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Londonderry Times

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A FREE Weekly Publication



Blast Off

One of the events to kick off the annual Old Home Day last week was the Color Run through the Kent Allen Town Forest. Hundreds sprinted down the wooded trails near the Town Common being splashed with color benefiting a local scholarship. *Photo by Chris Paul*

60-Unit Project Plan at S&S Metals Draws Contamination Concerns

PAUL CONYERS
LONDONDERRY TIMES

The Conservation Commission met on August 12 to hear a presentation from George Chadwick of Bedford Design, who spoke on behalf of applicant Gino Bernard, seeking to

build a project called The Village at Londonderry. The project would be located at 196 and 198 Rockingham Road, currently the site of S&S Metals. "It's the old metal recycling facility right there on Rockingham Road," said Chad-

wick. "There are two parcels of land that will be consolidated together, and we do have a wetland on the left-hand side of the site. That wetland is not associated with Cohas Brook." Being further away from **continued on page 8**

Town Council Agrees With Findings on Ethics Complaints

PAUL CONYERS
LONDONDERRY TIMES

Town Councilor Deb Paul was formally cleared of all ethics complaints filed by former councilor John Farrell at the Monday, Aug. 18 meeting of the Town Council following a third-party investigation conducted by law firm Donahue Tucker & Ciandella (DTC).

"I selected a different law firm to conduct the investigation, so the town's legal counsel could advise the Council if such advice were needed," explained Town Manager Shaun Mulholland, outlining the decision to ask DTC for an

investigation. "In this case, we have a matter that involves a Town Councilor, an elected official. Those investigations don't occur in the dark."

Mulholland said that he had been made aware of allegations accusing him of releasing the report a week early to, "cast more dirt on the individual that filed the complaint." He responded to that by saying, "That is patently false and factually incorrect," adding that things will be done in the open moving forward. "Transparent government in the sunshine is how we operate here. Things

might have been done differently in the past, but they're not going to be done the same way in the future."

He also stated that elected officials did not "have a right to privacy when it comes to ethics violations," assuring residents that "there were no more appropriate leads to follow" on what he called a "thorough and complete" investigation.

Complaints against Councilor Paul were originally brought forward by Farrell, who accused her of "abhorrent and abusive behavior" and "bullying tac-

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Library Leaders Debate Staffing, Agree on Keeping Doors Open

PAUL CONYERS
LONDONDERRY TIMES

Discussions over staff policy dominated much of the first August meeting of the Leach Library Board of Trustees. One area of debate was staff policy and an update to the library bylaws.

"The Director shall schedule all shifts with sufficient staffing to ensure the library will remain open if someone is unable to work that day," said Board Chair Liz Thomas, reading a proposed addition to Section 8 of the Personnel Policy.

The obligation did

not resonate with Library Director Erin Matlin, who considered the wording "threatening."

"There will be times, based on what is in here now if it is approved, that I will not be able to keep the library open, because I will not have sufficient staff, and will not be able to earn admin time to do so," said Matlin. "I fear what would happen if I was unable to keep the library open based on staffing, or by an inability to stay."

The Director noted that other proposed changes could make it impossible for her to

work overtime if required to cover for an employee taking a sick day.

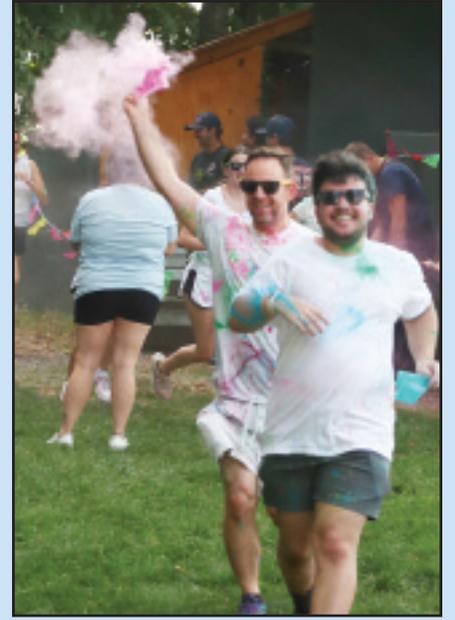
"I'm not allowed to go over my hours, according to the rest of the document," she noted. "With all due respect, when we do the schedule, we make sure that we have enough staff to stay open. The

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Annual Color Run Helps Benefit Cawthron Scholarship



The second annual Old Home Day Color Run was blessed with exceptional weather this year and participants ran through the Kent Allen Town Forest through stations of vibrant chalk powder being scattered at them through a number of stations. This year, 25 percent of the registration fee went toward the Lillianna Cawthron scholarship program. Cawthron, who would have been a 2025 graduate, was lost in an auto accident last summer.

