

Londonderry Times

June 11, 2015 ♦ Volume 16 – Issue 24

A FREE Weekly Publication



Hometown Tour

Londonderry Historical Society member Bill Bringham escorts a group of South School fourth graders around the Society's grounds during the annual elementary school tours last week. In the background is the blacksmith shop. See more photos page 7.

Photo by Chris Paul

Adult Education Graduates Celebrated for Perseverance

KAITLYN G. WOODS
LONDONDERRY TIMES

Family, friends and educators gathered Monday to celebrate Londonderry Adult Education graduates' perseverance through tough times and the bright future that lies ahead.

"We've fought to get here - against adversity, against what other people thought we could do. Sometimes, against what we thought of ourselves. And we did it. And I'd like to think we're all stronger for it," said Meg Plourde, student speaker from the

graduating class who overcame a difficult struggle with anxiety to complete the program and earn her high school diploma.

School Board Chairman Steve Young said the group reminds him of the

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Committee Chair Wants School Board to Push Auditorium

KAITLYN G. WOODS
LONDONDERRY TIMES

Citing voter apathy as a key reason that architecture and engineering costs for a proposed community auditorium failed at the March polls, Auditorium Committee Chairman Tony DeFrancesco urged the School Board to "decide for the citizens what is in the best interest of the children."

"One could argue that while more than 1,200 people voted in favor of the auditorium, over 13,000 people didn't come to vote no on the auditorium article. Apparently, more than 13,000 people

didn't care one way or the other if an auditorium was built," he wrote in his final committee report. "When this happens, in my opinion, the School Board, who are in our government the educational experts, needs to do what other Londonderry School Boards have done in past years and act as a board of alderman and decide for the citizens what is in the best interest of the children."

There are a lot of things that wouldn't have been built in Londonderry had a School Board accepted the first no vote, DeFrancesco added. He told the Board he hopes they

learn from past history and help move the auditorium forward.

In addition to voter apathy, DeFrancesco attributed the failure of the warrant article to fund the auditorium to the Committee's inability to properly market the project.

"The auditorium presented in report form is as close to perfect as you can get. Unfortunately, not a lot of people read it. It was online, it was everywhere. There was no reason for people not to read it, but for some reason they didn't," he said. "And a lot of the confusion, a

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Board Funds First Grade Teaching Assistants Only

KAITLYN G. WOODS
LONDONDERRY TIMES

After hearing much testimony from parents calling for the expenditure of \$240,000 added to the budget for teaching assistant hours, the School Board voted 5-0 to fund aides in first grade classrooms only.

The allocation will support 1.5 hours of daily instructional help in first grade classrooms across the District at a cost of \$60,000. The allocation does not completely restore the District's \$118,000 reduction in teaching assistant hours, which results in a loss of teaching assistant hours in second and third grade classrooms.

Board Chairman Steve

Young said ultimately it's the responsibility of school administrators to allocate the teaching assistant hours; so it is possible teaching assistants could be assigned to a second- or third-grade classroom, if needed.

"One of the things I was listening to back in the workshops mid-winter and subsequent meetings here is Kindergarten is in a different physical location. With kids making the transition to a different building, the first thing that comes to mind are those first graders," said member Leitha Reilly, who proposed they use \$60,000 of the \$240,000 budgeted for teaching assistants to support first grade classrooms.

Reilly noted she is comfortable that there is a plan in place for the three elementary schools once the teaching assistant hours are reduced, and that the administrators of those schools have said they're comfortable with the plan proposed.

"But I still hear concern from the public," she said. "I would like to propose we allow the Super-

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Groups Must Hire District Food Service for Catering Events at Schools

KAITLYN G. WOODS
LONDONDERRY TIMES

In an effort to ensure the safety of students as well as beef up revenues, the School District is asking community teams and organizations to cater functions at school facilities through the food services program.

Exceptions may be granted at the discretion of the food services director, and groups may also serve pizza as long as it's delivered to the school by an employee of a licensed restaurant.

"Our license as a food service provider is on the line," Business Administrator Peter Curro said of

the policy.

"The problem with potlucks at the schools is we don't know what's in the food. There are so many more students with food allergies now. We have concern about what could be prepared at home and the methods of preparing the food," Food Services Director Nancy Faucon said. "We also don't know how long ago the food was made, or how long it has been standing. We have to keep food at a certain temperature so it doesn't cause bacteria to grow. Not to mention, we generally don't have the type of electrical power required

for multiple crockpots."

Faucon said there have been times that so many crockpots were plugged in at the same time that they broke the circuit and ruined her equipment in the kitchen, causing a loss in product when milk and other perishable items spoiled.

A notice detailing the policy was distributed last week as a reminder to organizations that rent school facilities.

"The Londonderry School District is a federal/state licensed facility. Food that is brought from home and served is technically being served under our licensure. We can be held

liable for any incidences that may occur due to foodborne illness or an allergic reaction to food products in any food presented for consumption," the notice said. "Therefore, we can no longer allow potentially hazardous food to be brought from home and served to large group events that take place in our schools."

Potentially hazardous food is defined as a food item that must be served above the temperature of 140 degrees or below the temperature of 40 degrees - requiring food to be heated or refrigerated in order for the food to be enjoyed at the proper temperature.

Foods that are not temperature sensitive, like

breads, cookies, fudge, jellies and pastries, may be brought into school facilities and served to guests; however, Faucon recommends displaying a complete ingredients list to ensure the safety of food for people with allergies. Lunches students bring from home are also exempt from procedures related to temperature-controlled foods.

Events sponsored by the school Parent Teacher Association, faculty and staff members must also follow the procedures, which include requirements for cookouts. For example, all cookouts during school hours must have a food service employee preparing and cooking all raw products.

In addition to prevent-

ing food contamination, the policy offers the food service program, which is running a deficit, an opportunity to recoup revenue.

"We just served a banquet of 225 people last week, and we have served groups up to 300 people," Faucon said. "We're professionals. We have a wonderful staff that is capable of doing what any caterer could do and generally the costs should be less than bringing in an outside caterer."

For more information about hiring the Food Service Program to cater an event, including food options and prices, contact Nancy Faucon at 432-6941, ext. 2234, or by email at nfaucon@londonderry.org.

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Manchester Man Dies in Local Motorcycle Accident

KAITLYN G. WOODS
LONDONDERRY TIMES

A Manchester man died after a motorcycle accident in Londonderry last week.

Chrissy Cox, 51, was riding on Industrial Drive when his motorcycle col-

lided with a FedEx tractor-trailer.

Police received reports of the accident at 12:37 p.m. June 5.

Albert Popoloski, 72, of Plaistow was operating the tractor-trailer when the collision occurred.

Londonderry Fire and State Police also responded to the scene.

Cox died at Elliot Hospital in Manchester.

Police do not believe alcohol or drugs were involved.

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District Can't Buy Bus Software After Warrant Article's Failure

KAITLYN G. WOODS
LONDONDERRY TIMES

The School Board voted unanimously last month to fund bus routing software, but Business Administrator Peter Curro has now informed the School Board that the District can't purchase the software because it was included in a warrant article that failed in the March election.

Curro estimated Article 11, related to bus stops, would have cost the District \$451,552 to implement, a 13 cent impact on the tax rate. Those costs included purchasing eight additional buses, as well

as bus routing software at a cost of around \$20,000.

The bus routing software package the Board voted to purchase on May 5 would have cost the District \$19,000 in FY15, then \$4,000 on an annual basis for maintenance.

But because the taxpayers voted against funding bus routing software when they voted down Article 11, the District may not expend any funds for that purpose in FY15, according to state law.

The School Board also voted against supporting Article 11, which included the bus routing software costs.

Member Steve Young said his understanding is the warrant article was improperly worded, and the District will have an opportunity to write it correctly next year.

When asked if the Board would need to vote again on the bus routing software as the funds they approved had been voted down in the election, Young said the issue does not need to be brought to another vote as the funds have not been expended.

"They don't have to revote, it's just a moot point. We didn't expend the money, we had just started the process,"

Curro said. "We will just put it in next year's budget development for FY17 and hopefully it passes."

"I would imagine there will be a conversation at the next meeting," he added.

David Fletcher of 13 Darrow Way, who with his wife, Susan, proposed Article 11, said he never thought the numbers quoted for the software and other expenses to implement the Article were valid.

"I think it's something they put together that was destined to fail. I have no doubt about that," he said.

Curro said the quote

the District was able to get for the bus routing software this year is just slightly lower than what was proposed in Fletcher's warrant article because the costs of the technology have been steadily decreasing over the last few years.

The software was to help the District create efficient bus routes as new development comes online, according to Curro.

"We're thinking to the future. We've reached a point where we're large enough we should have a computer-aided system," he told the Board at their meeting in May. "We may

find there are better designed routes than we're doing now. You start losing efficiency when you're doing routes manually rather than having a system that uses algorithms, which could even tell us we don't need a bus in service."

"The reality is they have done a really good job so far without the software," Young said, noting the Board understood the need long term as the Town continues to grow, but he is confident the District will be able to effectively plan out bus routes without the software in the coming year.

Aides

Continued from page 1

intendent and his team to implement their plan, but put some provisions in place so we get reports on how it's working and put support at the first grade level, so there's not as much concern that they're going to a huge building from a small school."

"I would support (Reilly's) proposal with the caveat we continue to look at (Superintendent Nate Greenberg's) proposal to determine how we would deal without assistants," member John Laferriere said, noting he would like to see more detail, as well as metrics they can use to judge the success of the reorganization of staff in the schools to satisfy classroom needs that teaching assistants previously fulfilled.

Greenberg recommended reserving the remaining funds for unanticipated expenses, such as accommodating an increase in enrollment.

"I think a major portion of the money should be insurance money. If there's a blip in enrollment, we could turn it into a teaching position, not dissimilar with what we have done in the past," Greenberg said, noting continued growth in the north end of town that appears to be pulling in elementary-aged kids. "Any money left over at the end of the year would go to offset the tax rate in FY17."

