

# Londonderry Times

July 16, 2020 ♦ Volume 21 – Issue 28

A FREE Weekly Publication



## The Show Must Go On

Adam Furgal and Tracy Hickey are just two of the cast members rehearsing “A Chorus Line” at the Ovation Theatre Company in Londonderry as they prepare for a performance to take place outside at the Londonderry Middle School later this month. See detail on page 8.

*Photo by Chris Paul*

## Old Home Day Parade Will Not Take Place This Year

CHRIS PAUL  
LONDONDERRY TIMES

Just two weeks after announcing that a condensed version of the annual Old Home Day event would take place next month, Town Manager Kevin Smith

announced that the Parade has now been cancelled from that list of events.

Two weeks ago, Deybek told the Londonderry Town Council that the annual five day celebration would be cut down

to just one day, and events would be including Fireworks, the Fire and Police Softball Game, the Boot Scoot and Boogie Road Race and the Parade down Mammoth Road, but at

**continued on page 7**

## Safety Committee Looks at Lowering Road Speed Limits

JOHN J. GOGLIA  
LONDONDERRY TIMES

During the Monday night, July 13, meeting of the of the Traffic Safety Committee, board members, residents and town officials discussed speed limit and increased traffic concerns that have been building over the past several years.

The meeting was held in the Police Department Community Room and was led off by a statement made by the chairman Bob Ramsay.

The gist of that statement was that as long as Ramsay is chairperson of the TSC they will continue to hear, listen to and try to address citizen's concerns about

traffic safety issues within the parameters of the authority given them and where appropriate make recommendations for resolution to the Town Council. The meeting was then called to order. In addition to the TSC members present on behalf of the Town of Londonderry were: Kevin Smith, Town Manager; John Farrell, Chairperson of the Town Council; Jim Butler, member of the Town Council; Deb Paul, member of the Town Council; Colleen Malloux, Town Planner and representatives from the Police and Fire Departments.

Charlie Evans a resident who lives on Wilson Road and his lawyer

expressed continued concerns about vehicle volume, vehicle type, speed and traffic patterns in and around Wilson Road. The attorney provided a brief history of past attempts to get the town to address these concerns since 2006. There are apparently 750 vehicles a day travelling on the one-way section of Wilson Road which is being used as a cut through road for destinations elsewhere. Many are alleged large local business vehicles speeding on winding and dangerous sections of that road. Evans stated that his interest in finding a resolution to these problems does some-

**continued on page 3**

## Planning Board Discusses 55 Plus Ordinance Update

CASEY ELDRED  
LONDONDERRY TIMES

The town of Londonderry Planning Board met on Wednesday, July 8, and one of the items discussed was on revising the Elderly Housing Ordinance, which has been in place for over a decade. The ordinance allows higher density to elderly, or 55 Plus housing units, with the intent of maintaining affordable housing for older residents.

According to Chair-

man of the Board, Arthur Rugg, higher density refers to the number of units allowed per acre. The Ordinance was originally discussed around 2007.

Residents 55 and older currently make up 29% of Londonderry's population, but there are only 841 elderly housing units in Londonderry, or 9% of all town housing as of 2018, according to Londonderry Town Planner, Colleen Mailloux. Despite the intension of the Elderly

Housing Ordinance, costs have risen since its creation, according to Rugg.

Although there is not consistent example throughout surrounding

**continued on page 6**

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# Candidates Line Up for Next Month's State Primary

CASEY ELDRED  
LONDONDERRY TIMES

The New Hampshire State Primary Election will be held on Tuesday September 8, 2020. Each town will vote for the candidates they hope to see on the General Election ballot in November. This is a comprehensive report of all the candidates for the towns of Derry, Chester, Hampstead, Londonderry and Sandown.

Incumbent Governor Chris Sununu faces two challengers in the Republican primary, Nobody (previously known as Rick Paul) of Keene, and Karen Testerman of Franklin. According to the Elections Division of the New Hampshire Secretary of State, Nobody of Keene, was able to produce proof that his name was the correct legal name and therefore the name will appear as Nobody of the ballot at the upcoming primary.

Dan Feltes and Andru Volinsky of Concord are the Democratic Primary candidates for Governor.

Democratic Senator Jeanne Shaheen is running for reelection and facing two Primary challengers, Tom Alciere of Hudson and Paul J. Krautmann of Keene.

There are four Republican candidates competing to run for the United State Senate seat, Gerard Beloin of Colebrook, Don Bolduc of Stratham, Andy Martin of Manchester, and Corky Messner of Wolfeboro.

Most citizens of Rockingham County reside in New Hampshire's First Congressional District, including Derry, Chester, Hampstead, and Sandown.

The Republican Candidates for the House of Representatives are Michael Callis of Conway, Jeff Denaro of Auburn, Matt Mayberry of Dover, Matt Mowers of Bedford, and Kevin Rondeau of Manchester.

Incumbent Representative Chris Pappas is running unopposed in the Democratic Primary.

Residents will vote for State Senate, State

House of Representative, and Executive Councilor.

Londonderry is in State Senate District 14. Republican candidate incumbent Sharon M. Carson of Londonderry is running unopposed in the primary. Democratic candidate Nancy Hendricks, a former Londonderry School Board member, is also running

unopposed in the primary.

Londonderry is part of Rockingham County District 5 for State Representative, and seven positions are on the ballot. The Republican Primary candidates are Al Baldasaro, Tom Dolan, David C. Lundgren, Wayne D. MacDonald, Betsy McKinney, Sherman Packard, Moira

Ryan, and Doug Thomas. The District 5 Democratic candidates are Ted Combes, Mack Leathurby, Luisa Piette, Paul Skudlarek, Robin Skudlarek, Martha Smith, and incumbent Anne Warner.

As for the Executive

Council District 3. Patty Lovejoy of Stratham and Mindi Messmer of Rye are the Democratic Primary opponents. Timothy Comerford of Freetown, Bruce Crochetiere of Hampton Falls, and Jante Stevens of Rye.

## OBITUARY

Leonard M. Stein



Leonard M. Stein, 74 of Chester passed away on Tuesday July 14 at his home after a brief but courageous battle with cancer. He was born on March 10, 1946 in Manhattan, NY. Son of the late Gertrude and Lawrence Stein. He attended DeWitt Clinton high school and later went on to RCA institutes where he earned his degree in electronics circuits and systems. His career path eventually landed him in Chester where he founded Barlen Electronics an electronics service company, which he worked at until recently. Members of the family include his wife Barbara of 42 years, his son and his wife Michael and Jessica Stein, and son Jesse and wife Heather Stein, and 7 grandchildren. He is also survived by his brother Mark and predeceased by his brother David. He enjoyed many hobbies: including collecting military vehicles, antique radios and model trains. He was a dedicated family man who touched the lives of so many people near and far, he will be sorely missed. Arrangements are being handled by Peabody funeral home, details will be on their website. [www.peabodyfuneral-home.com](http://www.peabodyfuneral-home.com).

## OBITUARY

Michael C. Kelly



Michael C. Kelly, 52 of Chester, NH, formerly of Londonderry, NH, died unexpectedly on July 9, 2020.

Mike was born in Newton, MA. At 3 months his family moved to Rahway, NJ. He spent 5 yrs of his early childhood there and then the family settled in Billerica, MA. He was a resident of Chester for the past 4 months, formerly of Londonderry, NH where he lived for over 20 years.

Mike was a Lieutenant for the Merrimack College Police Department. He was a retired Lieutenant for the Salem, NH Police Department, where he served his community for over 20 years. Started his career in Keene NH where he served for 7 years as a patrol officer as well as detective and heroically saved a young boy's life from a car accident. Michael was a graduate from UMass Lowell.

Mike touched so many lives with his friendship and caring. He left a lasting impact wherever he went. He loved deeply and was loved by so many.

Mike enjoyed skiing, golf, hockey, hiking, cooking and cleaning. He loved being around water whether it was his pool in Londonderry, Northwood Lake or the beaches of Florida. He was a true kid at heart. Most of all Mike loved his family and was so very proud of them.