Photos by Chris Paul



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Town, School Launch Effort to Bring District Office Back to Town Hall

ALEX MALM
LONDONDERRY TIMES

A new working group has been established between the Town and the School District to explore a potential project to build a new District Office within Town Hall.

“The School Board has asked that the Town consider the concept of constructing a School District administrative office building which would be attached to the Town Hall building,” Town Manager Shaun Mulholland wrote in a memo to the Town Council.

He noted that in the

past there “was an office building attached to Town Hall which housed the School District offices.”

“This structure was demolished several years ago due to its poor condition,” Mulholland said. “Presently, the School District rents office space at a location in town. This proposal would direct the Town Manager to create a working group in cooperation with the School District to develop the concept, determine feasibility, and present findings to the Town Council and the School Board. Additionally, if the project is

determined to be feasible, to propose actionable items to move the project forward for funding consideration.”

After receiving approval last week from the Town Council to establish the working group, the School Board was briefed on a proposal to use funds to begin looking at design plans.

In a memo to the School Board, Business Administrator Amity Small explained that the “School District and the Town have been collaborating on a plan to build a one-story addition to the Town Hall for

the purposes of housing the District Office and bringing it back to the center of Londonderry.”

“This option would allow the School District Office to end its current commercial lease at 6A Kitty Hawk Landing in the north part of town, saving the District the costs of both the rental of the property and the associated property taxes,” Small wrote. “A task force between the Town and schools is underway.”

Small explained that it “has become clear that, in order to proceed with a more accurate

number for taxpayers and to calculate a guaranteed maximum price for the project to use for budget season, we need to get architectural plans and consult with engineers as soon as possible.”

“We would like to use \$90,000 from Unassigned Fund Balance to cover the costs of developmental design plans completed by Marinace Architects, who has worked on similar District projects with us previously and done some basic preliminary drawings for this project,” Small wrote.

Small noted that they need to begin “this more detailed work as soon as possible, as we need to schedule the architects and engineers - who are scheduling several weeks out - in order to have the work completed in time for budget season.”

“The \$90,000 would come from Unassigned Fund Balance, which has about \$1,440,000 currently, after monies were approved from this fund in February 2025 for the district-wide phone transition,” Small said.

The School Board unanimously approved allocating the funds.

Council Sets Process for Appointing Alternate Library Trustees

ALEX MALM
LONDONDERRY TIMES

The Town Council approved the process for advertising and selecting alternate Library Trustees during its most recent meeting.

“At the July 21, 2025, Town Council meeting, the Councilors directed Town staff to manage the process of soliciting applications for up to three Leach Library Trustee alternate members, who will serve one-year terms in accordance with NH RSA 202-A:10,” Administrative Support Coordinator Kirsten Hildonen wrote in a memo to the Town Council. “This document outlines the process and includes a Talent Bank form customized to the

position in question.”

During the meeting, Hildonen explained that selecting alternates for the Library is much different from the usual process for appointing members to boards and committees, since the Library is a separate form of government. “It’s a very different situation than the normal board appointment process,” she said.

Hildonen stated that the first step was to revise the Talent Bank application form to make it specific to the library. “The standard Town of Londonderry Talent Bank application will be revised to reflect the specific role and responsibilities of the Leach Library Trustee – Alternate position,” she

said. “This includes updating the title, relevant duties, and any qualifications or interests specific to public library service.” She noted that the revised form would include four library-specific questions.

After the Town Council approved the process, Hildonen said the next step would be to post the vacancy. “The revised position will be publicly posted to solicit applications. The posting will be shared through the Town’s official communication channels, including the website, social media, and physical postings,” she wrote.

at the Sept. 8, 2025, Town Council meeting, the Council will decide on how many applicants to interview and will vote to determine which applicants will be invited for interviews at the Sept. 22, 2025, meeting,” Hildonen wrote. “The Council may also choose to hold interviews prior to the customary 7 p.m. meeting start time.”

Hildonen added that the Trustees will also provide input. “The Leach Library Board of Trustees will have until

Sept. 10, 2025, to provide individual written comments,” she said. “These comments will be included in the public meeting packet for the Sept. 22, 2025, Town Council meeting.”

At that meeting, Hildonen noted, “the Council will interview and may choose to appoint up to three Leach Library Trustee alternates for a term of one year in accordance with RSA 202-A:10.”