"In the four years I have been serving on the Board, there has never been more feedback on any issue. There wasn't a day that went by that I didn't have an email on this topic in my inbox," member Nancy Hendricks said,

thanking parents and teaching assistants in the audience for their interest. "Thank you for that. We want people to be involved and get feedback."

"This has been a struggle for me because I have appreciated all the conversations I've had in the post office, the grocery store, on the telephone. But at the beginning of this century, I made a promise to the voters that when enrollment decreased, if we could bring in aides, we would as a board reduce them as enrollment decreases," Young said. "Although, many believe this is a mandate of the voters, it has been difficult because I already committed to it."

Ultimately, the Board

agreed to reduce teaching assistant hours, funding only 19.5 hours across the three elementary schools.

Following the vote, parents were visibility disappointed as they gathered in the hallway outside the Moose Hill Council Chambers.

"I'm so upset with the shortsightedness of this Board," said Donna Traynham, a professional in education who has been a strong advocate for increasing teaching assistant hours in the elementary schools. "The \$240,000 is a very small price to pay to make sure students have the resources they need."

"It will be interesting in 12 years when all these first graders are graduat-

ing," said Lucas Lafond, a sixth grader who told the Board at its April 20 meeting he wouldn't be the successful student he is today without the individual attention he was able to receive from a classroom assistant.

His sister will enter first grade in the fall.

"We are asking teachers to do the impossible and passing on a resource that could help them," Traynham said. "And the message they're sending is teachers are just going to have to figure it out."

Traynham is particularly concerned the Board has disengaged community members who took interest in the issue, voted overwhelmingly in sup-

port of funding the teaching assistants at the District's Deliberative Session, then voted in favor of the overall budget with the additional funding for the aides.

Traynham said there are no plans to drop the issue of increasing instructional assistant time in the elementary classrooms.

"This is not over," she said. "We will be at the School Board meetings in the fall and will present a citizen's petition to put this back on the ballot to prove it's what the taxpayers wanted. And we hope the community will come forward and give their support to it to show we were serious."

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Editorial

Will of the People

The focus of the final report of the Londonderry School Community Auditorium Committee is a strong message that the School Board should keep the auditorium proposal front and center. As committee chairman Tony DeFrancesco wrote in his report, he wants the Board to "figure out a way to get one built."

He wrote that the School Board should "do what other Londonderry School Boards have done in past years and act as a board of aldermen and decide for the citizens what is in the best interest of the children."

He cited the more than 13,000 voters who didn't cast ballots, calling that a reason for the School Board to decide what is in the best interest of the children. And that best interest, in his view, is an auditorium.

The 13,000 non-voters are the same people whose indifference we would have to consider as responsible for the March approval of a school budget boosted at deliberative session, school collective bargaining contracts, and school resource officers. As well as, on the town side, approval for hiring four firefighters and paying for a conservation easement.

Should we accept that Londonderry voters just made a mistake when it came to the auditorium but knew what they were doing on everything else? Or should we call

all those yes votes into question, just like he's calling the no-vote on the auditorium?

The voters indeed have spoken, and while an auditorium would be a nice addition to the school and the town – hardly anyone says otherwise – the question centers on whether it is the financial priority of the community right now. And that depends on how much disposable spending residents think they have.

This year, they said no. That's the will of the people, and it should be respected.

No one says the auditorium is dead, nor should they. Perhaps a different approach can be taken in the future.

But the way to do that is not to insult the electorate, lay blame everywhere possible, and have the School Board take on the role of Big Daddy, knowing better than the voters what is in their best interest.

How this became an "us vs. them" issue we don't know. It's raised tempers and turned people against their neighbors. In today's world, an auditorium is a very small item in the grand scheme of what school districts need.

It's a smart move to listen to the will of the people. Immediately putting the auditorium back on the warrant is a slap in the face of voters. The School Board would be wise to keep that in mind.

Letters

Apathetic Voters?

To the editor:

This is in reference to a recent article when Mr. DeFrancesco blamed "voter apathy" as a reason that his auditorium was rejected.

Is it possible that he misinterpreted "surplus" in Londonderry's budget to mean an opportune cue to present his project; when voters didn't approve he claimed apathy, not common sense.

Our town's financial situation is the envy of many communities. Wise and conservative management through the years (and saying "no" to many proposals, the wish lists) has given us excellent services in the school/fire/police/and other departments, which are staffed by top-notch personnel provided with up-to-date facilities and equipment. When proposed, all were needed and the voters responded.

Citizens here also respond with other services voluntarily: emergency shelters, heating funds, building and maintaining youth activities to name a few.

Perhaps this comparison isn't fair, yet it's worth mentioning. Derry has a large modern auditorium, probably "needed" by the sponsors at the time. Their current budget problems mean, among other items, cutting vital services in their police and fire departments – including closing altogether one fire station and cancellation of their yearly Derryfest.

Meanwhile Londonderry will have four new

firefighters and a new ambulance, legitimate needs for the community – even for the apathetic voters.

Bruce Cole
Londonderry

Senior Center Volunteers

To the editor:

The Londonderry Senior Center volunteers are dedicated, dependable and they consistently give of themselves without expecting anything in return. Our volunteers work tirelessly on LSCI committees, in the kitchen with Meals on Wheels, helping to beautify our building on the outside by planting and cleaning our porch and gardens. We depend on several of them to set up for every monthly luncheon and call Bingo.

At the Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon each year, we honor these volunteers who make a significant contribution.

I genuinely appreciate their commitment and spirit of volunteerism at our center. Thank you, Volunteers!

Catherine Blash
Senior Affairs Director
Londonderry

Education a Priority

To the editor:

It is with heartfelt appreciation that we thank the residents of Londonderry for their passionate interest in the continuation of teachers' aides in the elementary school. We have watched and listened as the public, quite vocally, voiced op-

position to the elimination of our positions. This reinforced what we have witnessed over the years in our school: our children's education is a priority.

Regardless of aptitude, learning style, and background, our children all deserve the right to an education tailored to their abilities. That this excellence in education requires the cost of additional assistants is a small price to pay; the benefit in later years is immeasurable.

Although the outcome was less than optimal for us, rest assured that we will continue with our responsibilities, respect the child's capabilities, encourage them to succeed, and assist the teachers with their needs. Our expectation is that as in years past, our students will reach their full potential as productive, knowledgeable, and well-rounded adults.

It has been a pleasure and honor to witness the growth, both academically and socially, of the students that have been part of the North School community. We are proud to be part of the process.

Marilyn Eddy
Holly Gorgol
Pat Kelly
Silvia Kenny
Theresa Thomas
North School Instructional Assistants

Iraq Army

To the editor:

The Iraqi Army has a history of moving to the rear and exposing their

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Londonderry Times

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www.nutpub.net

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

The Londonderry Times is published through Nutfield Publishing, LLC a privately owned company dedicated to keeping residents informed about local issues and news in the town of Londonderry. All articles submitted for placement in the Londonderry Times are welcome and subject to review/editing and/or acceptance by the publisher. Decisions of the publisher are final. Views contained within submitted and published articles do not necessarily represent the views of the publisher or Londonderry Times. No articles, photographs, or other materials in the Londonderry Times may be re-published, re-written or otherwise used without the express permission of the publisher.



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School Board Moves Auditorium to Top Spot for Capital Improvements

KAITLYN G. WOODS
LONDONDERRY TIMES

The School Board revised the District's Capital Improvements Plan (CIP), moving up the auditorium project in the document.

The revised CIP, which is to be submitted to the CIP Committee, a subcommittee of the Planning Board that will meet over

the summer to finalize the document, recommends funding architecture and engineering costs for the auditorium at a cost of \$500,000 in 2017 and auditorium construction at a cost of \$9 million in 2018.

"This was an up-or-down vote," member Leitha Reilly said of the auditorium. "This was a warrant article. The voters said no - that's fine,

but we had momentum, we had a good plan, and perhaps the timing was wrong. But my one vote is I'd like to see it up again."

If architecture and engineering costs are to be subsidized in 2017, they would have to be approved by the voters in next year's election.

In addition to the auditorium costs, the CIP

includes architecture and engineering costs up to \$200,000 in 2021 for a new District office and \$3 million for District office construction costs in 2022.

Noting the District office was a \$2.5 million construction project, Chairman Steve Young said he asked Facilities Director Chuck Zappala if it would be possible to renovate the space.

"We have asked the architect about expansion and the answer is no," Business Administrator Peter Curro said. The idea at one time was to expand the office in the second floor."

"I'm not against removing the District office, it's just that \$3 million is a big nut," Young said. "It's always been helpful to

have 'the clam shack' as our badge of honor."

Curro said he will pass the CIP, as revised, to the CIP Committee, which will begin meeting in June.

Member John Laferriere noted the revisions to the CIP do not mean the Board will advocate to put the auditorium project on the warrant or budget at this time.

Eversource Conditional Use Permit in Wetlands OK'd by Planning Board

KAITLYN G. WOODS
LONDONDERRY TIMES

The Planning Board approved a Conditional Use Permit (CUP) for Eversource to conduct geotechnical borings in emergent wetlands as part of the Merrimack Valley Reliability Project.

An abutter to a site where boring will occur expressed concern with the proposed activity in the power utility's right-of-way (ROW).

"In the wetlands right behind my house, I have seen the damage PSNH (Public Service Company of New Hampshire) has done," said Bonnie Breithaupt of 7 Chestnut Hill Drive, asking what types of machinery would be used to complete the work. PSNH is now part of Eversource.

Sherrie Trefry, director of energy services for VHB engineering consult-

ants in Bedford, said impacts in the wetlands will be temporary and any clearing would be done by hand.

"We will not be bringing any large machinery in," she said.

