't want to say it has to be instructional assistants; but I would instead challenge the staff to ensure those children that may not have gotten a lesson don't get lost along the way," Chairman Leitha Reilly said.

Greenberg said they are all concerned about student-to-adult ratios, but through a reorganization of staff, he and school administrators are confident students will continue to receive the individual instruction they need to be successful.

"We're looking at a dif-

ferent model using certified staff members," he said. "By keeping certified staff on and restructuring, I think we're headed in the right direction. This is a more effective model. We've been talking for years about how the school is one classroom and there are a variety of personnel with different skills, and how do we bring those different skills together? We have tried to be very conscientious about the numbers and I feel comfortable with what we're doing."

Addressing the need for budget cuts, board member John Laferriere noted the budget would have been running significantly lower and the tax rate would have been much lower had the District not had to subsidize downshifted costs from the state, a total of about \$3 million in three years.

"It would begin impacting the quality of education if further reductions were made to level fund the budget," he said. "When moving into this town, the quality of education is really important. The problem with the budget is we're trying to manage the shift from the State, now we're digging into education to

see if we can save more."

The total estimated tax impact of the proposed budget, excluding other warrant articles, is \$12.59 per thousand.

The School Board additionally approved and moved to the public hearing Article 1, to elect two members to the School Board for three-year terms each; Article 5, which allows the District to re-enter negotiations with the teachers' union or Allied Health, should either of their contracts fail in the election; Article 7, the School Buildings Maintenance Expendable Trust Fund in the amount of \$400,000, which is anti-

pated to have a tax impact of \$.11 per thousand; Article 8, the Equipment Capital Reserve Fund for \$100,000, which has no tax impact; Article 6, the School Lunch Program and Federal Fund Projects, which has no tax impact; and Article 10, the Co-Curricular and Athletic Stipends in the amount of \$8,069, which has a tax impact of \$.002 per thousand.

Reilly said the District is in the process of researching alternatives to the federal lunch program.

All the warrant articles, including the budget, will be open for discussion at the Jan. 15 public hearing.



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