Mike was predeceased by his father James Kelly. He is survived by his beloved wife Andrea (Trickett) Kelly of Chester, NH, Children: Ryan Patrick Kelly and Erin Elizabeth Kelly, of Chester, NH, formerly of Londonderry, NH

Mother: Bernadette (Regan) Kelly of Laconia, NH, Sisters: Laureen and her husband David Hilton of Chester, NH, Linda and her husband John Morrison of Billerica, MA, and Lee-Ann and her husband Michael Valotto of Chichester, NH

Father and Mother In Law: Joseph and Karen Trickett of North Woodstock, NH, Sister In Law & Brother in Law: Mary and Richard Hommel of Billerica, MA

Nieces and Nephews: Jason, Kristina, Emily, Victoria, Tim, Julia, and Jimmy, Great Nieces and Nephews: Lorelei, Mariska, and Riley

Funeral services will be private for the family, and for the police departments of Salem, NH and Merrimack College. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Salem Police Benevolent Association, PO Box 791, Salem, NH 03079.

The Carrier Family Funeral Home, 38 Range Rd., Windham, NH has care of Mike's arrangements. To send a message of condolence to the family, please view the obituary at [www.carrier-funeralhome.com](http://www.carrier-funeralhome.com)

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# Councilor Disagrees with Town Attorney's RSA Interpretation

CHRIS PAUL  
LONDONDERRY TIMES

During the Public Comment section of the Monday night, July 13, Town Council meeting, member Deb Paul attempted to quell the latest allegations made by unnamed sources about her ability to address certain subjects from her seat as a councilor.

The statement read: "I had a number of things prepared tonight for tonight's meeting to

address certain allegations made in a letter I received from the Town Councilor Chairman John Farrell late Friday, but I don't feel comfortable addressing these things without the town attorney being present.

So, as much as I hate costing the taxpayers money for the cost of having the attorney here, I feel I don't have a choice. So I'd like to ask that the town attorney be present at the next Town Council meeting.

I want to add that I think it's sad that in such a difficult period in our nation's history, that I need to continually defend my freedom of speech and free thought as a councilor.

At the end of last town council meeting, after the meeting ended, John read a statement on how this board needs to get along better, I feel that I am doing my best to get along with these guys, yet he continues to find avenues to divide us.

The issues this week include me speaking about or questioning anything regarding Old Home Day and also about asking questions or requesting information from the school board.

I will address these topics when the town lawyer is present, until then, I will speak when I feel it is appropriate as I was voted in to do."

Chairman John Farrell quickly responded by saying that the email she was referring to

was done with the town attorney, who said in that email that she would have to recuse herself of discussions because of financial gain (by way of advertising) she receives through those entities.

Paul disagreed with the letter, saying that their opinions on the RSA's stated in the email differ. She said that she fails to understand why, since the town and school are completely different forms of government, she should not be allowed to have an opinion on the subject of the school district, just because they run legal notices in the paper.

She added that they don't vote on school matters, so why is it an issue for whomever contacted him.

She also stated that she contacted four of the five members of the school board and all told her they did not contact the Town Council Chairman, leaving only Steve Young, who is a friend of Farrell's.

On the subject of Old Home Day, she reminded the council that not too long ago the chairman of the Old Home Day Committee,

Kathy Wagner, was also a Town Councilor and no one at that time seemed to have a problem with the fact that her business website was linked to the town website.

Farrell read an excerpt from the email she was sent: "The Councilor has a similar problem regarding Old Home Days ("OHD"), if the Councilor solicits advertising from local businesses for publication in an edition of the newspaper published near the time of, and devoted largely to, OHD. The advertising results in the Councilor having at least an indirect financial interest that is "greater than any other citizen or taxpayer" in ensuring that OHD continues in as robust a manner as possible. The Town Councilor is disqualified from involvement in matters involving Old Home Day."

Paul continued to express her frustration with the board trying to silence her on the two matters, but finally ended with Farrell saying they would look into having the town attorney attend the August meeting.

## Speed Limits

Continued from page 1

what relate to his plan to develop property on Wilson Road. Evans and his neighbors on Wilson Road would like to see through traffic prohibited or restricted on that one-way section of road through any means available to the town. A discussion ensued and eventually expanded those specific issues to Stonehedge, Litchfield, High Range, Harvey, Hall and other roads that have been the subjects of previous discussions by the TSC.

The discussion included the following possibilities: more police patrolling; no

through traffic signage; flashing electronic speed warning monitors; "no trucks" signs; making Wilson Road a dead end; another traffic counter monitor period; speed bumps; lowering the speed limits and the blocking of certain roads to force traffic in alternate directions. It was determined that all ideas have pluses and minuses as well as cost factors and other considerations that need to be evaluated before implementing any solution.

Ryan Prudhomme, a Litchfield Road resident who has been very vocal on traffic issues

over the past few months, also addressed the same concerns for his road and other roads nearby by saying he has been trying to get a resolution since April of last year.

He added that in his estimation, the average speed on those roads is 40 mph and getting worse. He has noticed certain types of larger business vehicles speeding on his road which is extremely dangerous. A suggestion was made to contact the appropriate authority at those businesses and complain but finding the right person at those businesses to do something is a problem.

It was noted that many truck vehicles use

direction apps that indicate no through or truck traffic allowed but they don't always adhere to those notifications.

The LPD indicated they are considering more periodic policing and monitoring on some of these roads to determine the current extent of the problems.

The TSC will consider making a recommendation to the Town Council to lower the speed limits on certain roads. It was also agreed for the Planning Department to get some input from the Town Engineer. Chairperson Ramsay stated that these issues would be discussed further at the October meeting.

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# Editorial

## Free Speech Worth Fighting For

Why are we so quiet?

The First Amendment right entitles you to use your voice to hold your elected officials accountable.

It is important to use your voice and question decisions you don't agree with or understand.

Free speech did not come cheap or easy and many people died and sacrificed on our behalf so we as free Americans could enjoy this right.

Freedom of speech gives you the opportunity to express thoughts, opinions, views, and ideas without restrictions or obstacles. It's one's right to speak without being censored. However, the freedom to express ourselves is becoming more and more limited.

You have the right to write letters to your elected officials about any topic that is of concern to you. It is even better to come to public meetings and voice your concerns, opinions or how you feel about a particular topic in a public forum. Question everything. You have nothing to lose and a lot to gain; there is nothing to fear.

Free speech is critical for individuals. It is very important that people have the right to say what they feel, express their ideas, and question authority. It is important to understand and question policy issues and politics and not

fear punishment as a result. Each of us possesses the right to express our views, and freely support candidates and groups of our choice.

In a dictatorship you lack this right to speak freely. There is no ability to criticize or question the government. This form of government allows complete control by the state even though government is meant to work for the people.

That is why our Founders inscribed this freedom as the first right in the Bill of Rights. One could say that free speech is useful for developing and testing ideas in search of truth.

If all you hear is only one voice you are left with a very unbalanced perspective. That is why it is good to have many view points discussed.

If you agree that free speech is essential, and that government should not restrict its critics, and that everyone has the right to support any causes they believe in, free from government interference, then it is time to reclaim your independence and freedom. I hope to see you speaking at meetings and sending and reading your letters in our paper.

I leave you with this quote from Janis Joplin "Freedom's just another name for nothing left to lose"

# Letters

## President Trump Cares for Our American Heroes.

To the editor,

As a Retired Marine Corps 1st Sgt, Desert Storm Veteran I know firsthand the struggles that have plagued the Department of Veterans Affairs for years. From Veterans fighting for their benefits, not being able to qualify for certain programs to the scandal under the Obama/Biden administration that left at least forty of our American heroes dead while waiting for proper care in the Phoenix VHA facilities.

These struggles are unacceptable, and President Trump has taken the lead to ensure that our veterans do not have to deal with those flaws ever again.

As part of President Trump's Veterans Accountability Act and Whistleblower Protection Act, whistleblowers at the VA who show potential flaws in the system are protected, and senior VA officials are finally allowed to fire employees who fail to provide proper care to our veterans.

This was a crucial bill that finally ensures that our veterans can get the best care possible.

Combined with the more than \$2 billion that President Trump authorized for the VA choice program called Commu-

nity Care and the \$8.6 billion he allocated in funding for veterans mental health services, I know that President Trump will always stand up for our veterans. He believes in not leaving one Veteran behind.

In a couple of weeks, I may address the Londonderry Democrat Vice Chair's letter, which is typical Democrat Fake News, which I was never investigated by the FBI or Secret Service.

Al Baldasaro  
State Representative  
Londonderry

## COVID and Our School District

To the editor,

My name is Amy Finamore, I am a member of Londonderry's School Board, but speak only for myself in this letter.

Across the country, school districts are grappling with whether and how to send children back to school. As one might imagine, this is a challenging choice with no single "right" answer. Among the choices districts across the country are thinking of include; full return, continue remote learning, staggered return, and hybrid models.

In Londonderry, as our Superintendent has communicated to parents, the goal is to return to children to the classroom. In this scenario,

parents would be able to decide whether they want to send their children to school, or continue remote learning. Many questions remain, including the logistics of social distancing in a school building.

The American Academy of Pediatrics has offered guidance around the topic of reopening, encouraging districts to offer face-to-face instruction, with the reasoning that social isolation and time away from school negatively affect children, and can have long-term impacts on their health and development. Around the country, districts are weighing the benefits on in-person school with the unknowns of COVID-19.

As parents and community members, please feel empowered to voice your thoughts. The July 14 school board meeting is available on the School District website under "School Board" and a workshop session will be held July 21 at 7 p.m. at the High School Cafeteria. For those unable to attend, please share your thoughts with [schoolboard@londonderry.org](mailto:schoolboard@londonderry.org) or the superintendent, Scott LaLiberte at [slaliberte@londonderry.org](mailto:slaliberte@londonderry.org).

Thank you,  
Amy Finamore  
School Board  
Member,  
Londonderry

continued on page 5

# Londonderry Times

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

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## Letters

Continued from page 4

### Response to Letter Published in Londonderry Times

To the editor,

In response to Bryan MacLaren's letter titled "Voting for Liberty" .... I am not sure if your article is satirical or not. I have read it a few times, I have asked my wife to read it, and we are not sure. So, for lack of clarity, I will take what you wrote at face value. More specifically, I will take one single point at face value and respond to that. In sum and substance, you essentially say, you are rich and you send your kids to the best private school money can buy, and anyone who isn't rich, well, it's their fault. Because you "made it," everyone else "should be able to." I believe this is an accurate interruption of what you wrote.

Well my fellow Londonderry resident, you should go, take your private school educated kids, and visit a town I know well, it's called Englewood, Chicago. When you see the horrible violence occurring in Chicago, it is mostly concentrated in a very small area, a three square mile town called Englewood. If you missed the news, just recently over July 4th weekend, there were 87 shootings, and 17 fatali-

ties in Chicago, with most occurring in the Englewood section. The youngest victim was seven-years-old; she was shot point blank in the forehead. This is not statistics from a year, or six months, this is over a three-day weekend.

So, going back to your letter, you made it, how come everyone can't, right? it sounds so simple. Do you think the kids growing up in Chicago have any chance, any at all, to make it? They literally are dodging bullets daily and simply trying to make it home at night, let alone study for their test the next day. Is any child in Londonderry, or where you send your kids to private school, have any fear of getting shot in their neighborhood? America is fair right? Everyone has the same opportunity, right? All it takes is hard work. Those who don't make it must be lazy and just "not want it" right? I mean, this is what your letter says.

You are completely out of touch.

America has two societies. The haves,

and have nots. You are a have. I am a have. I would argue almost everyone in Londonderry is a have. But this is not everyone. In fact, most of America is a have-not. The latest statistic I saw is 16 million American children go to bed hungry each night. There are many reasons for this separation, but (for the sake of this letter) part of the reason for this separation is people like you who think everyone who is poor is there because they are lazy, or because they make bad choices, or because they just don't want better. That is just not true. People like you think every child has the same opportunity in this country. What a crock of #@it that is.

I will end with a direct quote from your letter "If you're not rich too, its only because of your own personal failure to take advantage." Yea, sure, send your kids to high school in Englewood, see what they do when they graduate. Oh wait, you're sending your kids to private school, I forgot.

Joseph Smith  
Londonderry

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## Neighborhood Lemonade Stand Donates to Local Caregivers



Last week, the daughter of a volunteer at the Community Caregivers of Greater Derry, Sara Clark, brought her Londonderry neighbor friends to the office handed the staff an envelope with \$90 in cash from the efforts of their lemonade stand two weeks ago. The kids even went mobile taking orders from neighbor houses and delivering it. Executive Director Cindee Tanuma said, "In our 33 year history I am unaware of a sin-

gle instance of this occurring so I was very pleased. Having these kids think of us, and doing something to effect change locally is inspiring. This behavior will hopefully continue and one day these kids will become volunteers."

Pictured in top photo, left are: Caylee Lombardo, Kaci Crawford, Ashley Clark, Nate Lombardo, Reese Iller and Logan Iller.

*Courtesy photos*

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# New Hampshire Primary Day Becomes Tom Freda Day in Town

CHRIS PAUL  
LONDONDERRY TIMES

During the Monday night, July 13 meeting of the Londonderry Town Council, Vice Chairman Joe Green read a proclamation declaring New Hampshire Primary Day 2020 to be officially known as "Tom Freda Day."

Tom Freda had sat on a number of boards in town including the Town Council and the Budget

Committee and was the current Town Moderator, but unexpectedly passed away on June 30. Much of his duties as the Town Moderator involved running the elections in town.

As a tribute to his service the Town Council officially declared the day Tom Freda Day. The proclamation read: Resolution 2020-11 a resolution relative to designating Primary Day, Sept. 8, 2020 in Londonderry as

Tom Freda Day.

Where as: On June 30, 2020 Londonderry lost a valued and devoted Londonderry resident, friend and public servant Tom Freda;

Where as: Tom Freda was a resident of Londonderry for the last 22-years and utilized his vast talents to faithfully serve the town in many capacities;

Where as: While Tom has established his own law practice in Boston

Mass. in 1982 and was also a Certified Public Accountant and a Financial Planner, Tom still found time to serve the town as a member of the Budget Committee, a Town Councilor and most recently, Londonderry's Town Moderator;

Where as: Tom's passion was politics, local government and elections, and he was present at every local Deliberative Session, as well

as all federal, state and local elections;

Where as: As Town Moderator, Tom put his heart and sole into presiding over and conducting successful meetings and elections; and

Where as: Tom Freda will be greatly missed by those in Town Hall and within the community, and we thank him for his many years of dedicated services to the residents of the Town of Londonderry.

Now therefore be it resolved by the Town Council of the town of Londonderry that this year's New Hampshire Primary Day, September 8, 2020 be designated as Tom Freda Day in honor of Tom's hard work and dedication to the elections in and to the residents of the town of Londonderry.

The resolution was quickly approved by the board.

## Planning

Continued from page 1

communities, Mailloux stated in her presentation to the Board that, "Most other communities of our size do permit elderly housing."

The Board discussed the possibility of adjusting the requirements for elderly housing or rescinding the legislation entirely.

Town Council liaison Deb Paul supports rescinding elderly hous-

ing due to concerns that that increasing high-density housing will further problematic issues with traffic and roads.

Board member Giovanni Verani stated that he does not support rescinding the ordinance, but does support adding a requirement for elderly housing to have municipal water and sewer access. This requirement will limit elderly housing from increasing overall because it would only be approved on properties

that can access town water and sewer systems. Verani advocated for increased regular multifamily housing units, rather than prioritizing elderly or workforce specific housing. Verani expressed his belief that multifamily housing is the best avenue to improving the town overall.

Mailloux explained her concern with a proposed bill that was recently adopted by the New Hampshire State House of Representatives. The bill would require the same incentives and bonuses that are given to elderly

housing to be provided for workforce housing. Mailloux is concerned that high-density workplace housing could lead to a spike in school enrollment increasing and other population growth related problems. Although the bill has not advanced to the State Senate yet, Mailloux believes the legislation will come before the Senators in the near future.

Marge Badois, the Londonderry Conservation Committee Chair, called into the meeting to advocate for rescinding elderly housing. Badois stated that elder-

ly housing contributes to aging the town's population and "is not serving the people of the town."