Minimal tree and shrub clearing will be required to gain access to drill sites, with some clearing required in forested areas where borings are proposed.

"We will do our best to access with a minimal amount of clearing - just enough to get a probe or drill in right where we have structures," Trefry said. "I would anticipate maybe one tree will need to come down."

Breithaupt said previous work on the easement has encroached upon her property, and when machinery dug up the wetland, the trenches left behind filled with water.

"The mosquito popu-

lation in Chestnut Hill could eat you alive," she said. "I would hate to see more trenches there."

Crews will be laying down matting in the wetlands that disperse the weight of vehicles accessing the sites, preventing rutting and other impacts, according to Trefry.

The matting is to remain in the wetlands while work is being completed - generally no longer than a day.

"The drilling itself will only take a few hours to set up, they'll drill, get the sample, then take the mats and move to a new location," she said. "Usually vegetation pops right back up when the mats are removed. Impacts will be

minimized and restored, and we will use access roads where possible."

In total, the project will result in 51,271 square feet of wetlands temporary impact, of which 33,616 square feet are temporary wetland impact and 7,213 square feet are temporary stream impacts.

The work will provide information on the physical properties of soil and rock at the proposed sites of towers being installed in Londonderry as part of the transmission line project from the Scobie Pond substation to Tewksbury, Mass.

Eversource is working to notify abutters of the boring that is to be conducted to ensure they

understand that crews aren't installing new towers, and Planning Board members told concerned abutters to the ROW that they would have an opportunity to discuss the overall project when it goes before the Board.

Work in Londonderry is expected to include the construction of about 75 new structures, with the average height anticipated to be 88 feet above ground.

The new, 24-mile overhead transmission line will pass through Londonderry, Hudson, Windham and Pelham. A total of 18.1 miles of the transmission line will run through New Hampshire, with 8.1 miles in Londonderry.

Eversource held a pub-

lic information session May 6 as part of its application process with the SEC (New Hampshire Site Evaluation Committee) and the company must hold a joint public information session with National Grid in each county affected by the project within 45 days after the application is filed. The SEC will hold additional public hearings within 90 days of the application's being accepted.

Residents may contact Eversource with questions and concerns related to the project by phone at (844) 646-8427 or by email at info@MA-NHSolutions.org. For more information, visit the project's website online at www.MA-NHSolution.com.

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Local Seniors Enjoy Luau Lunch and Laughs



The Londonderry Senior Center's Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon was transformed into a Hawaiian luau Saturday. The meal featured pork, zucchini and potatoes, and entertainment was provided by Town Manager Kevin Smith, above right, doing his best Elvis in Hawaii impression, with the help of his assistant, Kirby Wade. Town Councilor Joe Green, above center, helped serve. Above far left, Ron and Carol Jablonowski relax before their meal, and below left, Ernie and Concetta Alancot get ready to celebrate their 60th wedding anniversary on June 11.

Photos by Chris Paul

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Discovering Londonderry's Past



Londonderry Historical Society members Penny Webster and Bill Bringhurst enlightened South School fourth graders about the history of their town last week. Webster displays flax, and Bringhurst presents historical items stored at the Society's blacksmith shop. *Photos by Chris Paul*



Smith Appoints Verani as Ex Officio to Planning Board

KAITLYN G. WOODS
LONDONDERRY TIMES

Town Manager Kevin Smith announced this week he has appointed Giovanni Verani as his Ex-officio to the Planning Board.

Verani will attend his first meeting representing Smith on July 8.

"He brings a fresh perspective to the board as a real estate agent," Smith said. "He knows the commercial and residential markets very well, and he has a great deal of knowl-

edge on land use practices. I think he brings a new perspective that isn't on the board."

Verani replaces John Laferriere, who submitted his letter of resignation to Smith, explaining a new job in Boston placing a greater demand on his time is the reason he must step down.

Assessor Rick Brideau holds the second of two positions on the Planning Board under the Town Manager's appointment.

LMS Math League Teams Recognized

KAITLYN G. WOODS
LONDONDERRY TIMES

Londonderry Middle School fared well in the 2015 New England Math League contest.

The school's sixth grade team finished 11th in New England, the seventh grade team ranked 23rd and the eighth grade team ranked 24th.

All sixth grade students participated in this year's contest, as did

interested seventh and eighth graders.

The top scorers for the official sixth grade team were Adam Vogler, Noah Sekula, Ben Steele, Luc Lafond, Shiva Ganapath and Ryan Griffin.

The sixth grade team ranked second in New Hampshire and competed against 99 schools in New England.

Vogler finished 25th overall in New England and

fourth in New Hampshire.

Top scorers for the middle school's official seventh grade team were Courtney Shay, Cassidy Williams, Kerry Daley, Timothy Gore, Lorenzo Inglesse, Jack Anderson, Griffin Miville and Benjamin Robbins.


The team tied for third in New Hampshire and competed against 88 schools in New England.

The top scorers comprising the middle school's

eighth grade team were Zack Chau, Hannah Brown, William Garvey, James Fitzgibbons, Alyssa Jarvis and Derik Pignone.

The team placed third in New Hampshire and competed against 93 schools in New England, and Chau ranked 29th overall in New England.

The students were recognized for their efforts with certificates of achievement on June 8.



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Neighbor Questions Building Permit for Reconstruction at Murray's

KAITLYN G. WOODS
LONDONDERRY TIMES

A neighbor to Murray's Auto Salvage is calling into question the legality of the Town's recent decision to issue owner Ed Dudek a license to rebuild a barn on his Hall Road property, which the business previously used to disassemble motor vehicles.

The entire auto salvage was lost to a fire that ravaged the business on Jan. 29, spreading quickly through hundreds of cars on the property and resulting in substantial environmental impacts Dudek is working to remediate.

Town Code Enforcement Officer Richard Canuel said despite ongoing litigation between the Town and Dudek - the Town filed a petition in Rockingham Superior Court on Jan. 28 for declaratory judgment, injunctive relief and enforcement of statutory penalties against Dudek and his business due to ongoing compliance issues with the salvage yard - Dudek was granted a permit to rebuild his barn "at his own risk."

The Town observed a 60-day review period before issuing the building permit for Dudek's barn, and the auto salvage owner started rebuilding last week.

But ongoing use of the property, including the barn, is subject to the pending litigation.

"If the Court rules in favor of the Town, he could be barred from operating his junkyard and he would be building the barn for nothing," Canuel said. "There is no legal basis to deny the permit. Everything about the building was acceptable, it was the same building they had built previously and had site plan approval for."

The ordinance as a whole separates non-conforming uses and buildings, Town Attorney Michael Ramsdell advised the Town. Otherwise, the ordinance would state, "if a building that is employed in a non-conforming use of the land is 75 percent damaged," or "a building employed as part of a non-conforming use of the land." But because it doesn't state that, the building is not non-conforming.

Dudek's barn was built

pursuant to a variance and Planning Board approval. That the land is employed as a non-conforming use does not render the building non-conforming, and the Town lacks the authority to deny the building permit, according to Ramsdell.

But neighbor Richard Bielinski of 89 Hall Road argues the permit to rebuild the barn is illegal, and that the Town should never have permitted construction of the structure in the first place.

"They're confusing a conforming building with the use of a building with a nonconforming use," he said, arguing the structure was an illegal expansion of the use of the property.

"When the barn went in, there's no doubt it expanded the use of the property," Bielinski said. "The business just took off when they built that barn."

Additionally, Bielinski notes the building permit for the 4,000-square-foot barn was approved because it was presented as a replacement to 5,000 square feet of property - tractor trailer boxes, a cement pad and a 420-square-foot shed.

The trailer boxes are not real property, are not allowed to be stored in an AR-1 zone and are not part of the grandfathered use, as they were not part of the grandfathered use as property, according to Bielinski.

A 2007 property card for 53 Hall Road confirms the owner was not paying taxes for the 5,000 square feet of property the barn was proposed to replace.

Citing state statute, Bielinski argues, the building inspector should not have issued the building permit as the structure does "not comply with any or all zoning ordinances,

building codes, or planning board regulations which are in effect."

But according to Canuel, the issue of nonconforming use and expansion of nonconforming uses is irrelevant with regard to issuing Dudek the building permit.

"It existed prior to adoption of zoning and has a vested right for the property," he said. "Regarding expansion of non-conforming use, there is a multitude of case law related to the expansion of uses that supports issuance of a building permit."

The Town's latest petition related to Murray's operations requests that the Superior Court order Dudek to "cease and desist" all business operations until he complies with the terms of his license and the Town's Zoning Ordinances.

Additionally, the Town

petitioned the Court to declare Murray's Auto Recycling a nuisance for its failure to comply with license conditions and fencing requirements of the junkyard statute, subjecting the salvage yard to abatement; and to order Dudek and Murray's Auto Recycling to pay the Town statutory penalties in the amounts of \$275 for the first offense and \$550 for each subsequent offense.

Last month, legal representation for the Town and Murray's were in the process of exchanging discovery, and the Town requested an August trial date from the court.

However, Dudek's license will be up for renewal before the Town Council prior to the trial date.

The Council could, if it chooses, put off a decision on the license renewal until after the trial.

Letters

Continued from page 4

backsides to attacking forces.

The Iraqi Army melted like butter when we

attacked them in 2003. They faded away when ISIL attacked them, and then lost Mosul and most of northwestern Iraq along with large quantities of U.S. equipment.

Recently they turned tail and abandoned U.S. military equipment when they ran from Ramadi.

The Iraqi Army cannot be relied upon to fight ISIL or any other insurgent groups, and we should not supply them with weapons we could possibly face in the future.

Our attack aircraft are currently destroying former U.S. military vehicles captured by ISIL from the Iraqi Army, and this will continue into the future.

The latest news is the Administration is sending 2,000 anti-tank rockets to

combat ISIL vehicles. We should not supply these rockets to the Iraqi Army, because they will probably fall into the hands of ISIL and other terrorist organizations, and if we ever have to go back into Iraq, our military could encounter these weapons.