Member of the Council ultimately approved the process.

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Editorial

Making Public Business Public

What are “ethics”? The word may seem straightforward, but ask five people and you’ll likely get five different answers. In local government, ethics isn’t about abstract philosophy - it’s about trust, transparency, and accountability.

We reject the notion that “anything goes” when a potential conflict - or even the appearance of one - arises. Some officials dismiss such situations as “nobody’s business.” They are wrong. In a democracy, the public’s business is exactly that - the public’s.

Every board meeting, committee discussion, and public hearing belongs to the people. Our job, as a newspaper, is to report accurately on what happens in those rooms so residents know how their tax dollars are being spent. That responsibility doesn’t stop when topics get uncomfortable. That’s when it matters most.

The public should have every opportunity to question what is happening or has happened, and to receive answers openly. Letters to the editor remain one of the most effective tools for citizens to raise concerns. When officials refuse to respond to legitimate press inquiries, they send a troubling signal about their commitment to transparency - and they disrespect both the press and the public it serves.

We know that being related to

someone on an issue doesn’t automatically mean you share their opinions. People can and do think independently. But relationships - especially family ties - can raise legitimate questions. When a matter calls for recusal, the most honorable choice is to step aside and explain why. Far from being a weakness, such openness earns respect and strengthens public trust.

In communities with formal ethics policies or committees, the standard should be even higher. Appearances matter. A potential conflict should be acknowledged before it becomes a controversy.

It’s important to note: reporting that people involved in a decision are related is not “bad press.” It is simply providing the facts. Our role is not to protect reputations or to spin narratives - it is to inform. Residents can then make their own judgments.

A healthy democracy depends on a vigilant press. That means covering taxpayer-funded salaries, ordinances, contracts, policies, and procedures with equal diligence. Accountability is not hostility - it’s the foundation of good governance.

We will continue to shine light on the public’s business, because sunlight is still the best disinfectant. The work of boards, councils, and committees is not theirs alone. It belongs to the people. And the people have a right to see it clearly.

Letters

Concern and a Thank You

To the editor,

A few weeks ago on my road here in town a work crew came, walked the road, looked it up and down and when asked, what was going on? One of the workers said they’ll be paving our road and it’ll be down to dirt in no time.

This has been something most if not all of us have been asking for, since the Rte. 93 expansion and 4A exit have been ruining our dead end road with the constant flow of heavy trucks, traveling up and down on a road that wasn’t meant for heavy travel.

We have children who enjoy the safety of riding their bikes, skateboards, etc. up and down and the adults who walk the road on a regular basis.

Since Londonderry has let properties go to developers instead of at least purchasing one of them for the town for an actual park with a playground, ballfield etc. That has caused a LOSS of trust from the residents, when we see what you consider “progress”, but in reality is a loss of property, privacy and the quality of life that we moved here for.

Everyone on my side of our road lost property to the 93 expansion and two families lost their homes to 4A exit.

All the home and business owners in Londonderry are forced to pay for more services that we did not cause. The cause of more services is the rise in residences in the apartment developments. And other developments but those are single-family homes, which in their

defense are paying their part.

I wrote a letter to all of our town council, which got forwarded to our town manager Shaun Mulholland who forwarded it to John Trottier. Right after writing the TC only two of our councilors contacted me, Dan Bouchard and Deb Paul.

After speaking with a few of these individuals, they understood my concerns about where our town is going. We didn’t move to a city but at this rate we will become a city.

Along with the overbuilding deer, fox and moose have not returned.

There has been an imbalance caused in Londonderry due to individual greed and disregard to the residents. Londonderry has lost its way.

And I’ll add, since us homeowners are forced to pay for the increase in services for these developments that we didn’t want.

Do Londonderry residents get to use the pool(s) at the apartment complexes? Or will the owners be cutting profit sharing checks to all the Londonderry home/business owners? After all, we’re paying for the increased town services, which you caused.

There needs to be a change in how apartment complexes are taxed. The amount of occupancy outweighs the tax burden, when you see others having to cover costs they didn’t cause.

But let me end this with a Thank You to Dan, Deb, Shaun and John for addressing my concerns.

Alan Roy
Londonderry

Town Treasurer

To the editor,

Dear Neighbors, it does appear that we have elected the wrong person to be our town treasure (are those that run in Londonderry, wolves in sheep’s clothing?) Treasurer Tom Dolan has exercised his authority to appoint John Farrell as Deputy Town Treasurer; despite the fact that Farrell cost the town around \$15,000 in a frivolous “sexual harassment” lawsuit against Deb Paul and now with his unfounded complaints against Ms. Paul has once again caused the town to suffer the cost. These are just the issue we know, who knows how many other financial follies he has caused this town over his 15 years on the council.

