

Londonderry Times

December 2, 2021 ♦ Volume 22 – Issue 47

A FREE Weekly Publication



Giving Thanks

Londonderry Police Sergeants Keith Lee and Garrett Malloy accept a Thanksgiving holiday gift basket from Darcy Newman and her Pony Club members from Twin Gates Farm last Wednesday afternoon. The group brought gifts to the Police and Fire Departments that day. See more photos page 12. *Photo by Chris Paul*

School Board Hears Overview of \$83 Million 2023 Budget

CHRIS PAUL
LONDONDERRY TIMES

During a rather short discussion held at the Tuesday, Nov. 23, Londonderry School Board meet-

ing, the District's Business Administrator, Peter Curro made members aware of a glitch that came about while trying to figure out the school's tax rate.

Curro said that he, and others had read the wrong column on a spreadsheet provided by the state when trying to determine the state **continued on page 6**

Town Council Approves New Elderly Tax Exemption Policy

HENRY GREENBAUM
LONDONDERRY TIMES

The Londonderry, Town Council held a hearing on Mon. Nov. 22 for the resolution that is relative to the Elderly Exemption Policy.

Steve Hamilton, the President of Whitney Consulting Group, LLC and town assessor presented the resolution to the Town Council. "When a re-evaluation occurs, if there is no adjustment to the amount of the benefit for the exemption then there may be a relative decline in the effectiveness of that exemption,"

said Hamilton. "This is an attempt to make an adjustment to the benefit amount so that there is, as it were, the 'same bang for the buck' for people who qualify for the exemption."

Hamilton went on to explain what the resolution is, "It is the recommendation of the Assessing Department that the benefit amount increase for persons aged 65-74 years to \$144,000 exemption of value from their property taxes. For a person 75 years of age up to 79 years of age, the benefit amount would increase to \$180,000 and for a

person of age 80 years or older the benefit amount would be an exemption of \$240,000."

The resolution that Hamilton proposed is to increase the amount of money certain elderly age groups can be exempt from paying on their property taxes. He noted that the increase was about 16% for each category. He came to this conclusion by analyzing the properties that were receiving these exemptions and how much their values have increased over the years. Hamilton also noted that they can't

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Tax Incentive Program Looks to Draw Woodmont Projects

CHRIS PAUL
LONDONDERRY TIMES

A tax incentive program that town officials hope will spur economic development at the Woodmont Commons Planned Unit Development (PUD) will be discussed in a public hearing at the next Town Council meeting.

The first reading of the ordinance was at the Monday, Nov. 22, Town Council meeting, where council chairman John Farrell stated that a public hearing would be held during the Nov. 29 meeting. After that meeting was cancelled, the date was changed and the public discus-

sion will now be held at the Monday, Dec. 6 Town Council meeting.

Ordinance 2021-03 hopes to create a Commercial and Industrial Tax Incentive Program for two significant areas in the Woodmont Commons PUD. These areas are designated as WC-1 and WC-2 in Woodmont's Master Plan.

If passed, this ordinance would allow businesses thinking of building in the Woodmont area to take advantage of short-term property tax relief. The amount of tax relief will be determined by the size of the project being built.

Three tiers are being

set up to determine the length of time each project would be allowed to defer part of their property taxes.

For Tier One Projects, which are projects valued at \$5 million or more, there will be a 50 percent exemption in the first year after completion of the project. In the nine

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Town Council Approves Repairs at Two Fire Stations

HENRY GREENBAUM
LONDONDERRY TIMES

The Town Council discussed new business regarding two Orders Relative to the Expenditure of Maintenance Trust Fund for Various Projects to Fire Stations at the Monday evening, Nov. 22 meeting. Dave Wholley, Londonderry's new Public Works Director, presented the two orders to the Town Council. "I have two requests tonight that we bring before you... The first being Order #16 which is in

reference to a situation we have going on with a back-up generator at Fire Station II," Wholley said. "It is going on 11 years old as the back-up generator. During preventative maintenance we found a leak and we need to do a repair."

Wholley was told by the Fire Department that it is something that is crucial to their operation and is needed in the case of a power outage, which could prevent them from responding to emergencies. The Town Council agreed to approve the funds to get

the back-up generator fixed.

Fire Station II is the station off Route 102 and Fire Station I is the station in the north end of town.

Wholley moved onto presenting the other order saying, "Station I has had several HVAC issues that stemmed early on from its construction... After reviewing the operation over the course of several days and different time periods, [the Station] has been provided five proposals in total needing to be completed in

order to properly heat and cool the facility."

Fire Station I is having issues heating and cooling the facility. These issues were likely created at the construction of the facility in which the HVAC system was not installed correctly. The station now needs a certain amount of money granted from the Town Council to finally repair that issue.

When asked about the history of the station, Londonderry Fire Chief Darren O'Brien came forward. "The station was built in 2010. If we remember correctly, that was the Government's Reconstruction Act so that whole station was built on a grant," explained O'Brien. "The general contractor left the building 14 weeks

prior to the project being completed."

Wholley and O'Brien both noted that the overall computer software that monitors everything and makes sure the HVAC system is doing what it needs to do is not working properly at all.

O'Brien also pointed out that two companies made the program in 2002, and one of them went under while the other is still around but has not used that program in years. These issues make it nearly impossible to go into the system and fix the problems it is having.

Wholley is currently negotiating a contract with a company that plans to come in and update the software. That company is guaran-

teeing a one-year warranty, but Chairman John Farrell pointed out that one year is probably too short of a time frame.

"I would encourage you to go back to the vendor and ask them for some sort of longer agreement with regards to the software upgrades," said Chairman Farrell. "They're going to upgrade the system two or three more times in three years...if we don't stay on top of it then we are going to back here with \$9,680.20 again."

The Town Council unanimously voted in favor of Wholley's proposal to install a new system into Fire Station I under the recommendation that they renegotiate the length of the warranty with the vendor.