We should reduce sending military equipment to the Iraqi Army and increase arms shipments to the Kurds and Druze.

Donald A. Moskowitz
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Scout-Led Renovations Make Grange Hall Available for Rental

KAITLYN G. WOODS
LONDONDERRY TIMES

With local Eagle Scouts having completed renovations that restored the Londonderry Grange Hall's kitchen and bathrooms, the community center is now available for rental.

"This is a great opportunity to give back to the community," said Bill Perry, building manager for the Grange. "Several

other granges out there throughout the state are working to revitalize their halls as well, so we can have various community centers to meet at."

Perry said preserving Londonderry's Grange Hall is important to preserving the Town's heritage, and noted it wouldn't have been possible without the support of the young men in the town's Scout program and their parents,

who have focused their efforts on revitalizing the Grange.

In the fall and spring, the Scouts spend hours cleaning up the grounds, raking leaves and completing other maintenance work; many of the Scouts have chosen to focus their Eagle Scout projects on improving the hall as well.

Perry's older son, Andrew Perry, brought run-

ning water to the Grange in 2012, and the project was the catalyst for the troop's ongoing efforts to improve the hall.

Following his brother, Thomas Perry, an assistant scoutmaster, renovated the two bathrooms in the Grange.

He ripped out layers of tiling as well as the floor and subfloor; installed new floors and tiling; installed new toilets; and added a fresh coat of paint and tiling to the walls.

Other improvements the troop has completed include Eagle Scout Matthew Nutt's kitchen renovation, Eagle Scout Jack McCullough's installation of new windows on the left side of the building, repairs to the wheelchair ramp at the rear of the building, new railings at the front entrance and new storage shelves in

the basement.

Next in line to make Eagle, Zach Herrera is in the process of re-purposing two closets at the front of the hall, re-organizing one for storage and converting the other to a small conference area where the scouts will be able to hold one-on-one meetings and interviews.

With a new kitchen, working bathrooms and a space that can accommodate 75 people, Perry said the hall has generated interest for bridal showers and even a wedding reception.

Because alcohol is restricted on the property, Perry said members of the Grange are discussing the potential to permit wedding receptions with alcohol if the renter purchases a rider on their insurance policy to cover associated liabilities.

Donations are accept-

ed for renting the Grange - Perry said the maximum donation is \$100, and generally parties that rent the space for small functions donate \$75.

"The moneys we generate from rentals are used to keep the building alive and active," said Perry, noting the building's rich history.

The hall would be best used for small events, such as baby showers, bridal showers, birthday parties, retirement parties and small concerts.

"We're trying to keep it simple. Small concerts could work - the acoustics in there are incredible," Perry said.

Anyone who is interested in taking a tour of the Grange Hall may contact Bill Perry at 425-9889, or email Cherylann Pierce at cherylannbp56@gmail.com for a rental agreement.

Marching Lancers to Participate in Orlando Citrus Parade Dec. 30

The Londonderry High School Music Department announces that this upcoming holiday season, the Marching Lancers will be traveling to Florida to participate in the Orlando Citrus Parade, one of the largest sports-affiliated parades in the nation.

The Lancers will depart on Sunday, Dec. 27, and will spend five days in Orlando. They will perform in the Citrus Parade on Dec. 30, followed by a New Year's

Eve performance in the Magic Kingdom.

In preparation for the trip, a variety of fundraisers will be held. Currently students are selling "Summer Fun Calendar" raffle tickets and "World's Finest" candy bars. Candy bars are \$1 each, and raffle tickets are \$5 each and give participants an opportunity to win such prizes as grills; admission tickets to Canobie Lake Park, Polar Caves, and

Story Land; and restaurant gift cards. All proceeds from these sales go directly into student accounts to help offset the cost of trips.

The LHS Music Program is delighted to have this opportunity to perform in a world-class setting and add to its extensive resume of exciting adventures, said music director Andy Soucy.

For more information, visit www.lancermusic.org.

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Shingles is a skin rash caused by the same virus that causes chickenpox. This virus is called the Varicella zoster virus (VZV) and is in the Herpes family of viruses. After an individual has chickenpox, this virus lives in the nervous system and is never fully cleared from the body. Under certain circumstances, such as emotional stress, immune deficiency (from AIDS or chemotherapy), or with cancer, the virus reactivates and causes shingles. In most cases of shingles, however, a cause for the reactivation of the virus is never found. Anyone who has ever had chickenpox is at risk for the development of shingles, although it occurs most commonly in people over the age of 60. It has been estimated that up to 1,000,000 cases of shingles occur each year in the U.S.

The herpes virus that causes shingles and chickenpox is not the same as the herpes viruses that causes genital herpes (which can be sexually transmitted) or herpes mouth sores. Shingles is medically termed Herpes zoster.

Before a rash is visible, the patient may notice several days to a week of burning pain and sensitive skin. When the characteristic rash is not yet apparent, it may be difficult to determine the cause of the often severe pain. Shingles rash starts as small blisters on a red base, with new blisters continuing to form for three to five days. The blisters follow the path of individual nerves that come out of the spinal cord (called a dermatomal pattern) and appear as a band- or belt-like pattern on an area of skin. The entire path of the affected nerve may be involved, or there may be areas with blisters and areas with-

out blisters. Generally, only one nerve level is involved. In a rare case, more than one nerve will be involved. Eventually, the blisters pop, and the area starts to ooze. The affected areas will then crust over and heal. The duration of the outbreak may take three to four weeks from start to finish. On occasion, the pain will be present but the blisters may never appear. This can be a very confusing cause of local pain.

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Bob Steenson to Lead Old Home Day Parade as Grand Marshal

KAITLYN G. WOODS
LONDONDERRY TIMES

Longtime community servant Bob Steenson has been honored with the title of Grand Marshal of the Londonderry Old Home Day Parade.

Old Home Day Committee Chairman Kathy Wagner said the position of Grand Marshal was created about 13 years ago to honor someone who has been a standout community servant.

"We used to have Citizen of the Year, but we never had a Grand Marshal. As an organization, we thought it would be nice to have a Grand Marshal of the parade - someone who has given back to the community, volun-

teered, been involved and done a lot of work to make Londonderry what it is," she said. "Bob was the unbelievable overwhelming choice this year."

Steenson has served as liaison between the Committee and the Lions Club for at least 16 years and was involved with the Panthers and Pop Warner football, now the Wildcats.

"I have never served an elected office, but I have supported the Town in any way I could," said Steenson, who has lived in Londonderry for 42 years and put his two children through the school system.

He was always active in the community," Wagner said, adding, "He's a really fun, good guy and we felt he deserved it."

Steenson, 87, will lead the parade riding in a car and called his position as Grand Marshal "quite an honor."

In addition to naming Steenson Grand Marshal, Wagner said the Committee chose the theme "Walking in an Apple Wonderland," submitted by Lindsay Ball's fourth grade class at Matthew Thornton Elementary School.

As the winning entry, the students will be treated to an ice cream social this week.

The fourth graders select the parade theme each year while studying about the history of Londonderry and New Hampshire, according to Wagner.

Themes in previous years included "Let Freedom Ring," "Home Sweet Home" and "Apple Fever."



Longtime Londonderry resident Bob Steenson will be this year's Old Home Day Parade Grand Marshal. Photo by Chris Paul

The Old Home Day Parade, held historically on the third Saturday of August, is scheduled for Aug. 15.

For more information about this year's Old Home Day celebration, visit www.OLDHOMEDAYS.COM.

Students Create Newspaper to Improve English Writing Skills

KAITLYN G. WOODS
LONDONDERRY TIMES

When English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) teacher Dawn Bargerhuff noticed summer fever was taking hold of her younger students, she

decided to spice up her lessons with an adventure in news reporting.

In addition to recapturing their attention, Bargerhuff said the exercise gave her students a confidence boost.

"They took pictures around the school and

during classroom activities," she said. "I had one student who was doing well in all areas, but he hated writing. It was the only thing left he still needed help with, according to his test results."

North School students wrote about baby ducklings born in the courtyard of the school, while

other students wrote about field trips they took.

"It definitely made them smile when I came to get them," Bargerhuff said of the exercise.

And the assignment also bonded the students, many of whom are new to

the country, with their classmates and the larger school communities.

"Projects like this are great because they're doing something special - it makes them feel special, rather than different," she said. "It makes them feel more a part of the school."

Students who were comfortable enough with speaking in front of their

classes presented their finished newspapers, reading the stories they wrote out loud and sharing their photos.

"It was really dependent on their level of English. Some were very excited to share their projects," Bargerhuff said. "They want to show their parents, and they view it as a major accomplishment."



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Graduates

Continued from page 1

crocus flower, a tenacious early spring flower that pushes up through snow, ice and rock to bloom.



Meg Plourde was student speaker at the Londonderry High School Adult Education commencement ceremony Monday evening. Photos by Chris Paul

"They always come up, no matter how hard the ground is frozen," Young told the graduates. "That's what you have done by getting through this program. Tonight, when you throw your hats

- think about the crocus and the fact you have emerged and can get through anything. My best employee was one of you guys. She's a single mom with three kids, and she's going to run the company someday."

"These graduates and their families never gave up in their relentless pursuit of a high school diploma," Alternative Education Director Amity Ferraro said. "Each of you have shared life lessons with members of the faculty and each other."

Ferraro said she thinks about the students in her program after she leaves the building, and said working with them is the highlight of her days.

"You guys ground me, because you guys matter," she said.

The June 2015 graduates presented with a diploma at the ceremony are Kathleen Arrigo, Adam Beaudoin, Curtis Benedict, Skylynn Collins, Joseph Davison, Samantha Emerson, Victoria



Seventeen Londonderry High Adult Education graduates flip their tassels to signify their graduation Monday night.

Hampton, Jonathan Keating, Amy Lavoie, Lindsey Morlock, Shicora Pearce, Meg Plourde, Declan Rutledge, Anthony Santostefano, Autumn Secchiaroli, Sean Sullivan and Nicholas White.

The celebration featured a moving vocal performance of the Class Song, "Home," by Philip Phillips, sung by graduate Skylynn Collins and accompanied by teacher Casey Roop on the guitar.

Victoria Hampton and

her family were surprised with the announcement that she is the winner of a scholarship for three college credits.

"It's really rewarding," Hampton, who plans to attend the New Hampshire Technical Institute starting in the fall, said of being recognized for her efforts in the program.

"She worked so hard to get to where she is," said Aubrey Hampton, Victoria's father.

Plourde concluded her

address to the graduating class by reminding them of that work ethic, encouraging them to "go out there and do amazing things."

"We've got the tenacity, the strength of will to move mountains. We didn't give up, and that's all that matters," Plourde said. "To everyone who believed in us, even when we didn't believe in ourselves - thank you. It means the world."

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LMS Students Present Their Work in Ancient Egypt Museum

SIERRA BALDWIN
LONDONDERRY TIMES

The classrooms were filled with ancient artifacts, and the

Typhoon pod at Londonderry Middle School buzzed with murmurs of mummies, pyramids and the Nile River on Wednesday, June 3.

day, June 3.

The Typhoon team, made up of about 100 students, created 75 Egyptian-themed projects for the sixth annual Ancient Egypt Museum.

Desks were dotted with homemade relics, and students stood by, ready to respond to questions and comments about their work.

Jennifer Maurice, the Typhoon's geography teacher, organized the event. She said the project's purpose was for her students to "learn the elements of culture through ancient Egypt in a creative and different way."

She explained that this was a hands-on assignment in which students had to build and make an artifact themselves. It required research outside of class, and all groups were required to present twice: once in front of the class and once at the museum, where students' family were welcome.

Kate Wallace, the team's math teacher, said



Alex Metro, left, and Addy Bryant, Londonderry Middle School seventh graders, display their model of the Sphinx. Photos by Chris Paul



Lea Baum presents her mummy at the Ancient Egypt Museum at Londonderry Middle School.



Alex Hufford and Alex Tssetilas explain the mummification process at the Ancient Egypt Museum.

the museum reminded her of an "old-fashioned science fair."

"I think it's a really great way to end the year, having them all come together," Wallace said. "The students worked so hard on (this project), and we're celebrating their effort."

Students covered a wide spectrum of Egyptian culture at their museum.

Timmy Costello mummified a sock monkey for his project. His creation included a white-wrapped creature surrounded by a golden cardboard sarcophagus decorated with hieroglyphics.

Costello explained that in ancient Egypt, it usually took 70 days to complete a mummy. There were multiple layers, and the outside was often made of gold.

"That's the one that spirits see," Costello said. "And mummies usually have masks so the spirits could see who was underneath."

Partners Courtney Shay

and Rachel Gagne decided to work on canopic jars. Four of them were lined up on their desk, each representing one of the sons of Horus, the sky god.

"I really liked sculpting them," Gagne said as she explained the clay and paint process her group used.

Shay said the jars were once used to preserve human organs in the mummification process.

"(Egyptians) would usually keep the stomach, liver, intestines and lungs," Shay said. "They were all kept separate and would protect the organs during the afterlife."

Students also made small-scale replicas of Egyptian monuments.

Alexis Groulx and her group spent three days making a clay Sphinx. The procedure involved molding clay, painting it and adding sand to give it an historic look.

Groulx said the Sphinx protected the tombs and

Great Pyramids of ancient Egypt.

"There's apparently a secret passageway that no one really knows about in the Sphinx," Groulx said. "I want to go there and see what it looks like inside."

Michael Walsh, John Kircaldie and Ashley Doyle, who created a model of the Great Pyramids, also have a desire to go to Egypt.

"That'd be pretty cool," Kircaldie said. "We saw them on Google Earth in class but that's not the same."

The group expressed their new appreciation for Egyptians after building three small pyramids themselves. They said it was a time-consuming process to make them, but when all was said and done, they were happy with their work.

When their project was finally displayed at the museum, they proudly stood behind it and said "These are the Pyramids of Giza."

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—LONDONDERRY SPORTS—

LHS Tracksters Stand Out at State Meet of Champions

CHRIS PANTAZIS
LONDONDERRY TIMES

The New Hampshire Interscholastic Athletic Association's spring outdoor track and field Meets of Champions bring together some of the best athletes in the Granite State each year. And competing on their home track last Saturday, June 6, some of Londonderry High School's finest proved that they belong among that select group.

The LHS boys had stalwarts collect three championships and a total of nine, top-six finishes, and the Lady Lancers snared four state titles and seven top-six placements.

GIRLS

Senior star Natalie Howes duplicated the tremendous individual success she enjoyed at the Division I title meet in Hampton a week earlier by winning both the pole vault (a performance of 10 feet, 9 inches) and the javelin (136 feet, 9 inches). Her winning throw in the javelin was nearly 18 feet better than that of runner-up Amanda Stumpf of Nashua North (118'10").

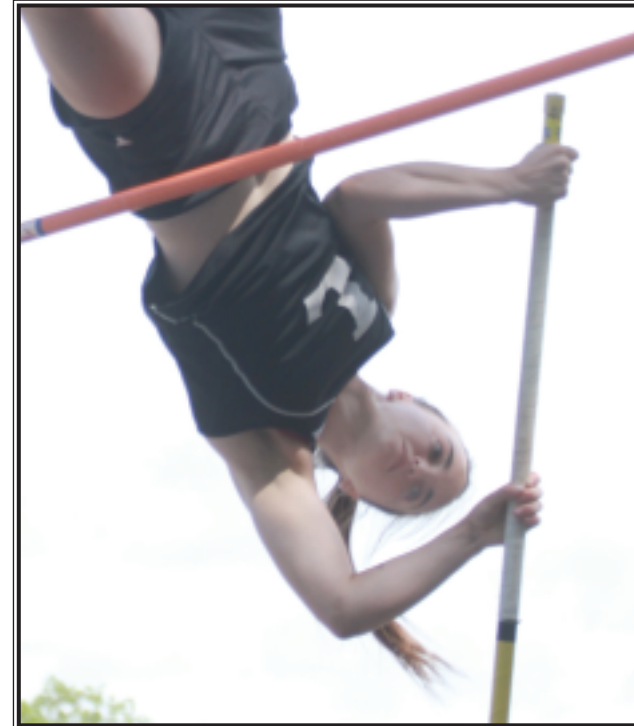
Junior Yorgelis Ortiz also continued to roll out the superb kinds of efforts she showed at the D-I championships by winning the 100-meter dash (12.51 seconds) and placing second in the 200 dash.

Ortiz combined with teammates Jessica Brien, Andrea Woodridge, and Ellie Goodspeed for a second place in the 4x100 relay, and the Lady Lancers had Jordan Dufresne finish third and Rachel Larkin end up fourth behind champion Howes in the pole vault.

BOYS

The LHS males had senior star Starlin Ortiz continue to put forth the top-flight performances they've become used to getting from him over the last four years as he won the 110-meter hurdles (14.95) and the high jump (6'8") and wound up third overall in the triple jump. Ortiz's fellow senior Trevor Guay also proved unbeatable in the 300-meter hurdles (39.53).

Second places were snagged by Derek Davies in the pole vault and by Davies and his 4x400 relay



LHS senior multi-event standout Natalie Howes won both the pole vault and the javelin at the state Meet of Champs in Londonderry last weekend.



Lancers' point-getting machine and senior Starlin Ortiz took first places in the 110 hurdles and the high jump at the state Meet of Champs at LHS.

teammates Keith Perry, Lukas Charbonneau, and Guay.

Londonderry's 4x800 relay quartet snared a third place, and fourth places were registered by Saint Anselm College-bound multi-sport standout Eric Fairweather in the 110 hurdles and Kyle Foden in the shot put.

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Lancer Laxmen See Comeback Fall Short in Quarterfinals

CHRIS PANTAZIS
LONDONDERRY TIMES

After being dominated through the first half of its Division I quarterfinal-round tournament match against the

Souhegan High Sabers last weekend, the Londonderry High boys' lacrosse squad put forth an impressive comeback that just fell short of the desired goal.

First-year coach Sean LeBlanc's fourth-seeded Lancers were outscored by the visiting, number five Souhegan squad by the tally of 10-2 during the first half of the tourney battle - held at LHS Saturday, June 6 - but anybody who left at halftime missed out on a stellar comeback effort by the hosts. But in the end, Londonderry fell just short in dropping a 10-8 decision that ended its 2015 campaign.

"We battled it back to 10-8, but we just ran out of clock," lamented LeBlanc. "I am extremely proud of the way the guys battled in the second half. All of the credit goes to my 12 seniors, who totally took over the game in the second half, along with sophomore Tyler Grant at the face-off."

Facing its nearly insurmountable eight-goal deficit going into half num-

ber two, the host Lancers kicked into a far more productive gear and wound up potting six unanswered goals and making the Souhegan crew from Amherst nervous and stressed.

"Shayne Holland scored three straight goals in about two minutes to really get the run going," said LeBlanc. "The defense stepped up big time in the second half, including getting through two man-down situations."

Holland led the Lancers with those three goals and one assist for four total points, and single goals were netted by Lewis Carroll, Nick Donnelly, Max Hastings, Devin Brunet, and John Derhak. Dave Wiedenfeld contributed two assists to the close-but-no-cigar performance.

Goalie Chris Rowan made nine saves for the LHS side.

In the wake of the tough defeat, LeBlanc was left to ruminate a bit on his squad's leaders and why the Lancers fell behind in the first half.

"This was a special group of seniors that will

have a lasting impact on the program," he said.

"We played most of the top teams in the state early in the season, so it had been a while since we had seen an opponent as talented as Souhegan, which could explain the slow start."



Lancer laxman Shayne Holland tries to find a way past a Souhegan defender during Division I tourney play last week. Photos by Chris Paul



LHS lacrosse player Devin Brunet makes sure the ball is in the netting of his stick vs. Souhegan.



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Lady Lancers' Lax Squad Finished in the Quarterfinals

CHRIS PANTAZIS
LONDONDERRY TIMES

The Londonderry High girls' lacrosse squad's aim to at least get as far as the Division I tournament semifinals fell flat Wednesday, June 3, as veteran coach Bob Slater's Lady Lancers saw their 2015 season come to an end with an 11-9 quarterfinal-round tourney loss to the host Exeter High Lady Blue Hawks on the seacoast.

The fourth-seeded Exeter crew potted the first four goals of the match early on - and six of the first seven during the initial 15 minutes of play - and never lost the lead, despite the LHS crew's intense efforts to come all the way back.

Londonderry was the number five seed heading into the quarters and the Lady Blue Hawks were ranked number four. The Exeter crew, which went

14-4 during its regular season, bested the Lady Lancers by a 10-7 score when the teams first played in mid-May in Londonderry. So the locals - who registered a 10-6 regular season mark - had reasons to think they could best the seacoast squad in the even more important tourney contest last week.

However, the Lady Hawks' fast start in the post-season battle set the tone and the hosts never

lost the lead.

"The girls played very well," said Slater following that big match. "We got off to a slow start, giving up four goals in the first 10 minutes, but we then took control and ended up down by two at the half at 6-4. The second half was even more intense from start to finish, with each team scoring five goals apiece."

The Lancers had a chance to slice its deficit to just one goal with 1:30 left in the first half but were unable to capitalize.

"The same thing happened in the second half. With just under two minutes left we had the ball and could not capitalize," lamented Slater.

The LHS offense was paced by senior Sarah Bell with her four goals. Single tallies were collected by Dominique Breault, Chelsea Lewis, Breda Holland, Gabby Morris, and Noelle Lambert. Goalie Michaela Kewley contributed two saves.



LHS lacrosse player Sarah Jackes, 8, tries not to collide with teammate Mariah Eacrett, 12, as teammate Noelle Lambert looks on during recent action.

While the loss was disappointing for the locals, Slater and his charges had plenty to be pleased about where the entirety of the 2015 season was concerned.

After having their junior varsity coach step up into the Lady Lancers' varsity job just before the start of last year's 2014 tournament, Slater returned to the LHS lax fold from a college assistant coaching post and had his charges respond well to his return and the stabili-

ty it brought.

"This season was tremendous," he said. "All 26 girls improved, and our seniors had one of their best seasons before heading off to college. Our focus was to make it to the final four, but my focus as well was to get Londonderry girls' lacrosse back as a contender in Division I like they used to be. That we accomplished, as the energy and excitement are back and will continue to grow moving forward."

LHS Spikers Drop Last Two Matches, See Season End

CHRIS PANTAZIS
LONDONDERRY TIMES

After battling their way through a peaks-and-valleys 2015 regular season, coach John Vaughn and his Londonderry High boys' volleyball squad saw their campaign come to an end with losses at the hands of the Windham High School and Mascenic Regional High teams last week.

The Lancer squad had their regular season finish with a 3-1 loss to the visiting Windham warriors at LHS Tuesday, June 2, and then subsequently learned that they'd earned the

number 10 seed in the volleyball tourney and would head off to Mascenic in New Ipswich for their first-round contest.

In the Windham match, the host Lancers lost the first two games by scores of 25-23 and 25-22, rebounded to take game three by a 25-21 count and kept the match going, but lost game four by a 25-19 count as the battle ended.

The hosts received 17 assists from Spenser Flood, 12 digs from Aidan McCaffrey, and nine kills and four blocks from Marc Corey. Ben Stoller contributed three blocks as well.

It was then on into the tournament and a match with a Mascenic squad that had tallied a 7-9 regular season record, with one of its victories a 3-1 decision over the Lancers just a couple of matches into the new campaign on the regional school's home court in mid-April.

Londonderry, which ended its regular season with a 5-11 record, gave Mascenic a tougher time in the tourney battle than it had in the regular season meeting, but in the end the local spikers dropped a 3-2 decision and had their 2015 season come to a close.

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Title Repeat Simply Not to be for Lancer Baseball Crew



Lefty pitcher Matt Ross put forth a nice performance for his Lancers during their first-round tournament mauling of Manchester Memorial at Gill Stadium in the Queen City last week.

CHRIS PANTAZIS
LONDONDERRY TIMES

Veteran Londonderry High baseball coach Brent Demas and his Lancers began the 2015 season with hopes of repeating their 2014 success, which included claiming the Division I championship.

Would the graduation losses of standouts like Rob Del Signore and Tommy Corey and others from the title-winning 2014 crew simply be too much to surmount, or could the Lancers stage a repeat this spring? That was a big question to be answered by the 2015 LHS bunch.

In the end - after the 2014 LHS contingent beat the arch-rival Pinkerton Academy Astros in the divisional championship contest last June - it would be those same

Astros who would extinguish the 2015 Lancers' title hopes this June.

The ninth-ranked LHS crew advanced to the quarterfinal battle with number one Pinkerton by virtue of a pummeling of the eighth-seeded Manchester Memorial High Crusaders - a 13-2 blow-out - at Manchester's Gill Stadium Thursday night, June 4.

Two days later Demas' dudes dropped a 5-2 decision to the host Pinkerton bunch in Derry, and the Lancers and their hopes were finished.

In the first-round mauling of Memorial, the Lancers put 10 hits and six Crusader errors to great use in support of skilled southpaw pitcher Matt Ross, who was strong in his first start of the campaign.

"Matt had all of his pitches working and kept a strong Memorial team off-balance all night," said Demas. "The defense turned three double plays and supported Matt's efforts."

Londonderry scored twice in the top half of the first inning but saw the Crusaders bounce back and knot the score at 2-2 in the latter half of the third frame.

However, the Lancers' next 11 runs all went unanswered as the locals rolled.

Londonderry exploded for six runs on four hits and one Memorial

error in the top of the fourth, with Colby Joncas smacking a two-run single and Jonny Meskell contributing a two-run double as the LHS side took over.

Demas' dudes then added single runs in the fifth and sixth innings and three more in the top of the seventh in putting the game away.

Joncas ended up going 3-for-4 with three runs batted in for the winning side,

Nick Musto contributed two safeties, and Geoff Kayo singled once and walked three times on a big night for the locals.

"The offensive effort overall was awesome," said Demas.

And that success helped to set up the rematch of the 2014 Division I title game against those rivals from Derry.

But where defensive miscues helped Londonderry in its first-round trouncing of Memorial, errors stung the Lancers mightily in their quarterfinal-round game with Pinkerton two days later.

The LHS crew scored single runs in the top half of the first inning (Jimmy Zimolka reached home on an infield single by Joncas) and the top of the third (Joncas' double plated Zimolka again) to collect an early 2-0 lead.

However, Pinkerton was clearly energized by

Ben Curry's inside-the-park homer in the latter part of the third, which made the score 2-1, and the hosts scored three more times on three hits and two PA errors in the bottom of the fourth to snag a 4-2 lead. Their single insurance run in the bottom of the fifth (helped along by another LHS error and a wild pitch) then made the score 5-2.

After struggling somewhat early, PA pitcher Chace Spears retired seven consecutive Lancer batters while his team tallied runs in those middle innings, and he ended up bagging the complete game win by holding the LHS offense to just five hits.

The victorious PA side wound up with eight hits, despite some strong starting pitching from Nick Musto.

"We definitely didn't help ourselves out there today," lamented Demas. "You're not going to get very far against anybody if you make the kinds of mistakes we did today."

And so ended the Londonderry High baseball squad's 2015 season.

Demas and his Lancers will aim to return to the top of the D-I heap next spring without a handful of talented and battle-tested seniors, including Ross, Joncas, Kayo, Ryan, and Fred McKay-Wright.

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LHS Softball Squad Gets as Far as Division I Quarters

CHRIS PANTAZIS
LONDONDERRY TIMES

With senior pitcher Melissa Sprague taking her Londonderry High softball team on her back, the Lady Lancers made it as far as the Division I tournament quarterfinals before reaching the end of their 2015 road.

Sprague continued her amazing pitching in the opening-round edging of Nashua North. But she and her teammates were bested by third-seeded Salem on that opponent's diamond last weekend as their championship hopes slid away.

The sixth-seeded Lady Lancers had advanced to their quarterfinal-round battle with Salem's Lady Blue Devils by virtue of that opening-round, 1-0

nipping of the 11th-seeded Nashua North Lady Titans at LHS Wednesday, June 3.

Senior hurler Sprague put forth yet another magnificent performance, going all seven innings and striking out seven batters.

Londonderry plated the only run it would get and the only one it would require in the second inning when a throwing error at shortstop allowed base-runner Katrina Rivard to score from second base.

The Lady Lancers' offense managed a modest five hits, with senior leadoff batter Summer Vose banging two of those and Rivard registering a pair as well. Outfielder Anna Maggio snared the other LHS safety.

Coach Wayne MacDougall's Lady Lancers showed plenty of intestinal fortitude in their quarterfinal-round road meeting with the Salem High Lady Blue Devils last Saturday, June 6. But when the final out was recorded, the Lancers had been bested by a 5-2 tally.

The hosts snagged a 2-0 lead on two unearned runs in the bottom half of the fourth, but the Lady Lancers answered with two runs of their own in the top of the fifth to knot the score.

However, a three-run bottom half of the sixth gave Salem a 5-2 lead it wouldn't relinquish.

"Melissa pitched well again, but the Salem hitters started to catch up with her a bit in the sixth," said MacDougall.