Why would Tom Dolan think this is a good idea? How well is this going to ensure fairness, peace and financial integrity amongst our town elected officials?

Jane Cooper
Londonderry

Hopeful

To the editor,

After working in the Londonderry Schools for 30 years, I would like to thank my fellow staff members in the district for their love and support in helping me love my job. I have worked in three schools during my tenure. When you work that long in one place you experience changes both good and bad. Below are examples of things I learned.

1. Always treat people the way you want to be treated.

2. Put Children first,
continued on page 5

Londonderry Times

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Complaints

Continued from page 1
 tics” toward town employees. Paul and her lawyer repeatedly called the allegations “spurious.” He also accused Paul of asserting improper influence through her newspaper, worrying that it created a conflict of interest for locally elected officials.

In a detailed report, DTC lawyer Eric Maher conducted several interviews during the investigation, eventually finding that Paul’s conduct did not “rise to the level of being ‘abhorrent’ or ‘abusive’ as described in Farrell’s complaint,” adding that remarks to town employees were “only somewhat objectionable.” Maher conceded that Paul’s tone was “argumentative at times,” but was not “shocking or unusual in

the context of municipal governance.”

“There is no provision in New Hampshire law that disqualifies a member of the press or the owner of a newspaper from public office,” wrote Maher, referring to the conflict-of-interest allegation. “While care should be taken in not allowing those two roles to become blended, I did not receive any clear evidence reflecting that was the case.”

The Town Council generally agreed with the report, stating they were “comfortable” with the investigation, before unanimously voting to accept the report and finding the ethical complaints unfounded. Councilor Paul recused herself from the vote and discussion.

The complete DTC report was made available to the public on

August 11 and can be found on the town website.

A separate investigation was conducted by the Rockingham County Sheriff’s Department regarding possible perjury related to uncertainty over who signed official paperwork related to a Superior Court case in April 2024, involving Councilor Paul and Trustee Jonathan Esposito.

“This matter saw Chief Kim Bernard, who was acting as Town Manager at the time, had an allegation which involved potential criminal activity,” said Mulholland. “That matter was placed before the Rockingham County Sheriff’s Department, who investigated it appropriately so.”

According to the report, the Rockingham County Sheriff’s Depart-

ment failed to find evidence of perjury. Without much debate, the Town Council voted to accept the findings of the criminal investigation, closing the matter.

There was some concern over the cost of investigating the complaints.

“I’m sorry we all had to go through that,” said resident Martha Smith. “I want to congratulate all of you on making, on, I believe, making the right decision tonight.”

Farrell insisted that his complaints were justified.

“Everything I reported happened. Regardless of what the report says, nothing in there is untrue,” said Farrell. “I’m glad it’s over, and I’m happy to see everybody move forward, but I’d like to see them move forward in a civil tone.”

OBITUARY

Trimmer Shane Newman



Trimmer Shane Newman, 54, of Londonderry, passed away Thursday, Aug. 14, 2025, in Parkland Medical Center, Derry, NH with his loving family members by his side. He was born on Sept. 29, 1970 in Pittsburg, CA, a son of Mark Newman and Sharon (Eason) Turrissi.

In addition to his mother, he is survived by his son, Tyler Shane Newman of Manchester, NH; two daughters, Natasha Marie Turrissi of Londonderry, NH and Dayna Marie Louetta Mendez of Manchester, NH; three grandchildren; two brothers, Rodney J. Di Mercurio of Bailey, CO, and Frank D. Turrissi Jr. of Jacksonville, FL; sister, Elizabeth K. Turrissi-Hawkins of Earlysville, VA, as well as his California family, and many extended local family members and dear friends. Trimmer loved his family, music, and sitting around a campfire with family and close friends.

Following cremation, there are no services at this time.

Letters

Continued from page 4
 followed by Parents, Administrators, and your fellow Staff.

3. Take accountability and do what is right.

4. Do not kick the can down the road, think of the person coming behind you.

5. When you are in a position of authority, be Authentic and Kind.

6. Treat all staff with respect from Custodial, SPED Assistant/Assis-

tants to Teachers.