The Board clarified that if the elderly housing ordinance were to be rescinded, it could be reinstated in the future.

Mailloux will work toward "identifying what the unintended consequences could be for rescinding this outright."

She also plans to conduct a study of the current elderly housing, specifically regarding municipal water and sewer access.

Rugg called for another discussion from the Board on the topic

after they receive more information on the subject.

Paul suggested that the Planning Department contact our current State Senator, Sharon Carson, to get her take, and to voice their concerns with the bill.

The consensus that evening among the Board was the decision on elderly housing will require more research and discussion, including the opinion of the absent Board members. Town Planner Mailloux will contact the absent Board members for their thoughts prior to another discussion.



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# Independence Drive Business Begins Cleaning Area

CHRIS PAUL  
LONDONDERRY TIMES

The Wednesday night, July 8 virtual meeting of the Londonderry Planning Board held a conceptual review and discussion on a proposed site plan for outdoor storage at 15 Independence Drive.

The meeting was once again held via videoconference, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, so members and the applicant attended from home.

The main issue of why the site plan needed to be reviewed is because the business has been forced to hold onto much of the product they produce due to the COVID-19 Pandemic and because of a halt in the construction project there materials were

being shipped to.

George Chadwick of Bedford Design presented the plan, and explained that the company in question, CSI, contacted his firm to bring their existing plan up to code, since the current plan had never been formally adopted.

On the plan that Chadwick showed the board, much of the area around the building is currently being used to store tunnel parts that will be shipped to New York for a project there.

He explained that the project was put on hold, and since then the company has continued to build the parts, and have been storing them wherever they could, including the town right-of-way and abutting properties.

The town's Code

Enforcement Department contacted them over the winter, and the company is currently trying to correct the problem.

The company produces large cement castings for highways, bridges and tunnels, and the plan showed much of the land surrounding the building filled with storage.

Chadwick stated that the only complaint received by the abutter was from a neighboring company that was having problems getting in and out of their building while CSI was loading their product.

He further explained that the reason they were at the Planning Board is because as he updates the site plan to present to the town, he



Large concrete tunnel sections have been piling up around a business on Independence Drive. Photo by Chris Paul

will be looking for some waivers.

One thing he was looking to do was to get a waiver from having to provide drainage calculations. Another waiver will be for parking, the site currently shows 85 parking stalls, Chadwick said that they only have about 30 employees, so they only need about half of what is required. He was looking for feedback on those requests.

The application will also be requesting a waiver for limited lighting on the property, according to Chadwick's presentation, however the Board did not discuss this waiver.

Chadwick finished by saying, Yup, they're busting at the seams, yes, they shouldn't have

stored some of the materials where they did, but they're doing their best to reign in the amount of storage they have there and get it into compliance."

Town Planner, Colleen Mailloux, reiterated that the plans went through the normal process back in the late 90s, but were never signed.

Board member Giovani Verani made the point that even though CSI doesn't require that amount of parking spaces, the next owner may need them and Chadwick thought that they could show the parking on the plan, but not physically stripe them.

Member Ann Chiampa said that she had driven by the business

and was shocked at the amount of materials being stored around the building.

Chairman Art Rugg commented that he thought the wet lands near the property needed to be paid attention to, saying that he would hate to see flooding added to the problem.

The plant manager told the board that by the end of the year, most of the materials being stored around the building should be off the property, and the stuff across the street should be gone in a month or so.

Chadwick finished the discussion by saying that they would continue to work with the planning staff to get an up-to-date site plan to present at a later date.

## Old Home Day

Continued from page 1

this week's Monday night Town Council meeting, Smith announced the parade will no longer be taking place, sighting social distancing concerns raised by Londonderry Fire Chief Darren O'Brien.

At the meeting Smith explained, "We had an internal meeting, myself, the Fire Chief, some members of the Police Department were present as well as Lisa Drybek (Assistant Town Manager), it is unfortunate news, but upon the recommendation and advice of the Fire Chief,

we're not going to be going forward with the parade portion of Old Home Day this year. The Fire Chief feels there is just no great way to properly socially distance both participants and the spectators of the parade and it would be best if we didn't hold it this year."

Smith added that they are still working with the High School Band and trying to figure out a way to incorporate them somehow.

Later in the meeting Councilor Deb Paul raised concerns with the race that was still being held, saying she thought the same social distanc-

ing problems would be an issue with the runners. She also mentioned that there is usually runners from all over New England taking part in the race.

Chief O'Brien assured Paul that the race organizer would be making sure the race would be properly run with social distancing guidelines being adhered to. He added that the organizer has been holding races in town over the past few months and they've had no problems.

O'Brien also said that he would be at the race to monitor how the race was being conducted.

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# Ovation Theatre Company Presents 'A Chorus Line' at LMS Parking Lot

While Broadway is shuttered until 2021 and theatre in general has been quiet during the pandemic, community productions are starting to come back. With the support of the Londonderry school district, town staff and the fire department, Ovation Theatre Company is excited to present A Chorus Line this summer, albeit with a number of "seasonal" changes. This show was first announced and cast back in January, but with all that has happened since, much has changed to make this production possible.

With a new creative team and a very talented cast drawn from all over the area, Ovation is presenting A Chorus Line outdoors in the London-

derry Middle School parking lot. The stage will be set up in front of the building and the audience will park their cars in the side and back lots, then claim their spots within the main parking lot - each household socially-distanced from the next in a patchwork of people throughout the lot. Audience members will need to bring their own seating, but can otherwise get comfortable within their reserved spot.

Needless to say, mounting this production has been a challenge. Once the opportunity opened for an outdoor, safely-distance production, the OTC team contacted the cast and their families to discuss the plan. They started with virtual rehearsals for vocals and



monologues, which all embraced and enjoyed. For the dances, various choreographers created videos and the cast members learned them on their own, sending back videos for critique. Once things opened up further

in June, the cast convened for in-person rehearsals, while maintaining appropriate safety measures, including temperature checks, masks, gloves, hand-sanitizer and distancing, staying outside as much as possible. A Chorus Line is a show that actually lends itself nicely to physical distancing, for the most part, with solo songs, monologues and dances. For the productions, the cast will employ face shields and even gloves when they can't maintain 6' of separation; this obviously creates a different look and feel, but they are determined to stage an amazing production and they have the talent and energy to make that happen.

This version of A Chorus Line is the high school edition, making it very family-friendly for this unique, outdoor production. The show is directed by Ovation's Artistic Director, Meg Gore, with musical direction by Kevin Fisher. Betsy Brown and Tim

Gore are serving as co-Stage Managers and are also in cast. The choreography team is comprised of cast members Adam Furgal, Katy Gore, and Joey Tannalfo. The cast includes Alyssa Beaulieu, Betsy Brown, Michael Crowley, Katy Gore, Tim Gore, Michaela Horan and Joey Tannalfo of Londonderry, Ryan Carrigan, Harrison Christilles, Adam Furgal, Tracy Hickey of Derry, Annalise Kuhlmann and Jenna Sullivan of Manchester, Cailean Anderson of Hudson, O'Niyah Hamilton, Mykaila Judge and Cecilia Lomanno of Hooksett, Vera Backman, Ella Burroughs, Emma Cate, Evelyn Morin and Jonathan Uber of Hampstead, Abigale Maroun of Amherst and Zac Barnaby of Pepperell, Mass.

A Chorus Line tells the story of dancers trying to break through on Broadway in the 1970s and features amazing choreography, heart-wrenching monologues, hysterical comedy and memorable songs, in-

cluding "What I Did For Love" and "One." The show was actually built from sessions that director and choreographer Michael Bennett conducted, in which he simply had performers tell their stories. Some of those original sessions survive in audio recordings that are almost 50 years old. The stories are timeless and real, so even though it's still set in the '70s, 21st century audiences love it.

For tickets, people will buy labeled parking spots for \$60 for up to four people. They may also buy additional tickets (\$15 each) for people to join them within their parking spot. The performances are at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, July 24, Saturday, July 25 and Sunday, July 26 in the Londonderry Middle School parking lot (313 Mammoth Rd., Londonderry). Tickets are currently available at OvationTC.com. If any show is postponed due to rain, it will be presented the next day as a matinee at 1 p.m.

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