Londonderry only managed three hits off Salem star hurler Rachel Towler, with Vose, Lauren Misiasek, and Andi Nelson each claiming one. The victorious hosts smacked out seven singles in nabbing the important win.

As he has done the last several years, MacDougall - who is now 70 years old - has told the school's athletic director Howard Sobolov that he will decide during the off-season whether or not he will return to coach another campaign during the spring of 2016.

"I get awful tired by the end of the season, but this is such a great group of kids to work with, and we only graduate three seniors. So I'll have to wait and see," said the coach, who retired as a

Londonderry High math teacher several years ago.

MacDougall admits that he didn't expect his 2015 softball crew to post a record as good as the

15-6 mark it managed this spring. And he may not want to miss out on the good stuff that might be ahead with the returnees from the 2015 bunch.

Athletes of the Week

For the Week of June 1

Emily Davison, Junior, Girls' Lacrosse



This junior stalwart's speed and defensive work in the mid-field were keys in the skilled and determined Lady Lancers' final few games of the 2015 campaign, which ended with a tourney defeat.

Shayne Holland, Senior, Boys' Lacrosse



This seasoned veteran netted three consecutive goals and also contributed an assist in the Lancer boys' quarterfinal tourney match against Souhegan. Holland also played at Phillips Exeter and Nashua High South.



Unified In Victory

The Londonderry High School unified track and field squad won the state championship at Alvirne High School in Hudson recently. The Lancer contingent, coached by long-time LHS physical education teacher Ann MacLean, far left, outdueled teams from all over the Granite State at the event to snare the championship.

Courtesy photo

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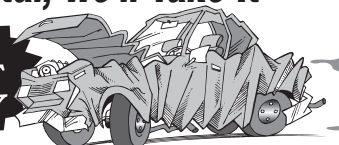
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Londonderry Scout Achieves Eagle Rank at Age 13

KAITLYN G. WOODS
LONDONDERRY TIMES

A Londonderry scout who achieved the rank of Eagle before he even graduated from middle school was recognized in an Eagle Court of Honor at the Grange Hall.

Only about 5 percent of all Boy Scouts achieve the Eagle Scout rank – and of those, the average age is 17.

By the age of 13, Matthew Nutt had fulfilled the extensive requirements to make Eagle – earning 21 merit badges, serving his troop in a leadership position and planning and carrying out a substantial service project for the community. For his service project, Nutt completely renovated the kitchen in the Grange.

“Tonight, we honor not only a Scout who has joined this 5 percent, but one who has done so at

the age of 13. This has been a dream of his since he first joined scouting, so much that he never lost his passion to achieve becoming an Eagle while in eighth grade,” Dave MacCulloch told attendees, officially opening the May 21 ceremony.

“He knew he wanted to make Eagle the day he brought home the paper from school to join scouting,” said his mother, Nadine Nutt, who shared at the ceremony hundreds of photos of her son, from when he first joined the Scouts in first grade to completing his most recent achievements with the program. “He’s just a really genuine, giving, caring young man. He has learned a lot of that working through the ranks with his troop and friends.”

Nutt’s parents wrote the Eagle Ceremony, which



Matthew Nutt has achieved the rank of Eagle Scout at the age of 13. His Court of Honor took place at the Grange Hall. Courtesy photo

featured guest speakers 27; and Bill Perry, Nutt’s Bob Stuart, commander of American Legion Post

representative.

“I have been told it’s like planning a wedding without the bride,” said Nadine Nutt. “It’s really nice. It’s a huge recognition for them, and it’s the highest accomplishment they can achieve for Boy Scouts.”

For achieving the rank of Eagle, Nutt has received letters of recognition from Gov. Maggie Hassan; West Point; former President and First Lady George and Barbara Bush; Secretary of State John Kerry; Vice President Joseph Biden; the Federal Bureau of Investigation; the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) U.S. Sen. Jeanne Shaheen, D-NH; former President George W. Bush; State Sen. Sharon Carson, R-Londonderry; Pope Francis and many more notable figures and organizations.

During the ceremony,

some of those letters were read out loud, as was a poem about scouting and a synopsis of Nutt’s work renovating the Grange Hall’s kitchen.

Nutt was presented with his Eagle Scout Award, as well as several other awards and a Capitol flag.

“It felt great to be recognized for all the hard work I put into it, and to see my family and friends having such a great time,” Nutt said, adding he appreciated the opportunity to reflect on his journey to achieving the rank of Eagle.

Moving forward, Nutt is enjoying the opportunity to focus on smaller community service projects.

“I would like to participate more in community service and helping the people around me, especially other scouts to get their Eagle,” he said.

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Field Days Mean Fun Days



Elementary schools throughout the Londonderry district are celebrating the close of the school year with field days last week and this week. Pictured are North Elementary School fourth graders, who took to the field to enjoy a variety of water-soaked games and sports activities last week.

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. Please send items to calendar@nutpub.net.

Concerts on Common

Londonderry Concerts on the Common features Evan Goodrow on Wednesday, June 17, from 7 to 8:30 p.m. on the Town Common. The Evan Goodrow Band is a trio that has Motown, jazz, blues, and dance influences in its songwriting formats and jamming. Bad weather location is the Matthew Thornton Elementary School Gym. For a complete schedule of concerts, visit www.ConcertsOnTheCommon.org. For more information on the band, visit: <http://www.evangoodrow.com/>. Concerts on the Common are provided by the Londonderry Arts Council.

Media Camp

The Londonderry Access Center's Beginner Summer Media Camp takes place July 20-31 from 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. for students entering grades 5-8 in fall 2015. Campers will learn all aspects of video production, produce their own TV shows, and have a screening of their work at the end of the two weeks for friends

and family. Early registration is suggested. Call Erin at 432-1100, ext. 185.

Senior Center Show

A free one-woman show, "Dangerously High," by Kitty McKay takes place June 27 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at the Londonderry Senior Center, 535 Old Mammoth Road. The show includes an intermission with light refreshments. The show will be filmed to make a DVD to help break the stigma of living with a mental illness. For more information, email dangerouslyhigh@comcast.net or call Kitty McKay at 669-8972.

Rail Trail Fun Day

Londonderry Trailways celebrates completion of the three-quarter-mile trail extension with a Family Fun Day from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, June 20. Walk, run, bike or scooter on the Rail Trail, with Exit 5 Park and Ride parking lot activities including a 10:30 a.m. yoga class, musical performances, nature seek and find with the Conservation Commission, and free hot dogs and Coca-Cola products.

The Stonyfield Yogurt truck offers frozen yogurt. The trail runs west from the Park and Ride to North School and east under Interstate 93 to behind the Route 28 Irving gas station, and connects to the parking lot behind the bus station.

Town Hall Closure

Londonderry Town Hall will be closed from noon to 1 p.m. Thursday, June 18, for the quarterly luncheon.

LHS Graduation

Londonderry High School will celebrate graduation on Friday, June 12. The Class of 2015 will attend Senior Breakfast at 7:30 a.m. at their former elementary schools, with graduation rehearsal to follow at 9:30 a.m. in the high school gym. The graduation ceremony will begin at 7 p.m. at the Verizon Wireless Arena in Manchester.

Relay for Life

The Greater Derry and Londonderry American Cancer Society Relay For Life will take place Friday, June 19, at 6 p.m. through Satur-



Scholarship Program

Londonderry High School Counselor Valerie Nelson, left; General Manager of Republic Services of New Hampshire Chris Peters; LHS Principal Jason Parent and Assistant Principal Amity Ferraro celebrate the new sponsor for the high school's annual Local Scholarship Program for seniors. Republic Services will award three \$500 scholarships this year to seniors pursuing a major in Environmental Science Education or General Business Management. The seniors who have been selected for the awards will be announced at the school's Baccalaureate celebration on June 11.

Courtesy photo

day, June 20, at 10 a.m. at the Pinkerton Academy track. The night will include honoring survivors and caregivers as well as a lumina ceremony to remember loved ones who have died or are currently fighting the disease. For more information, contact Liz Riley at Liz.Riley@cancer.org or 471-4106.

Summer Craft Fair

From 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, June 20, more than 30 local craftsmen and artisans will participate in a Summer Craft Fair at the Londonderry Senior Center, 535 Mammoth Road. Items include: jewelry, doll clothes, jams and pickles, artwork, wooden items, and adult bibs. A raffle offers items donated by the artisans. Food and beverages will be available for purchase from Londonderry Senior Citizens, Inc., (LSCI). Fair proceeds go toward purchasing materials and equipment for the Senior Center, a cooperative

venture between LSCI and the Town. Rain date is Sunday, June 21. For details, call the center at 432-8554.

Book Bingo

Children are invited to play a picture version of Ocean Friends Book Bingo at the Leach Library on Monday, June 15, from 4 to 5 p.m. All participants will win and have a chance to select books from the library's selection tables. Advance registration is required. To register, call 432-1127 or come by the Children's Room.

Birdhouse Building

Children are invited to come to the Leach Library on Thursday, June 18, from 4 to 5 p.m. to create a birdhouse. Using markers, participants will decorate the sides and roof, then assemble the house. Advance registration is required. To register, call 432-1127 or come by the Children's Room.

Adult Summer Reading

The sixth annual Adult Summer Reading Program at the Leach Library runs now through Aug. 31, with the theme "Escape the Ordinary." Participants may register at any time at the Reference Desk and will receive an information sheet and Tic-Tac-Toe card to be completed in summer. The first participants to register will also receive a sign-up incentive. For every book read after registering, participants will receive a ticket for a weekly raffle. Complete the game sheet and return it to the Reference Desk by June 30 for entry into a prize drawing. For details, call the library at 432-1132.

Young Adult Summer Reading

The Leach Library Young Adult Summer Reading Program theme is "Unmask." Participants entering grades 6-12 next September may

continued on page 21

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Around Town

Continued from page 20
sign up now through Aug. 10 at the library's main desk. The program concludes Aug. 13, with a Pizza Party and raffle. Those who sign up by June 15 and have read the most books by that date in accordance with the guidelines are eligible to win a gift basket. Raffles will be held as well. Read 12 books by Sept. 5 and earn a certi-

cate for extra credit or a homework pass for those entering Grades 6 and 7 at Londonderry Middle School.

17th Century Life

On Thursday, June 11, at 7 p.m., the Leach Library will host the free illustrated presentation "A House on the Bay: Life on 17th Century New Hampshire's Coastal Frontier," presented by Neill De Paoli in the lower-level meeting room. He has more

than 25 years' experience studying the history and historical archaeology of early New England. Recently archaeologists discovered the home of Thomas Wiggin Jr. on Great Bay. With pictures of the archaeological site and artifacts, De Paoli will discuss how bay residents were far less isolated from the comforts of the more "civilized" world than traditionally thought.

Social Security

Three sessions of a workshop on rules and strategies to help maximize Social Security benefits are coming up at Financial Planning Adult Education Conference Center in Londonderry: June 11 at 6:15 p.m. and June 13 at 9:45 a.m. Cost is \$9.95. Visit www.AdultFinancialEducation.org.

Firewood Quarantine

The New Hampshire Department of Resources and Economic Development, Division of Forests and Lands reminds residents and visitors that it is illegal to import untreated firewood into the state without a commercial or home heating compliance agreement from the New Hampshire Department of Agriculture, Markets and Food or Division of Forests and Lands.

It is also illegal to transport hardwood firewood outside of Rockingham, Merrimack, and Hillsborough counties due to the Emerald Ash Borer quarantine. Firewood is a major source of damaging insects and diseases in New Hampshire forests.

Hero Stories

Leach Library starts the Children's Summer Reading **Continued on page 22**

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Wildcat today, Lancer tomorrow. Londonderry Wildcats Youth Camp hosted by the Londonderry Football Staff. The Lancer football program will be coaching up future Lancers for three nights this summer: July 14, 15 and 16, 5:30-7:30pm at Wildcat Practice Field. \$30. Contact Jimmy Lauzon, jlauzon@londonderry.org

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Around Town

Continued from page 21

Program with a visit with Ladybug Girl, star of the Ladybug Girl series. Participants are invited to the library on Tuesday, June 23; Wednesday, June 24 or Thursday, June 25 from 11 a.m. to noon to hear the story of Ladybug Girl and her Bug Squad, as well as other heroes. Those who wish may come dressed as their favorite hero. Each participant will be entered into a raffle for a prize bag. Registration is required and begins at 9 a.m. Thursday, June 18. To register, call 432-1127 or

visit the Children’s Room.

Wacky Weather

The Leach Library presents “Wacky Weather” as part of the Children’s Summer Reading Program on Monday, June 29, from 11 a.m. to noon. Registration is required and begins at 9 a.m. Thursday, June 25. To register, call 432-1127 or come by the Children’s Room.

HU Chant

A Community HU Chant is offered Sunday, June 14, at 9:40 a.m. and Thursday, June 18, at 7:30 p.m. at the Holiday Inn, 2280 Brown Ave., Manchester. For more information, call 800-713-8944 or

visit www.eckankar-nh.org.

Eckankar Worship

An Eckankar Worship Service is offered Sunday, June 14, from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. and continuing the second Sunday of each month at the Holiday Inn, 2280 Brown Ave., Manchester NH. For more information, call 800-713-8944 or visit www.eckankar-nh.org.

Renew Clothing Giveaway

Renew Clothing Giveaway takes place from 8 to 10:30 a.m. June 13 at Calvary Bible Church, 145 Hampstead Road, Derry. Arrive no later than 10 a.m. Derry residency is not required. Clothing is free, gently used apparel. Enter at the church marquee sign; Renew is at right. To make sure the newest items are available for everyone, each household is limited to no more than 20 of the newest items, plus a reasonable number of older items. No donations of money are accepted. Contact Renew Derry on Facebook, email renewclothing@yahoo.com or call the church secretary at 434-1516.

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Londonderry Police Log

Selections from the Londonderry Police Logs

Tuesday, June 2

11:05 a.m. Theft of construction equipment at Industrial Drive and Pettingill Road.

11:58 a.m. Wires down across street at Meadow and Button drives.

3:54 p.m. Report of kids in power lines shooting off Wiley Hill Road.

10:58 p.m. Loud music complaint on Capitol Hill Drive.

Wednesday, June 3

5:05 p.m. Andrew Rogers, 26, Hawthorne Road, Londonderry arrested on warrant for Disorderly Conduct. Bail set at \$1,500 personal recognizance, with Derry Circuit Court

date of July 9.

6:18 p.m. Resident of Hawthorne Road reported neighbor shot BB gun at him twice, a year ago and again a few weeks ago.

Friday, June 5

12:37 p.m. Accident involving motorcycle operated by Chrissy Cox, 51,

of Manchester and FedEx Ground Package System Inc., vehicle, operated by Albert Popoloski, 72, of Plaistow.

Saturday, June 6

9 a.m. State Police received call reporting items thrown off overpass on Nashua Road. Caller was traveling on Interstate 93.

10:24 a.m. Caller on Kitt Lane reported car mirror smashed during night; a few days ago, car mirror on another of caller's

vehicles was smashed. After talking with neighbor, found that woodpecker caused damage. Also caused damaged to neighbor's property. No crime.

9:29 p.m. Caller reported gunshots in area of Rockingham Road and Vista Ridge Drive. Fireworks going off in area.

Sunday, June 7

11:26 a.m. Customer of Londonderry Flea Market, Avery Road approached

officer on detail to report vendor doing a line of coke. Joseph Bean, 34, Robert Court, Manchester arrested for two counts of Possession of Controlled/Narcotic Drugs. Bail set at \$5,000 personal recognizance, with Derry Circuit Court date of July 14.

1:46 p.m. Complaint on Wilson Road of Caribbean music playing too loudly.

Auditorium

Continued from page 1

lot of the misinformation was from people not going to the source."

DeFrancesco recommended the Board consider more effective marketing of the project, and switching away from a two-step process of funding the auditorium.

"No matter how many times we explained that it was the only way to get a guaranteed price, people seemed to resist it," he said.

Board member Nancy Hendricks thanked the Committee for its efforts and asked DeFrancesco what he thought the next steps should be.

DeFrancesco said he appreciates that the Board moved the auditorium up on the Capital Improvements Plan (CIP), including \$500,000 for architecture and engineering costs in FY17 and \$9 million in FY18 (see story page 5).

"I think we have a good package in place that someone with better tools and skills than I have could do a better job of promoting and marketing. But I challenge someone to come up with a better building and location," DeFrancesco said. "Everyone has an opinion, but we have facts. I don't think it's possible. I have no vested interest in this, no children in the schools. To me, it's all a need."

Member John Laferriere expressed concern that if the District waits too long to bond the project, the cost of borrowing

money will become less favorable.

"If we push this out two or three years, and we're floating a \$9 million bond, we may not have the appetite for it," he said.

Business Administrator Peter Curro said he would contact the District's financial advisor about a long-range scale of future interest rates.

"My concern is it becomes out of reach because the cost of money is too high," Laferriere said.

"We wanted it on the radar of the CIP because, frankly, I think we have momentum," member Leitha Reilly said. "It's a combination of timing and affordability. It's not always the right time, and people can't always afford it right now, and that's fine. It might have been no for this year, but I feel perhaps next year."

Members noted the work the Committee completed can be used moving forward, and chairman Steve Young said many significant projects in town were funded after failing in a town election, such as the renovations at South School.

"This community is growing - the tax base will be there," he said.

"As a Board, they need to figure out a way to get the voters to say yes. It's as (Young) said, many things in Londonderry have failed multiple times, and the Board has continued to bring them back. They need to educate the voters to why this is the right year and why it's the right thing to do," DeFrancesco said. "I

couldn't do it. I didn't have skills to do it."

DeFrancesco said he represented all members of the Auditorium Committee when he issued the final report at the School Board meeting.

"The entire board was aware that was what I was going to say and how I was going to say it," he said. "It was presented by the Chair, but the information was from everybody. Everybody had a chance to see the report and put input."

Committee member Pollyann Winslow said at the group's final meeting in April, all members had an opportunity to share reasons they thought the auditorium failed in March, which DeFrancesco included in his report.

However, Winslow has not yet seen DeFrancesco's report to the Board, so she was not able to comment on what was said in the meeting.

"I felt we obviously didn't share with the community as well as we could have some of the economic benefits of the auditorium," she said. "I

think people who are empty nesters are going to need to sell their three- and four-bedroom homes to people with children, and if they look at the school system and are thinking about the fact that NEASC (accrediting agency New England Association of Schools and Colleges) has given marks of deficiency for not having a facility, that's not going to help anything."

However, Winslow emphasized the importance of listening to and respecting the needs of the community.

"We want the School Board to stay on top of this and I would like this to become a reality, but I don't know what the tim-

ing is," she said. "I think people would absolutely love this, should they be able to experience it. Hopefully, everybody who served will continue to listen to the community, talk to friends, watch the economy and see if it picks up, find out what NEASC says to us and maybe it will be obvious to us when it's the right time to bring it back up. Right now, I don't think it's obvious. I don't think that much has changed since March."

Winslow suspects gaining support for the auditorium comes down to money, and that people will likely be ready to approve funding when they see revenue coming into the community from

development around the airport reflected on their tax bills.

"It will be wonderful when it happens, but we have to be careful to put our community first and let our community find their happy medium where they feel they can afford something and are ready to bite off more."

Although the Committee has dissolved, DeFrancesco said moving the auditorium forward is "still the right thing to do."

"The need doesn't go away, it still needs to be done," he said.

The board took no action, other than move funding for the auditorium to the top of the CIP.



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