Special Ride

On Tuesday, Nov. 16, Eleanor and Sadie Walczak were treated to a special ride to school by the Londonderry Fire Department. Eleanor won the trip through the annual PTA fund raising raffle. Classmates were able to come outside and greet her and her sister when they arrived at school. Mom and dad also attended the big event.

Photos by Chris Paul

Londonderry Man Arrested for Shooting Death in Derry

CHRIS PAUL
LONDONDERRY TIMES

Just before the Thanksgiving holiday, on Monday, Nov. 22, officers from the Derry Police Department responded to 27 Linlew Drive at approximately 8:22 p.m., for a report of an adult male lying on the ground in the hallway of an apartment building in need of medical attention.

When the officers arrived, they quickly determined that the male subject had sustained a gunshot wound.

He was then transported to the Elliot Hospital in Manchester, where he subsequently died as a result of the injuries.

The deceased was identified as Tyler Andrews, 24-year-old from Derry.

After an initial investigation, the Derry Police arrested Justin Best of Londonderry on one count of Class B Felony Reckless Conduct.

Best was arraigned at the Rockingham County Superior Court two days later on Wednesday, Nov. 24.

During the Wednes-

day arraignment, Assistant County Attorney Jill Cook explained to a judge that Best reached out to police shortly after the incident and was then arrested for reckless conduct.

Deanna Campbell, Best's court-appointed lawyer told the judge that her client suffers from Asperger Syndrome that affects his ability to communicate and socialize.

She also explained that the gun went off accidentally during a scuffle at the apartment building.

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The Lights of Christmas on Display at The Orchard

For the past five years Tom Croteau (AKA Londonderry's very own Clark Griswold) has made it his mission to provide holiday entertainment to the community by setting up colorful and festive light displays at his home, each year becoming bigger and brighter! Following last year's display, he was approached by Gary Holt, with a proposal to put on a giant light display for the community.

It was decided that Orchard Christian Fel-

lowship, fondly referred to as "The Orchard," and also Tom's church, would be the location for this venture.

This has been no small undertaking.

Plans began last summer, designs were created, thousands of lights were purchased, hours of coding have been programmed, and several weeks ago the set building began, which includes a giant pixel Christmas tree. This has been a labor of love for Tom who says "a lot of planning and work goes

into these shows, but those of us who do it, do so because we love seeing how much joy it brings people."

This FREE spectacular drive-thru light show set to the sounds of Christmas can be seen and heard at 136 Pillsbury Road from now until the new year.

To hear the music, residents can tune into radio station 87.9 FM. Special event dates are on Sunday, December 12th and Tuesday, December 14th from 4:30-7:30 PM, hosted by

members of the Orchard who will be passing out hot cocoa and candy canes.

Donations are being accepted for Helping Hands, a local organization that helps men in need with food, housing, counseling, and employment. To give, scan the QR code or go to www.orchardnh.org.

For more information, feel free to contact The Orchard at info@orchardnh.org or (603)425-6231.



Tom Croteau was recently stringing lights at the Orchard Christian Fellowship church.
Courtesy photo

GREENWorks: Learning About the Water Cycle – Just Add Humans

The water cycle is something that is taught in elementary school – condensation, precipitation, runoff into groundwater/surface water, evaporation, repeat. In other words, water is found in the atmosphere, on the surface and underground. The water cycle is central to all life on Earth and connects Earth systems.

But that's the natural, uninhibited water cycle. To get the whole picture, you have to add people and the things people do – what is called the "human water cycle." People manage water in many ways and for many different purposes. When people manage and use water, it

changes the water cycle. We manage water for energy production; agriculture (both crops and animals); manufacture and transportation of goods (everything we make uses water at some point in its production); recreation; drinking water; and wastewater management. We dam rivers and lakes for recreation and to make electricity (energy production). We divert the direction of rivers to irrigate crops and water our lawns (agriculture). We pump it out of the ground to drink, to cook with and for showers.

Imagine your life without any one of these services and you begin to see how important the human water cycle

is. We take water from one location and move it to another. Our capture, management, use and disposal of water are all parts of the human water cycle. Think about your home. Where does that water come from? How does it reach your faucet? How do you know it is safe to drink? When you wash out a paint brush or flush the toilet, where does that water go? What happens to the water after it leaves your home?

Once you are fully aware of that cycle, you can see that there are many things we can all do, individuals, communities, businesses and governments, to keep water clean and to use water wisely. We've

curated a list of actions you can take below. Not only are these actions you can easily implement in your life, but they will help build an awareness of how water impacts your life and how you impact water quality.

- Don't flush your wipes www.des.nh.gov/blog/september-2020-flushable-we-dont-think-it-means-what-you-think-it-means.
- Clean your laundry habits www.des.nh.gov/blog/august-2020-clean-your-laundry-habits.
- Fix water leaks

www.des.nh.gov/blog/february-2019-small-water-leaks-could-be-big-problems.

- Curb your water use www.des.nh.gov/blog/july-2020-when-drought-curb-your-water-use.
- Build a rain garden www.des.nh.gov/blog/may-2020-rain-gardens-beautiful-solution-storm-water-runoff.
- Consider a natural lawn (xeriscaping) www.des.nh.gov/blog/april-2019-xeriscaping-natural-lawns-are-new-green.
- Protect your tap water www.des.nh.gov/blog/october-2019-protect-your-tap-tips-reduce-lead-exposure-drinking-water.

tap-tips-reduce-lead-exposure-drinking-water.

These are good places to start, but there is plenty more you can do and learn about. Here are some resources for further exploration:

- New Hampshire Drinking Water Festival nhwaterfestival.org/.
- EPA WaterSense www.epa.gov/watersense.
- UNESCO World Water Assessment Program en.unesco.org/wwap.
- Project WET
- Water Footprint Calculator www.water-calculator.org/.



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Editorial

Live, Shop, Give, and Read Local

The holidays have snuck up on us yet again. Some of our readers had their holiday shopping done before the turkey hit their family dining tables on Thanksgiving. However, many of us are still wondering what to buy and where to do our holiday shopping. Days are flying by on the advent calendar. If you're still mulling over big ticket items or you've pared down to the bare minimum, there's a world of choices out there for where to go to get those presents for everyone to have your list checked off.

In keeping with the "locavore" movement of eating food grown locally, we'd like to suggest that you consider doing all of your holiday shopping close to home and no, this does not include shopping online.

Most local shops may not have the flashy, "low, low" prices of big box stores. However, there are friendly people to help you should you have a question you want answered. Another added bonus is you will not have to drive far to get there, considering gas prices this year.

Supporting local businesses is the gift that keeps on giving, you're helping a local business stay open in this changing time, as well as, helping the town's tax base. Shopping locally also helps to support local artists. We're surrounded by plenty of artists and crafters whose work is available for purchase. These local artists made creations that make unique and thoughtful gifts. It may be something as large as a painting or as small as a pair of earrings or a pottery mug.

There's a certain pleasure these days in buying something with a label certifying that it was made in your hometown.

The local newspaper is also a local business. We depend on advertising to be able to produce our newspapers for the benefit of the community each week. So, please tell the shops, and restaurants to advertise because you want to help keep your local newspaper around, thank you.

Businesses close to home help contribute to the local communities where we live and work. This is much better than adding to the coffers of multinational conglomerates that have little interest in your town or family. If you're planning on dining out for a special holiday meal, consider a local restaurant or getting a platter to-go and bringing it home or to the family Christmas party. Chances are you'd be sure to miss your unique culinary getaways if they had to close due to lack of business.

So help them remain open by celebrating the mom and pop restaurants as opposed to the big chain-restaurants. Shopping local makes for warm, special memories and a healthy local economy. When spending your money locally, you may find yourself in a heartfelt conversation about your holiday plans and favorite seasonal recipes.

This holiday season, Nutfield Publishing urges you to support your local artists, bakers, farmers, and shop owners by purchasing special gifts from them.

Letters

Food Insecurity Within Our Military

To the editor,
Most of us are celebrating Thanksgiving and Christmas with family members, and enjoying bountiful meals, but what about approximately 160,000 families of active-duty military personnel who cannot afford to feed their families.

The food insecurity primarily impacts the most junior enlisted service members from the E1 to E4 ranks. According to the organization Feed America approximately 30% of these military members face food insecurity.

The lowest military ranks suffer with low pay along with high living costs at many base locations in the United States. The frequent moves required by the military makes it difficult for spouses to find work. Additionally, an Agriculture Department rule prevents military families from accessing food stamps.

Although there are charitable organizations providing some assistance, I am sure our military personnel prefer not to access charities for food. Maybe the

Defense Department should review the pay rates for junior enlisted ranks and also provide increased living expense funding for high cost of living locations.

The food insecurity can adversely impact our military members and their families, and could have negative effects on our national security.

Note: In the 1950s I was a Navy enlisted E1 with promotions to E2, E3, E4 and E5.

Donald Moskowitz
Londonderry

Heating Cost Relief

To the editor,
Weather forecasters have predicted that New Hampshire's temperatures are going to be very cold this winter. Costs for heating fuels have been rising dramatically. I have been talking with friends, family, and neighbors about these rising costs as well as the costs for food and vehicle fuels. These increases are especially difficult for individuals and families on fixed low-incomes. Initially, we were hopeful that this fall things would be returning to pre Covid

conditions. However, inflation is now taking hold. Many people are aware they have to be very cautious with their expenditures to be able to cover the normal necessities.

Consequently, I want to pass along that some of the financial pressure we are all feeling can be lessened—especially for the most economically impacted families—due to the joint efforts of Governor Chris Sununu and the New Hampshire Department of Energy. Through the Fuel Assistance Program the most vulnerable families have the opportunity to receive financial relief assistance to minimize the rising costs for fuel. This special program became necessary because of the failing energy and economic actions of the Biden Administration. To determine your eligibility and then apply for Fuel Assistance contact your local Community Action Agency (CAA) by going to www.nh.gov/osi/energy/programs/fuel-assistance/index.htm for the link to your local CAA.

Thank You Governor Sununu!
Karen Hutchenson
Londonderry

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This service is provided free of charge to Londonderry residents who wish to announce the birth of their child or grandchild, marriage engagement, wedding or milestone event such as a Silver Wedding Anniversary. This is a great way to share your news with your local community. The Londonderry Times also accepts obituary notices. Please contact us at 537-2760 or e-mail to londonderrytimes@nutpub.net.

Londonderry Times

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Moose Hill Students Celebrate Thanksgiving in Classrooms



Students and staff at Moose Hill Kindergarten got into the holiday spirit of Thanksgiving last Tuesday, Nov. 23 with each classroom celebrating with a variety of activities. Many children enjoyed a Thanksgiving "feast" with their classmates before the holiday break. In past years the school would set up a large table in the hallways to celebrate, but this year, due to COVID concerns classes were kept separated.

Photos by Chris Paul

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Derry Londonderry Windham Raymond

School Board

Continued from page 1

property tax rate revenue and the associated tax rate.

He told the board that he had corrected the numbers in the spreadsheet he provided members in the budget binder they were given.

Superintendent Scott Laliberte followed that introduction by saying he would be giving a walk through on the upcoming budget and giving members of the

board the opportunity to get acquainted with what goes into building the budget.

The school board will be holding a number of workshops leading to public hearings and the School Deliberative.

Laliberte started by saying, "Tonight, I'm advancing to the school board a budget that seeks to maintain our existing programs and build on our successes and allow us to adapt to the learning challenges

that were brought on by the COVID pandemic."

He added that the goal of the district is to present a budget that is as fiscally responsible as possible and also lives up to the high expectations that the community has for them.

Laliberte said the 2023 proposed general fund budget has been set at \$83,107,237, which represents an increase of \$1,609,781, or a 1.9 percent increase over the current budget.

The Default Budget is set at \$82,855,538, which

is a 1.67 percent increase over the current budget.