7. Lend a helping hand and make sure you smile.

8. When asking for people to sub for the schools value them with a decent hourly rate.

We are a smart community here in Londonderry, and we all need to vote and make sure that you keep people honest. I have seen things on Facebook and other sites; this only adds to the guessing game. Yes, there are personnel

changes that need to happen and those in control know what they should do. This can only happen if those in charge stand up without fear of political and employment retribution. In my one and only letter to the editor, full-day K should happen for our youngest learners and that should happen at Moose Hill once voted on by the community. The reason I am choosing to speak out is I want to be able to say that the schools are a

wonderful place to work once again! The decline started when they took Teacher Assistants out of the classroom.

Parents get into the schools and see the difference you can make on a child’s day and support your classroom teachers. May the years ahead bring success to both the schools and the town.

Carol Granara
 Former: LMS Food Service/MT Office Assistant/MH Administrative Assistant, Londonderry

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Council Votes to Move Demolition Review Process to Heritage Commission

ALEX MALM
LONDONDERRY TIMES

The Londonderry Town Council held a public hearing during its most recent meeting regarding a proposal to move the Demolition Review Committee from a stand-alone committee in town to being part of the Heritage Commission instead.

"The Londonderry Zoning Ordinance Section 9.3 outlines a process for demolition review of buildings with potential historical significance to the Town of Londonderry," Administrative Support Coordinator Kirsten Hildonen wrote in a memo.

She explained that

currently, the review is administered by a free-standing Demolition Review Committee comprised of two Heritage Commission members and one member-at-large, with up to two alternates.

She noted that the committee has struggled with keeping members engaged, since they meet only sporadically.

For example, Hildonen pointed out that they had one review in 2014, one review in 2019, and three reviews in 2024.

"It is very infrequent," Hildonen said, explaining that it is difficult to keep people engaged.

Hildonen also said it has been challenging to find members for the committee and to schedule meetings.

"In the past year, it has proved challenging to a) fill the positions on the Committee and 2) convene a quorum of the Committee within the time frame prescribed by Section 9.3. Therefore, to improve efficiency, the staff is proposing amending Section 9.3 to reassign demolition review to the Heritage Commission. NH RSA 674:44-b I(d) invests the Heritage Commission with the power to 'Advise, upon request, local agencies and other local boards

in their review of requests on matters affecting or potentially affecting cultural and historic resources,'" Hildonen wrote in a memo to the Town Council.

She explained that the proposal is modeled after the City of Laconia's process.

"Staff believes this will result in a clearer and more consistent experience for board members, staff, and those seeking to demolish buildings with potential significance," Hildonen wrote. "The amended Section 9.3 is modeled on that of the City of Laconia, which vests power for demolition review in its Heritage

Commission."

Assistant Town Manager Kellie Caron explained that from a planning department standpoint, she believes it makes sense for the demolition review process to be under the Heritage Commission.

Hildonen also noted that the process does not have the ability to permanently stop demolition and instead only allows for a delay.

During the public hearing, David Ellis, a historian in town, said he didn't agree with eliminating a stand-alone committee.

"I don't support the abolition of the Demolition Review Committee,"

he said.

He also suggested that it would make sense for committee members to have five days to review materials before a demolition review is conducted.

Tony DeFrancesco said he was in favor of moving the process to the Heritage Commission, noting that he thinks it is a good match for the commission's work.

"I think this is perfect for the people on the Heritage Commission," he said.

Members approved the zoning ordinance amendment to move the demolition review process to the Heritage Commission.

School Board Considers 'Feed It Forward' Program to Reduce Meal Debt

ALEX MALM
LONDONDERRY TIMES

The Londonderry School Board was briefed on a proposal during its most recent meeting for a system that would allow families to provide donations to help pay off the student meal lunch debt.

"This memo notifies the School Board of the intent to enable the 'Feed it Forward' option

in our LINQ software," Director of Dining Services Krystle Connell wrote in a memo.

She explained that they have made strides to reduce the number of students who owe money for meals and the total amount.

However, at the time of the meeting, they still had over \$54,000 worth of negative meal balances across the district.

"We are still actively working to collect the debt," Connell said.

She explained some of the things they do, including sending messages, letters, emails, monthly phone calls, along with working out payment plans for families.

Connell stated that they had some families who wanted to use their extra funds for graduating seniors to go towards paying off meal debts, so she reached out to their software company, who suggested the Feed It Forward program.

"This flexible option, which is free to the District and families, allows families to donate funds through their LINQ app OR enables the District Office to move funds from student accounts (with parent approval) to the Feed It Forward account attached to each location, adapting to the needs of our community," