

Londonderry Times



December 3, 2020 ♦ Volume 21 – Issue 49

A FREE Weekly Publication



Christmas Cut

Londonderry Lions Club member Rick Brideau puts a fresh cut on a Christmas Tree sold on Saturday afternoon, Nov. 28, at the Lions Hall. This year, the Lions have about 300 holiday trees in a wide varsity of sizes. While their supplies last the Lion will be selling Thursday through Sunday. *Photo by Chris Paul*

School Board Begins Charting Course for New Year's Budget

TJ RUZICKA
LONDONDERRY TIMES

Tuesday, Nov. 24, saw the Londonderry School Board hold a meeting regarding the upcoming budget. Superintendent

Scott Laliberte outlined the potential 2021-22 school year budget, describing it as a balanced take, structured to work with the “complete redesign in how instruction is delivered” given the pandemic, but

also to give way to “the new normal” in a post-COVID-19 world.

Laliberte marked the uncertainty of the future as the main reason behind decision making the new potential bud- **continued on page 10**

Town Council Approves Speed Reduction on Litchfield Road

CHRIS PAUL
LONDONDERRY TIMES

During the Londonderry Town Council meeting held on Monday night, Nov. 30, the board moved forward with an ordinance to reduce the speed on Litchfield Road from 35 miles per hour to 30.

For a number of year residents have been attending the Londonderry Traffic Safety Committee meetings with concerns the amount of traffic on that road as well as the speed people are traveling at.

Town Manager Kevin Smith explained briefly the need for the speed limit reduction at the meeting.

He said, “The amount of cars traveling down Litchfield Road has increased exponentially over the past ten years, largely because of the Airport Access Road that went off of Brown Avenue.” He continued by saying, “It’s become a cut-through road to get from Londonderry over to Route 3, and vice versa. Not only has more traffic been put on Litchfield Road, but the speed of which that traffic is going has increased as well.”

He added that the Traffic Safety Committee thought it to be prudent at this time to lower the speed limit to 30 miles per hour.

Police Chief Bill Hart

echoed Smith’s synopsis saying that at every quarterly meeting of the Safety Committee this issue has come up.

Hart said, “This is among a number of roads in our community that speed is an issue and more perceived speed, exacerbated by the amount of traffic the community is seeing develop in the last 10 years. We felt that this was, as the Town Manager said, a prudent measure to take at Litchfield and perhaps it might be time to think about taking this measure town-wide.”

He added that from a police perspective, we would have no general

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Town Council Votes to End High Density 55-Plus Developments

CHRIS PAUL
LONDONDERRY TIMES

The Londonderry Town Council held a Public Hearing to amend the Londonderry Zoning Ordinance relative to Elderly Housing construction in town on Monday night, Nov. 30, and approved a change that would end the ability of developers to build high-density 55+ Communities in town.

Town Planner, Colleen Mailloux, presented the changes to the town ordinance that would affect future

building of these communities.

A number of sections in the zoning ordinance were deleted in reference to elderly housing, including sections of Permitted Uses, Exemptions from Phasing, Elderly Housing, Assisted Living and Nursing Homes and Conditional Use Permits for Elderly Housing.

Mailloux began by saying that there were two driving factors behind making these changes to the town regulations. One was to end

the zoning density that elderly housing has been allowed, which has been eight units per acre. The idea of allowing the higher density was to hopefully to create more affordable eld- **continued on page 9**

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Town Council Oks Assessing Contract with Outside Agency

CHRIS PAUL
LONDONDERRY TIMES

With the recent retirement of the town's Director of Assessing, Rick Brideau, the Londonderry Town Council approved outsourcing that position for the next three years when they approved a contract between the town and the Whitney Consulting Group out of Salem.

During the council's Monday night meeting, on Nov. 30, members were presented an agreement that would replace Brideau with Steve Hamilton, a contractor with Whitney Consulting and were asked for their consensus.

According to the contract, the groups assessing duties will include the making of appraisals, reappraisals, assessments, or providing other services on behalf of municipal assessing officials for the statutory administration of property valuation and assessment including, but not limit-

ed to those pursuant to RSA 75:1.

The term of the contract will be from Dec. 1, 2020 through Dec. 31, 2023. Optional extensions upon specified terms between Jan. 1, 2024 and Dec. 31, 2024, and between Jan. 1, 2025 and Dec. 31, 2025.

Assistant Town Manager and Personnel Director, Lisa Drabik, spoke to the Town Council on the agreement and started by saying that this would be a three-year term with two optional extensions with Whitney Consulting providing the same services of the former Chief Assessor. She also said that the town has been using Hamilton over the past few months and have been happy with his work. The group also provides the same service for a number of other communities in the state.

Town Council chair John Farrell asked if the town would be saving any money by using this service, and Drabik

responded, yes over the life of the contract and every year.

When asked how much, Town Manager Kevin Smith responded that in the first year it would be about a \$10,000 savings in the first year but would go up in the years following. Smith added that there would be a cost avoidance with the contract as well, saying that the group would do the commercial revaluation update, which has cost the town \$80,000 in the past, and it would be included in this contract. He also said that they would avoid salary and insurance increases, as those costs would not be added to this contract over the five years.

Finance Director, Justin Campo, explained that after the first year savings of \$10,000, the second and third years would be \$86,000.

Councilor Joe Green was concerned with one of the items in the contract. Item 2.7.2 deals with the compensation to be paid by Municipality for assessing services to support and defend assessments that are appealed to the BTLA or Superior Court

are in addition to cited rates and will be billed at a rate of \$1,000 per day/\$500 per half day for any fraction of a day up to one half day.

Hamilton, who was attending the meeting, explained that out of the 10 other communities they represent, they have only had to bill one community for one instance of that. He felt that in most cases, the issues of disputes in assessing amounts can usually be handled before the matter gets to court. So it isn't a frequent occurrence.

Green recommended striking that particular part of the contract, since Hamilton suggested that it wasn't something that happened very often, and it was something that worried him.

Councilor Deb Paul asked how long the company has been in business and how many similar businesses are in the state.

Hamilton responded that they have been in business for two years and that there are a few other companies that do what they do. He added that the level of experience that they is far greater, they have four of

the highest level certified assessor supervisors and they have a combined experience of over 100 years.

Paul also asked how many employees were in the Assessing Office currently, with Drabik responding that they currently employ one full-time and one part-time worker. Paul wondered why the town is hiring a whole company to replace one person and what the savings would be.

She was assured that there would be savings by not hiring an employee and by not having to pay for commercial

revaluations every two years.

It was also explained that the Chief Assessor position was paying about \$160,000 where as the new contract would cost the town about \$135,600 for a savings of \$24,400. The total of saving to the town, including the \$80,000 commercial revaluations that are usually outsourced is \$64,400.

Before giving the town a positive consensus, the issue Green had brought up earlier on court fees was discussed again, but the thought was that, in the long run, it would not be an issue.

OBITUARY

Alma G. Bucklin



Alma G. Bucklin, 89, of Londonderry, NH died Thursday Nov. 26, 2020 at her home surrounded by her loving family. Alma was born in Colchester, VT on June 7, 1931 to Edwin and Ruth (Tomlinson) Thompson. Formerly of Essex Junction, VT, she moved with family to Londonderry, NH in 1980.

Alma was a lifetime member of Beta Sigma Phi sorority and was an active member in Essex Junction and later in Londonderry. She enjoyed cooking, reading, traveling, singing, and dancing. Her favorite times where those spent with her beloved grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Alma was predeceased by her loving husband of 57 years, Elden Bucklin, Jr.

Alma is survived by her children, Kimberly Bucklin of Londonderry, Deborah Landry of Concord, NH, and Michael Bucklin of Milford, NH; grandchildren, Nicolette Raney and husband Wesley of Hartland, VT, and Marc Bucklin and fiancé, Erin Dyroff of Quechee, VT; great-grandchildren, Lillian and Charlotte Raney of Hartland, VT; and extended family, Sue and Clive Tweed of Hartford, VT. She also leaves siblings Richard Thompson of Winter Haven, FL, Beverly Slimm (William) of Burlington, NJ, and Caroline Racine (George) of Williston, VT; and several nieces and nephews.

A very special thank you to Londonderry Fire and Rescue and to the dedicated caregivers of Home Instead and Continuum Hospice & Palliative Care. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the Londonderry Fire Department 911 Memorial Fund, 280 Mammoth Rd., Londonderry, NH 03053.

Alma will be laid to rest with her husband in the Mountainview Cemetery, Essex, VT. A graveside memorial service is planned for the Spring. The Peabody Funeral Homes of Derry and Londonderry are assisting the family with arrangements.

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Santa Will Be Traveling Through Londonderry on Sunday, Dec. 6

CHRIS PAUL
LONDONDERRY TIMES

The Londonderry Rotary Club, in cooperation with Town, and the Londonderry Fire Department will be welcoming Santa and Mrs. Claus to Londonderry on Sunday afternoon, Dec. 6.

As the happy couple travels through town, the Claus's will be aboard a Londonderry Fire truck.

They plan to start their visit to Londonderry on beginning at 1 p.m. and finishing at approximately 4 p.m.

The route, provided by the Town and the Londonderry Rotary is as follows:

The visit will start on Old Derry Road at Hunter Mill Way and travel through Manter Mill

Road back to Old Derry and then go through Haywood Road.

From there, the two will take a right onto Auburn Road and travel to Rockingham Road where they will head to Perkins Road. They will then take a left onto Perkins Road to Bridle Path at the Wallace Farm Apartments.

From Wallace Farm they will head up Vista Ridge Drive and back to Rockingham Road. There, they will take a left down Mammoth Road to Page Road where they will loop back on Rockingham to Mammoth Road and travel south until taking a left at Stonehenge Road.

On Stonehenge they will head the MacGregor Cut Apartments and loop back to Mammoth

Road, where they will take a left to Whittemore Road.

From Whittemore, they will travel through Schoolhouse Road and then loop back to Shasta Road.

On Shasta, they will take a right onto Lawson Farm Road to Bear Meadow and then to Red Deer Road and back to Shasta.

From Shasta they will go left on High Range Road and head to Pillsbury Road and then back to Mammoth Road where they will take a left at intersection at the Town Common.

The group will then go to Otterson Road and travel through that neighborhood and back to Mammoth, where they will take a left and head south toward



Although the Londonderry Rotary will not be celebrating their annual tradition on the Town Common this year with Santa, trees are still available to be decorated by civic groups. Photo by Chris Paul

Route 102.

They will stay on Mammoth through Route 102 until they take a left onto Sparhawk Drive.

From Sparhawk Drive they will take a left on Chase Road and go to South Road where they will take a right and head to Grove Street. From there, they will travel through that neighborhood and go back to South. At South they will head north to Gilcreast Road and take a right onto Charlestown Avenue. From there they will proceed to Albany Avenue and

take a right onto Town Web Site or the Londonderry Rotary Facebook page, where a town map with Santa's route highlighted.

From Gilcreast they will go back to Route 102 where they will take a left and go to Winding Pond Road. There, they will travel through the neighborhood and head back to 102 where they will go straight through to McAllister Drive to Constitution Drive to Capital Hill Drive and back to McAllister and back to Route 102 where they will take a right and finish at the Home Depot Parking Lot.

To see a map of the route visit either the Town Facebook Page,

where a town map with Santa's route highlighted.

This event has been a longstanding tradition in town, with the Rotary helping to ring in the holiday with tree decorating and Christmas Caroling on the Town Common. Unfortunately, the tradition has been skipped on the common for two years, last year because of the new surfacing of the common and this year due to the pandemic and the social distancing mandated by the state.

COVID-19 Outbreak Shuts Down Local Bar & Grill in Londonderry

CHRIS PAUL
LONDONDERRY TIMES

The Stumble Inn Bar and Grill on Rockingham Road in Londonderry was recently shut down due to a COVID-19 outbreak that was connected to the establishment between Wednesday, Nov. 11 and Monday Nov. 23.

The New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) were made aware of about 11 cases associated with the out-

break.

According to a post on the bar's Facebook page, owner Mike Zarella stated, "We are sad to say we were informed that several customers tested positive for COVID-19 last weekend that were dining at the Stumble Inn. A few staff members have tested positive for COVID-19. We decided to close the restaurant until further notice to keep all staff and customers safe."

During the Town Council meeting on

Monday night, Nov. 30, Londonderry Fire Chief Darren O'Brien confirmed the shutdown saying that the DHHS is currently performing a contact tracing of the outbreak. He also said that an additional 36 positive cases of COVID were verified over the weekend raising the total in Londonderry to 116 positive cases.

O'Brien also warned residents to be careful in how they interact with others saying that they virus is still a major concern.

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Editorial

Remembering Pearl Harbor & an American President

December 7, 1941: a day that would live in infamy. It was the day Pearl Harbor was attacked and the day that thrust the United States into World War II.

Men who had fallen asleep awoke to explosions. Many U.S. sailors would be lost to the clamor and chaos. A total of 2,403 American citizens would be lost on that fateful day.

The numbers tell a morbidly fascinating story of that morning the United States came under attack without warning. Our nation was well aware of the turmoil and horrific events taking place overseas in Europe, but at that time we had our own battles—those of exceptional economic distress—and war was the farthest thing from our minds.

But this day would change all of that. The Greatest Generation mourned a tremendous loss of human life in the days following Pearl Harbor, and they would rally behind President Franklin D. Roosevelt's call to arms without looking back.

Today, there is time to look back with awe at ordinary people becoming extraordinary and to personally thank, if possible, that shrinking number of individuals who were there when everything changed.

In his speech to Congress and the nation on Dec. 8, 1941, President Franklin D. Roosevelt said, "No matter how long it may take us to overcome this premeditated invasion, the American people in their righteous might will win through to absolute victory."

Sadly, the progression of time has dimmed the voices of the men who were on ships, who clamored to bat-

tle stations, who cried over lost comrades. Much of today's generation will hear of these events only from sterile textbooks and dry classroom lectures, information that may go in one ear and out of the other.

There is much that divides us today—some of it is of consequence, and some of it is merely the result of too little generational sacrifice, a lack of understanding of what is and is not important.

We should remember this event and inform future generations of this event not just by moments of prayer and reflection, but by focusing on being better Americans, and along with the hardships we as a nation have overcome reflect on our own shortcomings.

There were more dark moments to come during World War II in within the United States. Out of fear and prejudice, Japanese-Americans were forced from their homes and put into internment camps. Two wrongs do not and never have made a right, and we would be wise to remember this today.

Very recently, our 41st President, George H.W. Bush, a decorated Navy pilot who was shot down in the Pacific in 1944, passed away. He was the last of the World War II generation to occupy the Oval Office.

H.W. Bush was a skilled bureaucratic and diplomatic leader, and will be remembered and missed.

Freedom is important. We owe ours today to the heroes of Pearl Harbor and to the heroes of the battles that would follow. We remember them and learn. And we offer thanks.

Letters

New Hampshire Food Bank

To the editor,
The New Hampshire Food Bank provides free food to needy residents throughout the state at various regional distribution locations, and it is a significant supplier of food to food pantries and other similar organizations in New Hampshire. During this time of the year it distributes large quantities of food to our citizens for the holiday season. Due to the COVID 19 pandemic many people are unemployed and are having trouble purchasing food for their families.

My wife and I delivered meals for the Sunshine Soup Kitchen in Derry NH for 15 years, and it received a lot of food from the New Hampshire Food Bank. We also provide monetary contributions to the New Hampshire Food Bank, and this year its needs have grown dramatically.

If you wish to contribute you can go online at www.nhfoodbank.org, click on "How To Help", and donate. If you want to use a credit card you can call 603-669-9725 to donate. Checks can be mailed to:

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Food Bank
700 E. Industrial Park
Drive, Manchester

Thank You,
Donald Moskowitz
Londonderry

Proposed Tax Increase Totally Unacceptable

To the editor,
Regarding your front-page article (Londonderry Times, Nov. 10, 2020) titled "December Tax

rate Up 3.71 Percent from Previous Year", I wish to submit the following observations.

First off, the information provided was a bit tricky to follow, as it made reference to Town budget increases/impacts as well as to overall (including School) increases/impacts but here is how I see it:

The proposed Town tax rate increase of 19¢ is up 4.2%. The proposed School tax rate increase of 62¢ is up 5.1%. Increases of this magnitude are simply unacceptable, especially in this economy. Remember, these tax increases are not simply a "one shot deal" but rather, they remain and future increases compound them. This is far above the projected increase in the CPI (~2.3%) or the Social Security and military retiree 2021 increase (1.3%). I'm certain there are many folks who won't see any raise at all this year (and perhaps for several years to come) plus many others who face employment (and financial) challenges. We cannot allow our elected officials and hired managers/directors to simply "throw in the towel" and say (to the effect of): Oh well, it's the DRA that sets the rates. Yes, they set the rates but it is our Town and School leaders who develop and present the budgets which cause the DRA to set those rates and consequently drive up our tax bills.

Town Council's vote to "contribute" (read that take OUR money) \$425,000 from the UFB to help reduce the impact of the proposed tax increase is appreciated but simply not even close to enough. (BTW,

the reported loss of valuation of \$45 million from the Granite Ridge Power Plant works out to a loss of \$205,200 [to the Town's budget only] when extrapolating the 2019 tax rate.) So, one need not drill down too deeply to find the root cause of our disproportionately high tax increases. It all boils down to increased spending. So how can we remedy our tax woes? The only real solution is to reduce spending.

For too many years, the Town enjoyed robust industrial and commercial growth, which in turn broadened the tax base, thus precluding large tax increases for its residents. It is very easy to allow for increased spending during those times. Well, the honeymoon is over and now we must reign-in and reduce, yes REDUCE, that increased spending. I understand that can be quite unpalatable to many but it must be done and not just for the Town budget but also, in fact even MORE so, for the School budget.

How do we, the residents and taxpayers help to accomplish this? Well, first off, attend both the Town and School Deliberative sessions, as this is the last resort to truly reduce the budget. Please do not assume that you can vote down the budget on election day, allow the default budget to take effect and thus accomplish a true tax reduction. The rules of developing default budgets are such that default budgets often come in at or above the proposed budgets. You've been warned!

Respectfully,
Robert R. LeBreux
Londonderry

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Londonderry Times

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Granite YMCA Names Chairman's and Service Award Winners

CHRIS PAUL
LONDONDERRY TIMES

The Granite YMCA of Londonderry recently named this year's Chairman's Award winner and the recipient of the Community Service Award for 2020.

Although the winners of these awards will not have them presented to them in the usual way this year, at the YMCA's annual Dinner, because of the COVID-19 Pandemic the awards ceremony will be held through videoconference.

The 2020 Chairman's Award is awarded to a volunteer who goes above and beyond the expectations of any other YMCA volunteer. This award is the highest recognition a volunteer can be awarded by the Granite YMCA. T

This year, Londonderry Executive Director, Lisa Bernard, chose to nominate Newspaper Publisher and Town Councilor, Deb Paul for her years helping on the board.

According to Bernard, "Deb has been a longstanding engaged Advisory Board member for the YMCA of Greater Londonderry and has been instrumental on many levels; with board member

recruitment, engaging key leaders throughout our service area, involved in many of our events (candy cane hunt, harvest fest, summer carnival, and so much more). She played a vital role in the annual campaign throughout her tenor-obtaining donors, getting key community leaders to attend the event, and beat the pavement securing many amazing auction items, contributing to the growth and success of our Reach Out for Youth and Families Annual Campaign."

Bernard then added, "With her significant involvement in the town, she advocates for the Y on so many levels - assisting with building relations with Woodmont Developers as we seek to expand our footprint, she has her ear to the ground sharing every potential funding opportunity, has influenced the Women's Club of Londonderry to support our annual campaign for the past three to four years, was influential in opening the door for us to receive town funding.

Bernard said, "I would like to personally thank Deb for all she has done for the YMCA and our community."

For the YMCA Community Service Award, Bernard nominated Gabe Leon and his brother Heriberto (Eddie) Leon.

This award recognizes a group of individuals, or a community business or agency for their significant contribution to The Granite YMCA. The Community Service Award honors not only major gifts and/or donations that have allowed the YMCA to deliver services, but also honors those who have put in a significant amount of time to enable the YMCA to accomplish its mission.

Bernard said, "Eddie and Gabe Leon and the Derry and Londonderry LaCarreta have been a community partner for with the Y for the past five-plus years. Gabe, is an Advisory Board Member supporting our annual campaign as a vendor, donor, and the highly sought after auction items, year after year. They also played an instrumental role during some of the country's most trying time in many, many years. In March, all the fear that had set in, and an estimated 50% of restaurants immediately shut down unable to weath-



Londonderry Times Publisher Debra Paul, right, received the Volunteer of the Year Award from Londonderry Executive Director, Lisa Bernard this week at the YMCA location in Londonderry. Photo by Chris Paul

er the storm, LaCarreta reacted by not only staying open (and having to consolidate Derry into Londonderry because of water damage), they increased their giving. Which led to so many people reaching out to them and paying for other's meals. It was classic karma, in a good way. One good deed leading to others."

Bernard added, "They reached out to the Y and several other nonprofit organizations, offering up free meals to the families in need, those that were unable to grocery shop, as well as our many grandpar-

ent families. In all, thanks to LaCarreta and some of our advisory board members that personally delivered the meals, they served over 2000 meals through the height of the pandemic. They have and continue to be a significant supporter of the YMCA and many

other organizations. "Of note, neither Eddie or Gabe Leon were available to have their awards presented to them this week.

The Granite YMCA awards Ceremony, was held through videoconference on Wednesday night, but was by invitation only.

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School Board Holds Public Hearing on COVID-19 Aid

TJ RUZICKA
LONDONDERRY TIMES

The night of Tuesday Nov. 24, saw the Londonderry School Board hold a public hearing regarding a potential COVID-response grant for the School District.

The night opened with a motion to discuss the acceptance of sending in an application for the State of New Hampshire Supplemental Public-School Response Fund grant (SPSRF). After the motion was

passed, the Board discussed the SPSRF: a two-part program of money sent in by the state to local school districts.

The first part of the plan, dubbed SPSRF I, was aid totaling roughly \$200 per student, or \$802,400 for Londonderry schools, and the prerequisite for the second part of the SPSRF. SPSRF II, the second part of the program, was an additional \$10 million to be divvied up to school districts applying for additional funds after using all of the initial funds of

the SPSRF I.

The issue the Board faced was the timetable for the program. All lists of what the grant money would be spent on would be due with the application on Dec. 1. On top of that, all items on the list would have to be expensed and received on or before Dec. 30.

Before a vote was cast, School Board Member, Steve Young raised questions about some of the expenditures in the proposed application, specifically

60 interactive touch screens that would total \$138 thousand in the SPSRF II application.

Assistant Superintendent, Dan Black explained the District's decision to add the proposed spending to the application, citing difficulties around the six-foot social distancing guidelines within the classroom as the main cause. The idea being replacing existing projectors in some larger occupancy classrooms with wireless projection would allow for safe dis-

tancing practices.

Black would go on to answer a question from School Board Member, Michael Saucier about the use of the new touch screens after the pandemic. Black confirmed that COVID-era or not, the touch screens could be used in place of projectors within the classroom.

After the touch screen questioning had ended, Steve Young went on to ask the about 380 air purifiers totaling \$197,220 within the SPSRF I application. Young questioned the effectiveness of 380 purifiers over the 690 thousand square feet of space the air filters would be occupying.

The question was this time answered by Facilities Director, Chuck Zappala. Zappala based the need for the air filters on the grounds of

changing temperatures, noting that in warmer weather more outside air could be brought in the school, whereas the cooler temperatures didn't allow for that kind of natural filtration because of the inability to heat large amounts lower temperatures quick enough to have it run through the school.

The proposed plan for the purifiers would be to use one unit per classroom in each of the schools, with additional units being placed in some common areas. Each unit can projectably cover about 1000 square feet.

With questions answered, and the deadline in mind, the Board voted 5-0 to end the public hearing and accept the submission for both SPSRF programs.

The Upper Room Announces Some of its Workshops On Demand

The Upper Room, a Family Resource Center, is announcing free On Demand Workshops. We are now offering a series of prerecorded workshops which are available for free viewing on the Upper Room's website.

These workshops, which cover topics presented by Upper Room instructors, are now easily available for individu-

als to view and learn from on their own schedule. Currently, we are offering a series of parenting workshops as well as a stress management workshop. Titles include: "Preventing Problem Behaviors in Children," "Dealing with Problem Behaviors in Children," "The Importance of Routines and Consistency for Your Child," and the stress management workshop

"Thriving Through Stress." We anticipate adding more topics over time.

Brenda Guggisberg, Executive Director of The Upper Room, explains that "As a Family Resource Center, our goal is to support families and individuals through educational resources and support which will help them live healthy lives. By offering our workshops on demand, we can help our community stay connected to our resources in a timely and flexible way."

To learn more about Workshops On Demand, please visit URteach-

ers.org/workshops-on-demand

Our center is a warm, welcoming place where families receive information and support not only in times of crisis but on a day-to-day basis. We place no boundaries on service, and help all who come to our center seeking support. For more information, call (603) 437-8477, or visit our website at URteachers.org

For other press-related inquiries, please contact

Brenda Guggisberg, Executive Director
603-437-8477 or
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OBITUARY

Ava Marie Capra

Ava Marie Capra, 79, of Londonderry, NH, died Monday Nov. 23, 2020, in her home with her family members by her side. She was born in Lewiston, ME on Oct. 20, 1941, a daughter of Kenneth and Charlotte (Ellis) Dunham. Ava enjoyed various types of crafting, including scrapbooking and card making. When she was not busy crafting, she was busy shopping or taking vacations to her favorite destinations, Hawaii and Aruba. Ava spent her working career as a secretary for the US Department of Transportation but would also volunteer as a Home Companion in Derry, NH. She was very family oriented especially when it came to babies, she was affectionately known as the "baby hogger."

She is survived by her loving husband, Ronald Capra of Londonderry; four daughters, Celeste Sturm and husband Ross of Winter Garden, FL, Diane Capra of Londonderry, Michelle Brandano and husband Roy of Boxborough, MA and Lisa Kinnon and husband Neil of Malden, MA; seven grandchildren Christina and Victoria Brandano, Charlotte Capra, Patrick, Erin, Christian and Ryan Kinnon; brother, Kenneth Dunham; two sisters, Sally Cormier and Elaine Calden as well as several nieces and nephews.

Following cremation there will be a private service held by the family. The Peabody funeral Homes & Crematorium is assisting the family with arrangements. Memorial contributions may be made to Home Health and Hospice Care, 7 Executive Park Dr., Merrimack, NH 03054.

Heritage Commission Reviews Several Developing Plans

TJ RUZICKA
LONDONDERRY TIMES

The night of Thursday, Nov. 19, saw the Londonderry Heritage Commission hold a meeting regarding review of design applications in town.

The meeting opened with a review of design applications for construction at 5 Aviation Drive. The proposition was for one new 40 thousand and one new 50 thousand square foot warehouses and overall maintenance on the property.

The plan was previously presented on Sept. 24, but had seen changes to the plan including more buffer plantings, signage, and the removal of 10 parking spots that needed approval. The

presenters did note that there may be another submission of application to the Commission once a final design for the warehouses was decided on.

After questioning from the Commission about roofing style, color scheme, and potential traffic concerns - all of which questions had answers sufficient to the Commission - the decision was made, accepting the application as submitted.

The next application focused on a lot at the lower end of Gilcreast Road. The lot is currently a gravel pit, and now the subject of the application to permit the construction of 45 elderly town-house style housing units in the area.

Each unit would have a one car garage, and double driveway that essentially would act as two extra parking spaces.

The presenter went into detail, relieving concerns about potential runoff in the area, and explaining features of the proposed lot. The look of the houses was described, with each unit having cedar shakes, a stone veneer, a front porch, and a neutral color scheme on top of the initial description.

After the presentation was finished, the Commission was concerned about the aesthetics of the lack of landscaping within the proposed design. The main focal point of this concern was through

the driveway design, one not containing any sidewalk or landscaping in front of the house within the current design.

With the concerns over the landscaping expressed, notes taken, and potential solutions thought up, the Commission sent the application back, waiting to make a final decision until official color renderings of the homes were complete, more landscaping detail was included to the application, and final renderings of the entrances were also included. This meant the application would be pending approval until Jan. 28, 2021.

The next item on the docket was an application to construct a 3,900

square foot garage and storage unit at 4 Enterprise Drive. The proposed building was planned to match the existing style and color scheme of the existing buildings in the area. The one exception to the application not seen in the other buildings was the proposed fencing around the garage.

Other than the new fencing and building itself, the application contained the same landscape layout of a previously approved site plan on the lot, parking layout, and asphalt areas. The one question the Commission had about the site was whether screening for the nearby Rail Trail would be affected -

something the presenters assured would not see any change or negative impact.

Once all concerns and questions were alleviated and answered the Commission accepted the application with the stipulation that trees and shrubs needed to be planted in the southwest corner of the fencing, placing an emphasis on lilacs.

Once the applications were finished being presented, the Commission capped off the night bringing attention to Beautify Londonderry (it's efforts, goals, and members), potential new harvests and plantings by the Bandstand in the Town Common, and a new forest report.

YMCA of Londonderry Hosts its Annual Candy Cane Hunt

Come help kick off the holiday season this Saturday, Dec. 5 during The YMCA of Greater Londonderry's Annual Great Candy Cane Hunt from 4:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Children will be divided into groups by time slot to go on a flashlight search for hidden candy canes, while staff assist with social distancing. Participants will register for a specific 30-minute time slot to

search for candy canes, visit with Santa, create a holiday craft, and enjoy hot cocoa donated by O'Shea's Caife & Tae in Londonderry. The cost for this event is \$5 per person, pre-registration is required for all who plan to attend. Flashlights and masks are also required to participate.

Guests are invited to bring an unwrapped gift for the Angel Tree, to provide for a child in need this holiday sea-

son. The YMCA nurtures the potential of children and teens, improves the nation's health and well-being, and gives back and supports its neighbors.

To register for this year's Great Candy Cane Hunt, visit <https://bit.ly/3f9P4fx>. Limited time slots are available.

The event will take place at the YMCA of Greater Londonderry at 206 Rockingham Road in Londonderry, NH from 4:30 - 7:30 p.m. Members and guests are welcome. For more information, please contact Stacy Neville, Association Child Care Director at 603.437.9622 or email sneville@graniteymca.org.

As one of the state's longest standing and most enduring non-profits, The Granite YMCA focuses on youth development, healthy living, social responsibility, and family strengthening. Across the state, its six branches engage 30,000 men, women and children - regardless of age, income or background -

to improve their health and well-being, and provide opportunities to give back and support neighbors. In 2019, The Granite YMCA provided financial assistance and free services valued at over \$1.6 million to 26,189 individuals. To learn more, visit www.graniteymca.org.

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Rail Trail Hears Public's Input on New Phase Design

KELSEY DERHAK
LONDONDERRY TIMES

The Londonderry Trailways Committee committee held its latest meeting Monday, Nov. 23 to give the public an opportunity to weigh in on the next phase of the Rail Trail.

Phase 6 of the trail in Londonderry is in the beginning stages of development and will take trail users from the end of the current trail near the Manchester Airport all the way to the aviation museum and connect the trail to Manchester. The consensus for those who went to the meeting on Monday was that they wanted to see the trail route take them along the airport fence line and to the Aviation Museum. This is the most popular route the public would like to see due to the historical

nature of the route that trains used and also lead trail users to the historical Aviation Museum which has served many different needs throughout the course of history.

Unlike previous phases of the trail, Phase 6 will be funded by a federal grant.

Londonderry Trailways interviewed different engineering firms earlier this year before deciding on Hoyle, Tanner and Associates. The project was slated to begin earlier this year, but was derailed by the pandemic.

The Nov. 23 meeting was part of the first step in the process of starting on the design by hosting a public meeting to gather as much input from the general public as possible to include in their design process.

Before paving is even

thought about the engineers need to come up with a list of all the possible routes to present to the Department of Transportation. Once the route is finalized, the design piece starts and a meeting with those whose properties about the trail is held. And for those excited about the extension of the trail, a little patience will be required. "The goal is to bid the project maybe a year from now and then construct it in 2022, which is not finalized, but we have good company that moves as quick as they can," says Londonderry Trailways President, Bob Rimol.

After Phase 6, the last piece of the puzzle will be to connect the trail to Derry. With the recent Exit 4A project on hold, this unfortunately means both Londonderry and Derry are



The Rail Trail near Beckly Lane leads to what will soon become the northernmost connector of the trail through Londonderry to Manchester.

at a standstill with their trail connection plans as well.

With no big plans or events in the immediate future, the Londonderry Trailways is focused on safety, "our main focus right now is safety and it really came to forefront in popularity this year", said Rimol. Londonderry

Trailways is working to do a better job with signage and markings as well as safety education while working closely with conservation officer, fire department and police department to be as proactive for everyone's safety as much as they can.

If anyone from the public is interested in

being a part of the Londonderry Trailways community they can visit their website at londonderrytrails.org and fill out a 'Contact Us' form. The organization will also be advertising for volunteers in the spring time to help with things such as trail maintenance.

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55-Plus

Continued from page 1

erly housing, but she said, this has not been the case. It also has not been helping with retaining younger community members. She said that as of July, there has been 841 elderly units approved in town, and since that time we have an additional 124 units, to make a total of 965.

She added that developers could still build elderly housing in town but would not receive any density benefits.

The other driving factor for making the change was a bill being developed by the state, HB1629. The bill has stalled at the state house because of the Coronavirus, but it is expected to be revived, and if it does, it would allow developers to take advantage of the density allowed for Elderly Housing and apply it to Workforce Housing. She was con-

cerned that the language in the bill would force Londonderry to allow higher density developments rather than giving the town the choice to allow them.

She finished by saying that the changes made to the town ordinance would protect the town from being forced to grant developments and it would also stop the number high-density elderly developments being built in town.

Councilor Joe Green had an issue with use of the word excessive being used to describe the amount of units in town saying that perhaps the town hasn't reached a plateau of where the housing prices would start to correct.

Mailloux responded that she felt Londonderry would never be at a point where supply exceeds demand to drive prices down.

Green also asked what percentage of the housing in town are

designated to over 55 residents.

Mailloux said that 10 percent of the housing is 55-Plus, and about 29 percent of the population is at 55 and older.

She added that the failing of the current ordinance is that the town will never hit the limit on the amount of 55-Plus units because we're building more units each year.

Green also wondered if residents who are getting older in town, are selling their homes and moving into these units, thus allowing younger families to buy their homes and move into town.

Mailloux answered by saying unfortunately not, the 55-plus units that have been built in town are just not affordable. It is not what the town intended it to be. She added that this is what her staff envisioned as a first step to make elderly housing more affordable. She also said that this would be moving in the direction of making

it more affordable for the elderly, as well as younger generation to stay in Londonderry.

Green finished by saying that he was a little concerned that they were pulling the plug a little too soon on this ordinance.

Councilor Tom Dolan added a historical footnote on the subject, saying that this ordinance was originally created to help slow down the number of children in the schools in town, saying that at the time the schools were overcrowded. He felt that the ordinance helped in that regard, but warned that they should be thinking about the diversity of

the community, so it's not all one demographic.

He added that the state is quickly becoming the oldest state in the country, and there is a real shortage of affordable housing for young people.

Dolan also warned about HB1629, saying that it will be adopted as soon as the state gets back to work in January and it will take the choices out of the hands of the town and local Planning Boards.

Green added that he had looked up the age of the state's residents and said that according to the New Hampshire Department of Human Services, by 2030 the

state recognizes that one third of the population will be 55 and older, with Mailloux adding that Londonderry has been aging a little faster than the rest of the state.

Resident Ray Breslin was the only resident to speak at the public hearing and he agreed that the idea that people in Londonderry would be able to afford to live in town after they sell their homes is not what is happening. He believes that most of the people moving into these units are not coming from within Londonderry.

In the end, the ordinance was approved by a vote of 4-0.

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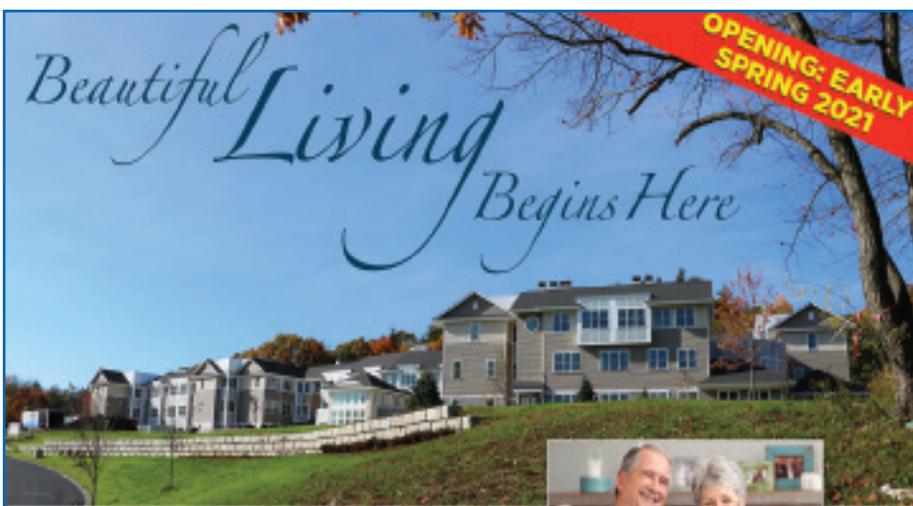
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Emergency Drought Assistance to Low-Income Residential Well Owners

At the request of Governor Chris Sununu, the NH Drinking Water and Groundwater Advisory Commission and the New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) have created a new initiative to provide short-term relief and financial assistance for low-income New Hampshire homeowners served by residential wells that are experiencing insufficient water or no water due to drought conditions.

"I am pleased the Drinking Water Groundwater Trust Fund approved \$1.5 million in emergency funding to assist low-income homeowners remediate their wells if they are experiencing insufficient water due to drought. When

citizens turn on their faucets, they should be able to trust that clean drinking water is available for them and their families," said Governor Chris Sununu.

Short-term Drought Relief Measures

The initiative will include temporary relief to ensure households have an adequate supply of drinking water in the near-term. Households on residential wells, whose income is at or below 80% of the area median household income and that have no water due to the ongoing drought, may be eligible for bottled water deliveries at no cost for drinking and cooking uses. The provision of bottled water is intended to be a temporary measure until the house-

hold receives assistance to permanently mitigate the well that has been impacted by drought.

Permanent Drought Relief Measures

Financial assistance for improving or replacing residential wells with insufficient water due to drought, or connection to an existing community water system financial assistance may be made available for qualifying low-income homeowners through a grant from the N.H. Drinking Water and Groundwater Trust Fund.

Additionally, once the work is completed, all wells must be sampled and tested for the water quality parameters established by NHDES. The laboratory costs for testing are an

eligible expense to be covered by the grant. However, the provision of drought assistance does not guarantee the quality or quantity of water associated with the work funded by this grant, and costs to add treatment are not eligible costs.

"Due to the drought, many Granite Staters have no other option than to upgrade their wells to ensure a steady supply of clean drinking water for their homes. These upgrades are expensive and are often completely unaffordable for some of our friends and neighbors. This program will be a lifeline to those who otherwise could not afford these essential upgrades. I applaud my fellow Commission members for

coming together so quickly to unanimously approve this program and the staff of the Department of Environmental Services for developing it in record time," said Senator Chuck Morse, Chairman of the NH Drinking Water and Groundwater Advisory Commission.

"Given the severity of the drought, recent precipitation has done relatively little to alter drought conditions impacting residential wells in New Hampshire. Residents still need to take every action to conserve water now and for the foreseeable future. This well assistance initiative will provide some much needed help to some low-income residents that are without water as a result of the

drought," said Bob Scott, NHDES Commissioner.

Information about income eligibility requirements and the amount of financial assistance for permanent drought relief measures are available on the NHDES Drought Management Webpage. Emergency drought assistance is available to eligible households retroactive to costs incurred since June 23, 2020. Homeowners interested in assistance are asked to complete the following survey: www.surveymonkey.com/r/wellwaterhelp. Homeowner that have questions about the survey or eligibility, please email: drought-wellinfo@des.nh.gov or call Paige Relf, NHDES, at (603) 271-1355.

Budget

Continued from page 1

get. Laliberte noted that there would be no new initiatives in the budget, nor any big expenditures, instead focusing on getting back to what the School District was doing before the pandemic.

The budget showed a reduction in staffing, seeing a 3.0 full-time equivalent reduction and a 62.5 daily-hour

reduction in support staff across the District. The theme of reduction continued with the budget aiming to find redundancy and under-enrollment in co-curricular activities to find potential options for more reductions.

Because of the use of the existing technological infrastructure given the temporary remote learning, the budget also emphasizes spending on tech for schools. This marked one area where

the proposed budget wasn't looking to cut back.

Despite the highlighted impact of reduction, the proposed budget still saw a 3.82 percent increase from the budget seen in the 2020-2021 school year. Increases in expenditure were seen across the board, including but not limited to maintenance and utility charges, transportation, and state retirement funds.

After Laliberte out-

lined the preliminary budget, Business Administrator, Peter Curro went into detail about the book. Curro focused his analysis on three key areas: the book, his personal financial overview, and some highlights.

Curro first detailed the book, noting the tax rate sheet and budget analysis as the two key pieces in understanding the Superintendents' proposed budget. Curro explained that these two areas allow to dive deeper into and to match up reductions and increases within the preliminary budget. Each working to show how the budget was thought out and made through the

numbers.

Curro then explained his financial overview, underscoring new marks Londonderry has recently hit. The first of which, was that for the first time, the Londonderry School District was above the state average in how much town taxpayers put into local public education. The second of which, was that each of the Londonderry schools were at a number near or "on target for" the default budget – a number looked at as a standard.

Curro emphasized both of these points given the unprecedented nature of the COVID-19 era. Curro saw each

figure as an achievement in how the town has handled the current situation, and as a marker for how Laliberte came to the budget he proposed.

The final piece of analysis from Curro was a highlight regarding the Operating Budget Administration. Curro explained on top of the general fund, there will be a request for Standard Capital Reserves, with the exception to change out food service lines. That request will be sent in by the Operating Budget Administration. With that final explanation, the meeting closed, ending the night.



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Do Rub It In: CDC Reminds Public To Wash Their Hands

MELISSA BETH RUIZ
LONDONDERRY TIMES

Flu season 2019 seemed to go right into the COVID-19 pandemic, and now the COVID-19 pandemic has ran right into flu season 2020.

Many people have been so concerned with COVID-19 that they have stopped taking as many precautions against the germs that the public has been more accustomed to over the years.

While the Center for Disease Control does state that surface contact is not the main transmission of the COVID-19 virus, there is still some risk involved with coming into contact with surfaces.

Because of this, the CDC still highly recommends washing hands

after touching surfaces, especially in the event someone should need to leave their home, or take in items that have been dropped off from outside the home.

The first week of December is hand-washing awareness week. While the timing and duration of each cold and flu season can vary each year, flu activity most often peaks between December and February, making the beginning of December a good time to remind the general public to take the process of properly washing their hands more seriously.

The CDC states that COVID-19 can possibly be transmitted by touching a surface that has come into contact with infected droplets and then bringing

infected hands and fingers to the face.

Aside from absent-mindedly touching the face after coming into contact with outside surfaces, harmful viruses and germs can spread a number of ways as a result of not washing hands, says the CDC.

Preparing or eating food and drinks with unwashed hands, touching other surfaces, or touching other people's hands can lead to the spread of harmful respiratory and other infections. These things are often done without much second thought.

The CDC states that the key times to wash hands to prevent such a spread are before, during, and after preparing food, before and after eating food, before and

after caring for someone who is ill, before and after treating a cut or wound, after using the toilet, after changing diapers or assisting a child in the bathroom, after blowing the nose, coughing, or sneezing, after touching an animal, animal feed, or cleaning up after an animal, and after handling garbage.

There is a proper technique to properly washing hands, according to the CDC. Just about everyone is aware of the 20 second rule, but there is a little bit more to the full proper technique.

First, hands must be wet with clean running water. The tap should then be turned off while soap is applied to the hands.

Then, soap should be lathered onto the backs of the hands, between the fingers, and under the fingernails. Hands should then be scrubbed for at least 20 seconds.

Hands should then be rinsed well under

clean running water and dried with a clean towel or air-dried.

Many have asked how it is possible that simple soap and water helps to remove harmful and reduce the risk of contracting illnesses, including COVID-19. The CDC explains that when soap and water is worked into a lather, it traps and removes germs from the hands. A good lather forms pockets called micelles that trap and remove the germs.

Twenty seconds of lathering helps to physically destroy germs and remove them from the skin. And when it is thoroughly rinsed, these germs are then carried down the drain.

Because of this, hand-washing with soap and water is the best way to get rid of harmful germs in most cases. But if it is not readily available, an alcohol-based hand sanitizer will suffice.

However, it is important to keep in mind that sanitizers may not

be as effective if hands are visibly dirty or greasy, and they may not remove all types of germs or harmful chemicals such as pesticides and heavy metals.

As with soap and water hand-washing, the CDC states that there is a proper technique to applying hand sanitizer.

First, the gel should be applied to the palm of one hand (the product label will offer the proper amount). Then, the hands should be rubbed together, and the gel should be rubbed over all surfaces of the hands and fingers until hands are completely dry, taking about 20 seconds.

Hand washing may seem like an insignificant activity at times, but as with all things cold, flu, and now COVID, an ounce of prevention is worth more than a pound of cure.

For more information and resources on how "Clean Hands Save Lives," visit [cdc.gov/handwashing](https://www.cdc.gov/handwashing).

Annual Marine Corp Reserve Toys for Tots Campaign

The deadline to drop off toys for the Annual Marine Corp Reserve Toys for Tots Campaign is by end of day on Tuesday, Dec. 15.

It's safe to say that 2020 has been a tough year for everyone. Kids and parents more than ever could use a little extra "Merry" in their

Christmas this year and the Marine Corp Reserves are hoping to help bring bright smiles to their faces this Holiday Season.

The Derry Police Department will also once again be participating in the Marine Corps Reserve Toys For Tots Campaign this season. Please drop off

new, unwrapped, nonviolent toys to the main lobby of the station.

Last year residents helped the DPD collect 3,818 toys for kids.

The police are also doing a "Stuff The Truck" event with McGruff the Crime Dog at the Derry Walmart on Saturday, Dec. 5 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.



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AROUND TOWN

Around Town Policy: This section is meant to be used to announce free events to the communities. If your group is receiving money for what they are publicizing, there will be a charge of \$40/week per paper. All Around Town/Calendar Items will be held to 100 words maximum. All free announcements in the Around Town/Calendar section can run a maximum of three weeks. Deadline for submissions is Monday at 5 p.m. Please send items to londonderrytimes@nutpub.net.

Gallons Fuel Oil Raffle

The Londonderry Lions Club hosts their 4th annual 100 gallons fuel oil raffle. Tickets are \$5 each. Drawing will be Jan. 11, 2021. Please come support the Londonderry Lions so they can continue to support our community.

Letters to Santa

Londonderry Town Hall in partnership with the Londonderry Rotary Club, are look forward to assisting Santa's Elves again this year! We will be working directly with the North Pole and the US Post Office to deliver your wish lists to Santa, and each child will receive a personalized letter back from Santa. To participate, children may write their own letters to Santa, or parents may fill out the attached Santa Letter Form. Letters

and/or Forms should either be dropped off at the North Pole Express Mailbox at Town Hall (in the Town Hall entryway) OR mailed to the Rotary Club. If you choose to use the mailbox at Town Hall (268 B Mammoth Road), it will be available from Monday, Nov. 30 to Friday, Dec. 18 during normal Town Hall hours (M-F, 8:30 a.m. - 5 p.m.). If you prefer to mail your letter, please send it to the Rotary Club (P.O. Box 451, Londonderry, NH 03053) by Dec. 12. We invite you to write Santa a letter, send him good cheer, and let him know how good you have been this past year! Once you hand-deliver or mail your letter, the letters are picked up by Santa's Elves and taken directly to the North Pole. The Elves have asked that you please print your name and your

address clearly on your letter and/or the Form so that Santa can reply from the North Pole!

COVID-19 Response Help Needed

The South Central NH Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) is recruiting medical and non-medical volunteers to help with the COVID-19 Response in the region. Are you a practicing or retired medical professional or a concerned local citizen (with or without medical expertise), and interested in assisting your community during an emergency? The MRC provides communities with medical and nonmedical volunteers trained to assist in the event of public health emergencies. Volunteers may be called to assist during emergencies, such as the COVID-19 response. Activities may

include but not limited to greeting, registration, and vaccine administration. Free training will be available within your scope of practice. For more information, please reach out to Kate MacDonald at katemacdonald@catsnh.org or 603-505-7216.

"Rotary Saves Christmas" Raffle

Londonderry Rotary Club is running its "Rotary Saves Christmas" raffle through Dec. 23. All funds raised through the raffle will be directed back into our community to support charities, those in need, scholarships and more. Tickets for the raffle are \$10 each or 3 for \$25. The drawing will be held on Dec. 23, at our evening meeting at the CoachStop restaurant, Mammoth Road, Londonderry. Drawing will be for three prizes. Top prize will be \$2,000. There will be two second prizes drawn of \$500 each. To get tickets, text Mike Dolan at 774-245-2279; call Faye Sell at Martinelli Travel at 603-434-4989; or visit Londonderry Rotary Facebook Page. Please support Londonderry Rotary, which in turn supports our community.

The "Tour of Destiny"

An instructional video series continues on the Leach Library Facebook page and YouTube channel. Each video covers a different topic to help you use and navigate Destiny, the Leach Library's catalog. Starting on Monday, Dec. 7 at 10 a.m., learn how to search by call number and ISBN in Destiny, the Leach Library's catalog. A video on creating resource lists will also be available starting on Monday, Dec. 21 at 10 a.m. Please check the Leach Library's Facebook page on the day of the activity for the link. To access the library's Facebook page, visit the Leach Library website at www.londonderry.org/leach-library then select the "Facebook" link from the blue menu on the left side of the page.

Craft Time

Starting on Monday, Dec. 14 at 10 a.m., a virtual craft time will be available to watch on the Leach Library Facebook page. Craft your

own barnyard mobile with Miss Kirsten! Craft kits are available while supplies last. Please call the library at 432-1132 to reserve a time to pick up your kit today. Please check the Leach Library's Facebook page on the day of the activity for the link. To access the library's Facebook page, visit the Leach Library website at www.londonderry.org/leach-library then select the "Facebook" link from the blue menu on the left side of the page.

Young Adult Craft

Starting on Monday, Dec. 21 at 10 a.m., a virtual craft program for teens will be available on the Leach Library Facebook page. Follow along with Miss Megan to create your very own mini library craft! Please call the library at 432-1132 to reserve a time to pick up your mini library template today. Please check the Leach Library's Facebook page on the day of the activity for the link. To access the library's Facebook page, visit the Leach Library website at www.londonderry.org/leach-library then select the "Facebook" link from the blue menu on the left side of the page.

Story Time

Beginning on Monday, Dec. 28 at 10 a.m., watch as Miss Jennifer shares the story of "Lucy the Talented Toy Terrier"! This story time features a book written by Londonderry author Janice Spina and illustrated by her husband John Spina. Please check the Leach Library's Facebook page on the day of the activity for the link. To access the library's Facebook page, visit the Leach Library website at www.londonderry.org/leach-library then select the "Facebook" link from the blue menu on the left side of the page.

Toys for Tots

It's safe to say 2020 has been a tough year for everyone. Kids and parents more than ever could use a little extra "Merry" in their Christmas this year and we're hoping to help bring bright smiles to their faces this Holiday Season! Derry PD will be participating in the Marine Corps Reserve

Toys For Tots Campaign for the 2020 season. Please drop off new, unwrapped, nonviolent toys to the main lobby of the station.

Poinsettia Fundraiser

The Greater Derry Humane Society is holding a Poinsettia Plant Fundraiser from Nov. 9 - 28. A portion of every plant purchased will help with the cost of animal supplies, food, vet care, behavior training, dental care, surgical procedures, and much more. Plants have been grown by Orchard Hill Greenhouses in Londonderry, and come in a variety of sizes: 6.5" pot - \$15 each; 7.5" pot - \$23 each; 8.5" pot - \$30 each. Order Forms are located at the Greater Derry Humane Society Website at <https://forms.gle/RXuWcMe9u8e3nRCi7>. Plant(s) can be picked up at Orchard Hill Greenhouses, 92 Pillsbury Rd., Londonderry, from Dec. 5-20. Call or text Orchard Hill Greenhouses at 603-235-2804 to schedule a pick-up day and time. Please bring a copy of your emailed receipt when you pick up your plant(s).

"Bookworm and the Barefoot Books"

Beginning on Monday, Nov. 30 at 10 a.m. and ending on Friday, Dec. 4 at 5 p.m., patrons will be able to view "Bookworm and the Barefoot Books". Talking Hands Theatre's puppet friends will perform this charming show that proves reading can be an adventure.

Toy Sale

Do you have toys to donate to the annual St. Gianna's Toy Sale? Drop off any time to: St. Thomas Aquinas Church, 26 Crystal Ave., Derry (Aquinas Center), 5 Isabella Dr., Londonderry and St. Matthew's Church Windham. The sale will take place on Dec. 5, at St. Thomas Church, Derry, from 9 a.m. - noon. Must wear a mask and bring your own bag.

TIPS Zoom

Are you a young parent? The Upper Rooms Teen Information for Parenting Success (TIPS) will hold Zoom meetings on Wednesdays from 5 - 6 p.m. Support and resources for young parents

Continued on page 13



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Around Town

Continued from page 12
(up to age 24) and their children.

Feeling Overwhelmed?

The Upper Room is offering supportive online counseling schedule a

free one-on-one supportive counseling session. Email Seren at selizabeth@urteachers.org.

Parent & Caregiver Café

Parent & Caregiver Café Remote meetings are open to those raising teens. Thursdays from 6 - 7:30 p.m. To access, visit: us04w-

eb.zoom.us/j/302497889 Meeting ID: 302 497 889 (no password needed) Contact: Seren Elizabeth atselizabeth@urteachers.org No preregistration need.

Caregiver Resource Line

Have parenting questions? Upper Room offers Parent & caregiver re-

source line, call (603) 437-8477 ext. 26. Call with your name and contact number, and a trained professional will return your call within 24 hours. If you are having an emergency, please call 911.

Raising another's child?

Are you parenting a

second time around? Attend the Grandparent and Relative Caregiver Support Group. Join this free weekly meeting for resources, discussions and support for those raising another person's child. No preregistration needed. Tuesdays 6 - 7:30 p.m. Meeting in person at the

YMCA-Londonderry. Contact: Seren Elizabeth at selizabeth@urteachers.org. Grandparent PASTA Groups are brought to you by NH Children's Trust, the YMCA of Greater Londonderry, the Southern Rockingham Coalition for Healthy Youth (SoRock)

Continued on page 15

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Londonderry Police Log

Selections from the Londonderry Police Logs

Monday - Nov. 23

9:13 a.m. Traffic Hazard Removed on Boyd Road.

12:07 p.m. Services rendered for report of suspicious activity on Parmenter Road at Nashua Road.

12:17 p.m. Services rendered for suspicious activities at Charles George Trucking on Nashua Road.

2:32 p.m. Welfare Check investigated on Vista

Ridge Drive.

3:18 p.m. Larceny/Forgery/Fraud investigated on Winding Pond Road.

6:04 p.m. Domestic Disturbance investigated on West Road.

Tuesday - Nov. 24

8:36 a.m. Services rendered to keep the peace on West Road.

9:23 a.m. Unlawful Activities investigated on Capitol Hill Drive.

11:26 a.m. Medical Emergency transported to a hospital from Rossini Road.

2:31 p.m. Services rendered in keeping the peace on Stonehenge Road.

7:15 p.m. Keeping the Peace investigated on Midridge Circle.

Wednesday - Nov. 25

11:13 a.m. Welfare Check

Continued on page 15

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Around Town

Continued from page 13 and The Upper Room.

Evolve!

A group for young woman ages 13 to 18 to talk about today's challenges meets every Wednesday from 5:30 - 6:30 p.m. at the Upper Room, 36 Tsienneto, Road, Derry. This is a free weekly group. To register, Call 437-8477 to register ext. 16.

Presbyterian Church

The Walking Together Group and the Walk With Me Group will be meeting together via zoom 7 p.m. every Tuesday, via computer or

telephone. This is a support group for anyone who has lost a spouse, a family member or a friend. For information, contact: 781-866-9976 or jrkdias@aol.com

St. Jude Food Pantry

St. Jude's Food Pantry is open to all Londonderry resident who maybe in need. Call Kay at 434-1827 to make an appointment to pickup your food from the panty. "We are there for the people and want to help them."

Young Adult Programs

On Fridays 11 - 11:30 a.m., facilitated by The Upper Room, weekly free remote support programs are available. To access:

Contact Beth O'Connell at eoconnell@URteachers.org or follow the Young Adults Strong Facebook page.

Raising a Teenager?

Parent & Caregiver Café (PaCC) Group. These meetings are a wonderful resource for parents and caregivers raising teens. Discuss your concerns and learn new parenting strategies. New topics are introduced weekly including anger management, drug and alcohol abuse, communication and setting boundaries. No preregistration needed. Thursday 6 - 7:30 p.m. Free live on Zoom. Link to Join: <https://us04web.zoom.us/j/302497889>. Contact: Seren Elizabeth at seliza-

beth@urteachers.org

CART Transitions to Essential Trips only

In an effort to keep drivers and the ridership of CART safe and healthy during the COVID-19 pandemic, CART will transition to essential only. CART will communicate with all passengers who have current trips scheduled and make adjustments where appropriate. Essential travel will include medically necessary trips (dialysis, pharmacy, etc.) as well as trips to the grocery store. CART will work with passengers to accommodate the essential trips and will work on timing to be as flexible as possible. Ser-

vice will remain available to all towns, 5 days a week. Any questions, concerns or comments should be directed to mwhitten@mtabus.org or phone CART at 603-792-5151. CART looks forward to restoring regular service levels as soon as this crisis passes.

Teen Talk

Need to be Heard? Upper Room's Teen Talk, an online forum to talk, support and be heard is open Tuesdays 3 - 4 p.m. Free live on Zoom. Teens 13-18. No preregistration necessary; Meeting ID: 111 147 286, Password: 694887. Contact: Nicole Smith Martin at nmartin@urteachers.org or

call 437-8477 x29.

Raising children ages 0-12?

Upper Room offers Parent & caregiver workshops on Wednesdays, from 6 - 7 p.m. Free live on Zoom, facilitated by The Upper Room. Tune into this new series for weekly workshops offering families information, discussion and support.

Food Pantry

Contact-free pick up at the Upper Room, 36 Tsienneto Rd., Derry is available on Mondays from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. (back entrance), Thursdays 3 - 4 p.m. and by appointment (front entrance).

Police Log

Continued from page 14

performed on Bridle Path at Wallace Farm Apartments.

12:10 p.m. Services rendered for a disturbance at American Airlines on Airport Road.

12:25 p.m. Services rendered for Criminal Threatening on Kimball Road.

1:31 p.m. Welfare Check performed on Pinyon Place.

2:22 p.m. Services rendered for report of Criminal Threatening on Commercial Lane at Trash Can Willy's.

3:06 p.m. Welfare Check investigated by three officers on Sanborn Road.

Thursday - Nov. 26

12:43 a.m. Three officers assist with a Suicide Attempt/Threat on Conifer Place and transport to a hospital.

1:39 a.m. Alarm at a Business on Rockingham Road investigated by six officers.

5:44 a.m. Domestic Disturbance investigated on Buckthorn Street.

10:14 a.m. Disturbance investigated on Vista Ridge Drive.

6:37 p.m. Shooting Complaint investigated on Bartley Hill Road.

Friday - Nov. 27

12:38 a.m. Welfare Check investigated by three officers on Fieldstone Drive.

9:40 a.m. Services rendered to Keep the Peace on Faucher Road.

11:34 a.m. Services rendered for Criminal Threatening at Davita Dialysis (Derry Dialysis) on Action Blvd.

3:15 p.m. Identity Theft investigated on Buckthorn Street.

3:43 p.m. Motor Vehicle Stop leads to an arrest at Burger King on Nashua Road. Kelly Gilpatrick, 35, of Hudson, arrested on a Warrant.

5:33 p.m. Motor vehicle check leads to an arrest made on Rockingham Road. Four officers assist with charging Esther Ivette Ortiz, 27, of Draught, Mass. with Driving Under the Influence (sec-

ond; Impairment); Drive after Revoked/Suspended Licence (DUI); Driving with an Open Container of Alcohol.

6:11 p.m. Services rendered for Disturbance on Melody Lane.

6:30 p.m. Services rendered for Suspicious Activity on Rockingham Road at R&C Fabrication.

Saturday - Nov. 28

1:56 p.m. Suspicious Activity investigated at Rail Trail on Liberty Drive.

2:57 p.m. Removed Hazard at Rail Trail on Liberty Drive.

3:29 p.m. Assisted the Derry Police Department with services on Pinyon Place.

5:15 p.m. Services rendered for Auto Theft at Manchester Boston Regional Airport.

7:30 p.m. Suspicious Activity reported on Jolly Lane.

Sunday - Nov. 29

3:04 a.m. Services rendered to Keep the Peace on Charleston Avenue.

9:23 a.m. Fish and Game Violations investigated on Kelley Road.

10:21 a.m. Violation of Protective Order reported and arrest made on Charleston Avenue. Three officers assist with charging James Mercier, 32, of Londonderry with Stalking - Notice of Order.

10:37 a.m. Fish and Game Violations report-

ed on Harvey Road at Rail Trail.

10:42 a.m. Warrant served and arrest made on Quincy Road. Brianna Nieves, 20, of Windham charged with Simple Assault (Physical Contact or Bodily Injury).

2:31 p.m. Disturbance investigated by three officers on Sunset Drive.

5:11 p.m. Motor vehicle stop results in an arrest on Route 93 at Northbound mile-marker 14. Three officers assist in charging Jaramillo Escobar Margarito, 38, of Chester charged with Operating a Vehicle without a Valid License; Driving After a Revoked/Suspended License.

Litchfield Road

Continued from page 1

objections to that, especially given the dramatic increase over the last decade in our community.

Council Deb Paul was the first to speak on the subject, saying that she has attended many of the Safety Committee meetings and has been vocal about the issue. She wasn't sure that the measure being taken was going to change people's driving habits. For her the major issue has always been the

trucking and the enforcement of "No thru Trucking."

She asked Hart for a sincere, honest opinion on whether he thought this ordinance would help the situation or if it's just showing people that we are moving forward on doing something for the problem. She added that she wasn't convinced the ordinance would fix the problem.

Hart responded that it wouldn't correct the amount of traffic on that road, but what it will do, is decrease the average

speed in that area probably by four to seven miles per hour.

Hart said that typically, if a speed is posted at 35 mph, the average speed is about five miles per hour over that, so this will bring that speed down. He then added that his department would be taking steps to educate the public on the change, and after that begin enforcement with ticketing.

He said he believed that this change would in fact work.

Councilor Paul also

brought up the possible costs associated with the change.

Hart strongly pointed out that this is a part of the function of the Police Department's job and traffic is one of their most obvious public problems and it impacts the quality of life in town. Hart said, "One of the roles of the police is to assist in assuring that quality of life is going to be better, and this is a way we can do that."

The only resident from the public to speak on the subject was Ann Chiampa, who won-

dered if more of the electronic "Speed Checker" could be used to aid in reminding people of the speed limit. She said that people don't always pay attention to signs but the electronic ones really stand out. She also asked if the speed limit could be legally enforced.

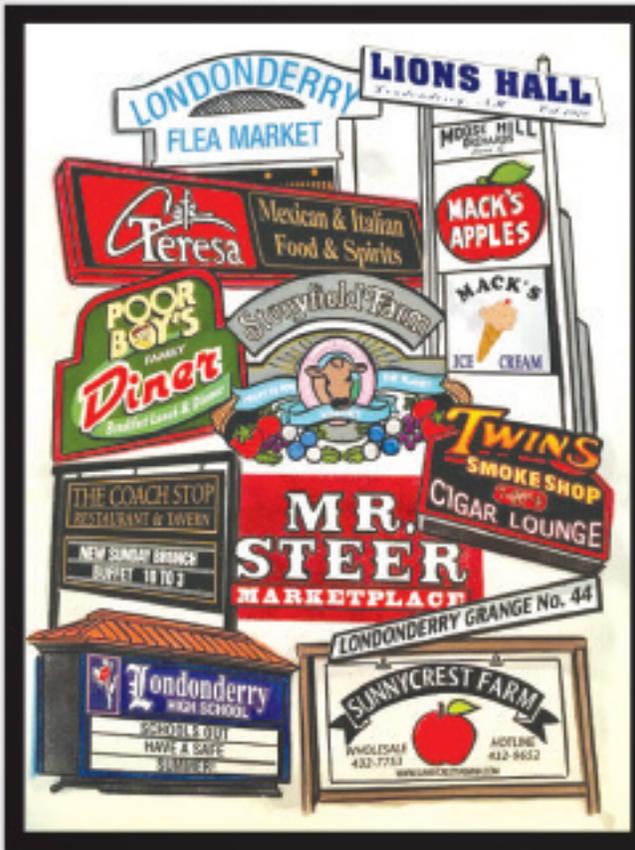
Hart said that the signs she was referring to are a good educational tool and they have several portable ones that they put out as part of their education plan. In terms of enforcement, he said, "Yes it can be

enforced." It was also mentioned that the town does not receive any revenue from speeding tickets.

To finish up, the council voted 4-0 to approve the ordinance, with Councilor Tom Dolan adding that he hoped that the folks in the Town Public Works Department could start thinking of ways, other than speed limit signs, to help curb excessive speeds in town. He cited the example of the rotaries along Michels Way.

"The Signs of Londonderry"

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