In the upcoming budget discussions Laliberte said they will be focusing on making sure graduates are prepared for advancement after graduation.

He added that there will be a lot of attention being paid toward recovering learning losses caused by the pandemic over the past two years.

They will also be focusing on getting back to efforts lost during the pandemic since they've

had to stray from some of the priorities that were set years ago because things associated with the pandemic.

He finished by saying that he looks forward to diving into this year's budget workshops and

knows that there is a lot of work to be done.

Those wishing to review the FY 2023 budget can find a copy on the School District's webpage, londonderry.org, at the Business Office page.

Elderly

Continued from page 1

make it work the way it was before for everybody because everyone's property value is different.

Hamilton was asked about the income requirements for the exemption, and he explained that they would be relatively the same. "It is a little bit risky at the moment to change too much of the income requirement because of income from all sources that right now does include payments from the Federal Government for Covid-19 relief," Hamilton said.

The income require-

ments are recommended to stay the same under this new resolution due to Covid-19 relief. Hamilton would like to revisit potentially adjusting that next year when there is less aid from the Federal Government.

Town Councilor Deb Paul asked Hamilton about why the minimum time to be living in Londonderry and to receive these benefits is three years.

Hamilton explained that that requirement is a statewide policy. Someone does not have to be living in Londonderry specifically for three years to gain the exemption. So long as they proved that their main

residence for at least three years is within the state of New Hampshire, then they qualify for the exemption.

Paul also asked him about assessing a resident's land for the exemption. Hamilton said, "When we consider the assets that a person owns, we don't consider the value of their residence to be an asset... If you had, for example, a home on 100 Acres of land that was developable, you would have more than just the value of the asset. The law requires us to consider the value of your primary residence and Two Acres around it being your primary residence.

The excess land is maybe an asset we would have to consider separately."

The Town Council agreed to approve the new resolution relative to the Elderly Exemption Policy unanimously.

Hamilton also presented resolution relative to the Disabled Person's Exemption Policy to the Town Council. He proposed that the amount of money for people in the lowest age group should be brought up to the same amount as the lowest age group that qualifies for the elderly tax exemption. The Town Council approved the resolution unanimously.

OBITUARY

William T. (Bill) Comfort, Sr.



William T. (Bill) Comfort, Sr., 88, passed away peacefully at his home on Sunday, Nov. 21, 2021. He was the loving husband of Maureen (Fenelon) Comfort. Born in Cambridge, MA, on Dec. 10, 1932, he grew up there and was a graduate of Cambridge High and Latin School. Following high

school, he attended Boston College, and then joined the U.S. Air Force.

After a tour of duty in Korea in the 1950s, Bill was hired by Polaroid Corporation where he spent his entire career working in several distinct roles for nearly three decades. Bill and Maureen were married in 1959 and not long after that they moved to Stoneham, MA, where they raised their three children. In the 1970s, he was very active in the Stoneham Youth Hockey program as a coach and mentor to aspiring local hockey players. During this time, he also built and maintained a backyard skating rink each winter for many years, much to the delight of his children and their friends, relatives, and neighbors.

For more than 30 years, summer vacations for the Comfort family were spent in Friendship, ME, where Bill organized many excursions to islands in Muscongus Bay on the Red Baron, his treasured vintage motorboat. Being on the ocean in Maine with his wife and family formed many of Bill's fondest memories and the island daytrips included picnics, swimming, and combing the beach for sea glass and shells. And his favorite activity in Maine was digging for clams in the fertile beds that surround the bay.

After retiring, Bill and Maureen moved to Forest Hills of Londonderry in 2004 where they established new and enduring friendships in this welcoming, supportive community. Here, friends and family would often gather for Super Bowl parties, where Bill would organize betting squares and card games in his sports-themed "man cave." His lifelong enjoyment of playing cards also led to a stint as a poker dealer at Rockingham Casino in Salem, NH.

The Comfort family wishes to extend our thanks to our neighbors and friends for their support during Bill's illness as well as to the staff at Amedisys Hospice, especially Heidi and Tiffany, who so expertly and lovingly cared for Bill at home.

Bill was preceded in death by his parents, Charles and Agnes (Wood) Comfort, his brothers Charles Comfort Jr. and James Comfort, and his sister Mary "Alice" Rapoza Linehan.

He is survived by his loving wife of 62 years, Maureen, his sister Diane Wesson and her husband Wayne Wesson of Ipswich, MA, his sister-in-law Carolyn Comfort of Tewksbury, MA, his daughter, Patricia Comfort and her husband, Jeffrey Calmus of Marblehead, MA, and his sons William Comfort Jr. of Northampton, MA, and Christopher Comfort and his wife, Lisa Comfort of Stoneham, MA. He is also survived by his beloved granddaughter, Nora Comfort Tirrell of Nashville, TN as well as many nieces, nephews, grandnieces, and grandnephews.

Following cremation and a private scattering of his ashes, a celebration of Bill's life will take place in Spring, 2022. In memory of William T. Comfort, Sr., donations can be made to the Amedisys Foundation, 3854 American Way, Suite A, Baton Rouge, LA, 70816. Amedisys Foundation funds provide aid to home health, hospice, and personal care patients during times of financial difficulty.

Arrangements have been made by the Peabody Funeral Homes of Derry and Londonderry, NH. To send a condolence, please visit www.peabodyfuneralhome.com.

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Free At-Home Rapid COVID-19 Tests Available for Residents

New Hampshire residents can order free, rapid COVID-19 test kits that can be self-administered at home through a new program launched by the NH Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS).

Residents can order testing kits online <<https://governor.us19.1ist-manage.com/track/click?u=05b804b48b056>

a1937be3a9b1&id=17f91b743b&e=8b6f11991f> for free home delivery while supplies last.

The rapid COVID-19 tests are available to residents as part of the Say Yes! COVID Test program that encourages residents to use the tests to reduce the spread of COVID-19 and keep the community healthy.

"As we move into the

winter months, these at-home tests are a valuable tool for Granite Staters to easily test themselves and get back in the game quickly," said Governor Chris Sununu. "As the first state in the nation to run this program statewide, we're excited for the ease of access this program provides to individuals and families across New Hamp-

shire."

"As the fall surge continues, rapid, self-administered testing can give residents one more way to help reduce the spread of COVID-19," said DHHS Commissioner Lori Shibinette. "Routine testing offers the best chance of early identification of COVID-19. Residents can swab the front of their nose and

know the results of the test in ten minutes and in the privacy of their own home."

The Say Yes! COVID Test initiative is from the National Institutes of Health, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, test manufacturer Quidel, and healthcare technology company CareEvolution. Quidel, is the same company that made the

first rapid flu tests used by doctors' offices in the United States.

Residents can voluntarily share test results with their healthcare provider and DHHS. Residents will need to provide their name and address for test kit delivery, which will not be shared. No additional personal information is required to get a free rapid test kit.

OBITUARY

Cheryl M. O'Halloran



Cheryl M. O'Halloran, 68, of Londonderry, NH passed away Thursday, Nov. 25, 2021 at her home. She was born Aug. 6, 1953, in Boston, MA, a daughter of Barbara (Dufsrne) O'Halloran and the late Gerard V. O'Halloran.

She is a graduate of Roslindale High School, Boston Business School, and Daniel Webster College with a degree in Computer Systems. Cheryl worked at the US Environmental Protection Agency in Boston, MA, retiring in 2008. She enjoyed traveling and going to the beach.

Cheryl is survived by her mother, Barbara O'Halloran of Londonderry; her brothers, Keith O'Halloran of New Boston, NH, David O'Halloran and his wife Christina of Hudson, NH; her sisters, Linda Ginnetty of Chester, NH, Karen Sartori and her husband Rick of Barnstead, NH, Diane Stathopoulos of Nashua, NH, Debra Shaughnessy of Goffstown, NH, Barbara Smith and her husband David of Scituate, MA; and many nieces and nephews.

Cheryl is predeceased by her father, Gerard V. O'Halloran, who passed away in 2003, and her brother, Gerard P. O'Halloran who passed away in 2005.

At the request of the family, following cremation all services will be held privately. The Peabody Funeral Homes and Crematorium, 15 Birch St., Derry is assisting the family with arrangements.

Incentive

Continued from page 1

years after that, there will be a five percent decrease for each year. In year two it will be 45 percent, year three 40 percent and so on.

For Tier Two Projects, those valued at \$2,500,000 or more would start their first year with a 40 percent property tax savings. The following four years would have those savings drop 10 percent each year for the next four years.

Year two would see a 30 percent savings, year three a 20 percent and year four would be 10 percent and year five is

five percent.

For Tier Three Projects, any project valued at \$1 million or more, the percentage of savings is slightly lower. In the first tax year, there will be a 30 percent savings, following that, year two will have a 20 percent break, 15 percent in year three, 10 percent in the fourth and five percent in the final year.

The ordinance goes on to state that in order to qualify for tax relief the new construction project must be a benefit to the public. Anything built or rehabilitated must fall under one of the following criteria:

- Enhance the economic vitality of the town

- Promotes development of municipal centers, provides for efficiency, safety and greater sense of community.

- Increases commercial and industrial activity in the town, including job creation.

- Increases the town's commercial tax base.

The ordinance also explains that each project must apply for tax relief through an application and be granted

relief by the Town Council.

The council must find that the project is a benefit to the public and that the proposed use is consistent with the applicable master plan, zoning ordinance or development regulations.

To read the full ordinance, residents can find a copy in the full agenda file of the Nov. 22 Town Council meeting at londonderrynh.org.

The Londonderry Times will also post a copy on our Facebook page this week.

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Lancer Marching Bands Helps Derry Ring in the Holidays



The Londonderry Lancers Marching Band and Color Guard helped to ring in the holiday season in Derry during the annual Nutfield Holiday Parade on Saturday afternoon. The parade, which is organized by the Derry Londonderry Chamber of Commerce and the Derry Village Rotary was held in some very cold and windy conditions this year. Participating in the parade is an annual tradition for the Lancers. *Photo by Chris Paul*

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LONDONDERRY SPORTS

Lancer Juniors Win Annual Powder Puff Championship



CHRIS PAUL
LONDONDERRY TIMES

On the heels of the latest Londonderry Lancers football team's Division I win the High School girls lined up on the gridiron last week to face off in

the annual Powder Puff competition. This year the event helped to raise funds for local sports alumni, Noel Lambert's, Born to Run charity.

This was the ninth time the event took place and each year,

teams are formed by the four graduating classes in a six vs. six three game elimination competition for bragging rights and the coveted Powder Puff trophy.

The first two teams taking the very cold and

windy field to square off were girls from the sophomore and senior classes.

In that contest, the sophomores had a two-touchdown lead until late in the game when the seniors were able to

More photos page 11.

Photos by Chris Paul

put seven points on the board but time ran out before they had a chance for a comeback. The sophomores won 12-7 and headed off the field to wait for the winner of the freshman vs. junior game.

In that game, the junior team dominated, winning in a 21-0 shutout.

The female junior class went on to win the annual event, but needed an overtime period to eventually beat the sophomore class 12-6.

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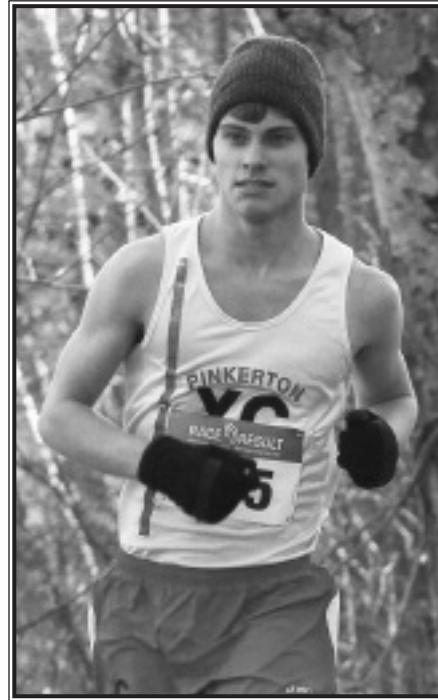
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Over 720 Runners Race 48th Annual Turkey Trot 5K



Over 700 runners headed out on Thanksgiving morning for the 48th annual Greater Derry Track Club's Turkey Trot 5K. Photos by Chris Paul



Luke Brennon



Kylie Johnson

CHRIS PAUL
LONDONDERRY TIMES

Over 720 runners took to the streets around Beaver Lake early Thanksgiving morning to participate in the 48th annual Greater Derry Track Club 5K Turkey Trot. The conditions for the race were seasonably cold and unlike last year where runners were staggered throughout

the morning, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, all racers headed out on a group start, where three Derry runners took the top three spots.

Pinkerton Academy senior long distance runner Luke Brennon was the first to cross the finish line, far ahead of the nearest competitor. Brennon, who was the number one finisher for most of the Astros

Cross-Country team's races over the 2021 Fall Season, he outpaced the pack by nearly a half a minute.

Brennon finished the 2021 season with a seventh place finish at the Division I Championship and a fourth place finish at the Meet of Champions.

The senior 17-year-old Astros runner finished with a time of

16:27 for first place. He was followed by fellow Derry resident Tom Harmon, 23, who finished with a time of 16:50. In third place was John Walker, another 23-year-old from Derry, who crossed the finish line with a time of 18:05.

The first female runner to cross the finish line had an impressive seventh place finish overall.

Kylie Johnson, a 20-year-old long distance runner from Waterboro Maine, finished with a time of 19:20 to take first for the women. Johnson is currently running for the Cederville University Yellow Jackets in Cederville Ohio.

Seven seconds later, the first Derry female finished the race for the second women's spot and the eighth place overall. Emilee Risteen,

26, finished with a time of 19:27. Devin Molloy, a 22-year-old out of Naples, Florida, came in two seconds behind Risteen for the third place spot and ninth overall.

Other top overall Derry were: Craig Coventry, 11th (19:59); Jason Rzasa, 12th (20:00); Rusty Risteen, 14th (20:10); Michael Gendreau 16th (20:17); Contessa Silva, 17th (20:18); Logan McDonald, 24th (20:54); Cade Reimer 30th (21:29); Andrew Fongemie, 34th (21:44); Ryan Busby, 40th (22:00); Shane McCarthy, 42nd (22:20); Joshua Risteen, 45th (22:40); Jacob Taylor, 46th (22:40); Andy LePage, 49th (22:49); Joseph MacNicoll, 54th (23:29); Josh Rutstein, 61st (23:49); and Tony Patti, 68th, (24:09).

The top overall Lon-

donderry finishers were: Kerry Daley, 19, 13th (20:00); Jack Smith, 14, 15th (20:12); Trevor Creed, 27, 35th (21:45); Alec Lemeris, 11, 37th (21:49); Caitlin Boufford, 19, 43rd, (22:26); Peter Lincoln, 53, 59th (23:48); Zack Luongo, 20, 64th, (23:53); Matthew Luongo, 14, 65th (23:53); Dan Root, 50, 116th (25:35); Ben O'Brien, 10, 117th (25:37); Joshua Rutina, 21, 122nd (25:43); Dave Aquilino, 26, 130th (25:54); Caden Guthrie, 13, 131st (25:55); Michele Pope, 48, 136th (26:08); Aidan O'Brien, 10, 142nd (26:29); Michaela Smith, 48, 145th (26:37); Andrew Feole, 29, 146th (26:41); Michelle Horan, 45, 156th (27:02); Tom Griffin, 59, 166th (27:34); and Brittany Bellew, 26, 174th, (27:57).



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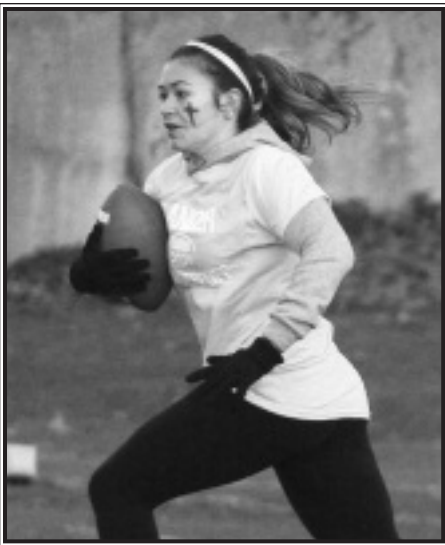
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Twin Gates Pony Club Offers Holiday Gifts to First Responders



Members of the Twin Gates Farm Pony Club delivered Thanksgiving gift baskets to the Londonderry Police and Fire Departments on Wednesday afternoon, Nov. 24, to show their appreciation for all they do for the community. The group was treated to a tour of the holding cells at the Police Station and they also visited with some of the newer fire fighter while they were running training drills at the Londonderry Middle School. *Photos by Chris Paul*

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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.

Karaoke Night

On Dec. 10, American Legion Post 27 will hold a Karaoke Night with DJ Sharon from 7:30-11 pm. Located at 6 Sargent Rd in Londonderry (behind the fire station on Mammoth Rd.) Non-members interested in joining Post 27 are welcome to attend.

Live Music

On Dec. 17, American Legion Post 27 will host a Live music presentation with Jeff Mrozek from 7:30

- 11 p.m. Located at 6 Sargent Rd in Londonderry (behind the fire station on Mammoth Rd.)

Legion Meeting

On Dec. 13, at 7:30 p.m., American Legion Post 27 will their Monthly General Meeting, all members are welcome to attend. Located at 6 Sargent Rd in Londonderry (behind the fire station on Mammoth Rd.)

Christmas Party

On Dec. 11, American

Legion Post 27 will hold a Children's Christmas Party from 10 a.m. - noon. Kids up to 8 years old can meet Santa and get a present. Must sign-up at the Post in advance. Located at 6 Sargent Rd in Londonderry (behind the fire station on Mammoth Rd.)

Share a Story with Library Friends

Drop by the Leach Library Facebook page to share a quick story with library friends! New videos will be available to watch

starting on Thursday, Dec. 2, Dec. 16, and Dec. 30 at 10 a.m.

Food for Fines

The Derry Public Library and Londonderry Leach Library are excited to announce a Food for Fines drive to benefit local food pantries. The friendly competition will begin on Wednesday, Dec. 1. Non-perishable food donations will be accepted at both libraries during operating hours until closing on Saturday, Dec. 18. For every food item donated, up to two dollars in overdue fines will be cleared from your library card. Food for Fines does not apply to lost or damaged items, and no rain checks will be given. Each library will report their total donation count on Facebook throughout the program. To join in on the fun, bring your non-perishable donations to the circulation

desk with your library card. Please note glass jars and expired food will not be accepted. For donation suggestions and additional information, call the Derry Public Library at (603) 432-6140 or the Leach Library at (603) 432-1132.

"Brighten Up Breakfast and Brunch"

Starting on Monday, Dec. 6, at 10 a.m., Senior Public Services Librarian Matt Fuller shares a variety of cookbooks with breakfast and brunch ideas just in time for family holiday meal preparation. The video will be available on the Leach Library Facebook page, blog, and YouTube channel.

Craft Time

On Monday, Dec. 13, at 10 a.m., a virtual craft time will be available to watch on the Leach Library Facebook page, blog, or YouTube channel. Make a

winter mouse ornament with Mr. Taylor! Craft kits are available at the children's room desk while supplies last.

Story Time

On Monday, Dec. 27, at 10 a.m., join Miss Jennifer for "A Snowy Day" story time! The video will be available to watch on the Leach Library Facebook page for a limited time.

Blue Christmas Service

Hampstead Congregational Church, 61 Main St., Hampstead, will offer Blue Christmas: a Service of Remembrance, Comfort, and Hope, on Sunday, Dec. 12, at 3 p.m. For many, the holiday season with its emphasis on family, joy, giving, and "good cheer" can be a painful time. The loss of a loved one, the anguish of broken relationships, the insecurity of unemployment, the wear-

Continued on page 15

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Londonderry Police Log

Selections from the Londonderry Police Logs

Monday - Nov. 22

12:49 a.m. Report of a Prowler investigated on Winding Pond Road.

11:09 a.m. Services rendered for Larceny/Forgery/Fraud on Harriet Court.

11:24 a.m. Sudden Death investigated by five officers at the Sleep Inn on Perkins Road.

3:29 p.m. Assisted the Londonderry Fire Department with services on at The Grand Estate at Londonderry on

Golen Drive.

3:35 p.m. Warrant served and arrest made on Granite Street. John Earl Gullage, 36, of Londonderry charged with # 1: Aggravated Sexual Assault (Domestic Violence - No Consent).

5:03 p.m. Services rendered to Keep the Peace on Fieldstone Drive.

5:55 p.m. Services rendered to Keep the Peace on Constitution Drive.

6:14 p.m. Suspicious Activity reported on

Boyd Road.

8:42 p.m. Services rendered by six officers during an Assault on Atlas Place.

10:44 p.m. Five officers respond to a Disturbance at the Red Arrow Diner on Rockingham Road resulting in subject being taken to Family/Guardian.

Tuesday - Nov. 23

12:10 p.m. Larceny/Forgery/Fraud investigated at the Manchester Bos-

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Around Town

Continued from page 13

ness of ill health, the pain of continued isolation and pandemic stress; all these can make us feel very alone in the midst of the celebrating. You are invited into a space and time to acknowledge your sadness and concern. Please know that you are not alone. Join us for this quiet contemplative service of prayer, scripture and music. The service will be in person as well as live streamed and recorded. Please see hampsteaducc.org for more information.

Young Adult Craft

On Monday, Dec. 20, at 10 a.m., a virtual craft for teens will be available on the Leach Library Facebook page, blog, and

YouTube channel. Miss Megan will demonstrate how to make your own wooden nutcracker. Craft kits are available by the main desk while supplies last.

Voter Information

The Supervisors of the Voter Checklist will meet at the Town Clerk's Office to correct the checklist and register voters on: Tuesday, Jan. 18, from 6 - 7 p.m. To register to vote, one must provide: Proof of Londonderry residency; Proof of citizenship (passport, birth certificate, naturalization papers); Proof of age; Photo ID. Applicants for registration who possess proof of identity, age, citizenship, and domicile should bring that proof when they come to register. Qualified appli-

cants who do not possess proof or who do not bring proof with them may register if they sign an affidavit attesting to their qualifications for identity, age, domicile and citizenship. Any questions contact Kristin Grages Supervisors of the Checklist Town of Londonderry 603-432-1100, ext 198.

Swag Night

The Green Team is now accepting reservations for its next fundraiser, a "Swag Night" at the Londonderry Lions Hall. The event will take place on Sunday afternoon, Dec. 5 from 3:30 - 6 p.m. At the Swag Night event families are asked to donate \$20 per family and the team will supply all the cuttings and materials for holiday swags. They will

also provide instructions on how to make a swag for residents front door this holiday season if needed. The group will be there to help you put together arrangements with local cuttings.

St. Thomas Toy Sale

The St. Thomas Used Toy Sale held at St. Thomas Church in Derry has begun gathering gently used toy donations within the community. This year's sale will be Dec. 4 in the gym of the Aquinas Center behind St. Thomas Church on Crystal Avenue in Derry. There will be thousands of items to choose from. The doors open at 9 a.m., some parents line up to get great deals while others come simply to be able to provide gifts for their kids on a low income. The sale con-

cludes by noon with plenty of toys leftover. This year those left behind toys will be donated to the Manchester Housing Authority to be given to families in need. Incredibly, the benefits of the toy sale continue on. The money raised by the sale goes directly to two nonprofit charities: St. Thomas Church Outreach ministries, including the food pantry and St. Gianina's Place - a home for pregnant women in crisis. Toys can be donated through Dec. 3. Drop-off locations are St. Thomas Church, 27 Crystal Ave, Derry, St. Matthew Church Windham, St. Anne Church Hampstead, and 5 Isabella Drive in Londonderry. Toy sale is cash only.

Free Meals

Please join us for free,

family-friendly meals. Sonshine Soup Kitchen will be serving drive by to go meals on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 4:30 - 5 p.m.

Need a Tutor?

Work one-on-one with a volunteer tutor. Free Tutoring is offered for a variety of programs including Adult Basic Education, Adult High School, and English as a Second Language at Derry Center for Adult Studies. Cover a variety of content areas, Flexible days and hours, Sessions held via Zoom and/or in-person. If you are interested in receiving tutoring services, please email kcapistran@sau10.org for more information.

Police Log

Continued from page 14

ton Regional Airport.

12:55 p.m. Assault at the Manchester Boston Regional Airport leads to an arrest made on by two officers. Terry Rivera, 29, of Lowell, Mass. charged with Theft of Services (\$0-\$1,000); and two counts of Simple Assault; Physical Contact or Bodily Injury).

2:28 p.m. Services rendered for a Medical Emergency at the Manchester Boston Regional Airport.

6:44 p.m. Services rendered for a Medical Emergency at the Manchester Boston Regional Airport.

Wednesday - Nov. 24

11:32 a.m. Services rendered for Identity Theft on Jersey Street.

11:49 a.m. Suspicious Activity investigated by three officers at Auto Auction of New England, Inc. on Action Boulevard.

1:44 p.m. Assisted the Londonderry Fire Department with services on Mountain Home Road.

2:59 p.m. Four officers assisted the Londonderry Fire Department with transportation to a hospital from Royal Lane.

5:51 p.m. Assault investigated on Wyandot Circle.

7:27 p.m. Protective Custody arrest made at Manchester Boston Regional Airport.

7:53 p.m. Services Rendered by five officers for a Disturbance on Mammoth Road.

Thursday - Nov. 25

2:11 p.m. Suspicious Activity reported on High Range Road.

4:39 p.m. Disturbance investigated on Cross Road.

6:26 p.m. Motor Vehicle Accident leads to an arrest made by four officers on Kimball Road. Patrick Mitchell, 22, Londonderry, charged with Driving Under the Influence (Second - Impairment).

7:05 p.m. Medical Emergency transported to a Hospital from the Manchester Boston Regional Airport.

8:49 p.m. Weapons Offenses Investigated by four officers on Rockingham Road.

Friday - Nov. 26

4:58 a.m. Car Break-Ins investigated on Crabapple Lane.

7:08 a.m. Car Break-Ins

investigated on Coleman Place.

11:46 a.m. Sudden Death investigated by four officers at O'Halloran Group on Tokanel Drive.

2:06 p.m. Assisted the Londonderry Fire Department with services at Londonderry Flea Market on Avery Road.

4:41 p.m. Motor Vehicle Complaint leads to an arrest made at the 7-Eleven on Rockingham Road. Nicholas Delvalle,

40, of Manchester charged with Driving Under the Influence - Impairment.

7:21 p.m. Services rendered for a Disturbance at the Red Arrow Diner on Rockingham Road.

9:08 p.m. Domestic Disturbance investigated at the MacGregor Cut Apartments on Stonehenge Road.

Saturday - Nov. 27

9:02 a.m. Services rendered for Neighborhood Disputes at the MacGre-

gor Cut Apartments on Stonehenge Road.

9:15 a.m. Suspicious Activity reported on Otterson Road.

9:55 a.m. Three officers assist the Londonderry Fire Department with transportation to a hospital from Falcon Road.

11:21 a.m. Services rendered for Suspicious Activity on Nashua Road at the Rite-Aid.

Sunday - Nov. 28

5:13 a.m. Suspicious Activity Investigated at

the Sleep Inn on Perkins Road.

12:43 p.m. Three officers assisted the Londonderry Fire Department with transportation to a hospital from Devonshire Lane.

4:47 p.m. Homeland Security investigated at the Manchester Boston Regional Airport.

6:42 p.m. Four officers Investigate a disturbance at the MacGregor Cut Apartments on Stonehenge Road.

State Increase Benefits To Help Home Heating Costs

Recently Gov. Chris Sununu and NH Department of Energy announced an increase in benefit amounts for the NH Fuel Assistance Program due to highly inflated national energy costs. This year, the NH Department of Energy is increasing benefit amounts by 60% over last winter for most beneficiaries. Benefits will range from \$253 to \$2,520, up from \$158 to \$1,575 last winter.

"Ensuring Granite Staters can keep warm this winter is among the most pressing issues facing our state," said Gov. Sununu. "Due to a nation-

wide spike in energy prices, we are taking steps to help those in need. If you are struggling to pay for home heating costs or know someone who is, help is just a phone call away."

The Fuel Assistance Program provides qualifying NH households with grants to assist with home heating costs. The benefit amounts for qualifying households are determined based on a wide variety of factors including income, household size, housing type, and fuel type.

"Increased energy costs represent a heavy

burden for all Granite Staters, especially for low-income households," said Interim Energy Commissioner Jared Chicoine. "In light of the growing national inflation and dramatic projected increases in heating fuels, the NH Department of Energy is increasing the benefit ranges for the Fuel Assistance Program. This benefit increase will help make sure that low income Granite Staters can keep their homes warm this winter."

The Fuel Assistance Program is the NH arm of the federal Low In-

come Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) that is funded through the US Department of Health and Human Services. The Program serves households making up to 60% of the State Median Income figure.

If you or someone you know is having difficulty paying for home heating fuel or utilities, please call your local Community Action Agency. If you need help locating the agency in your area, click on CAPNH.org/cap-lookup or call 211 for additional information.



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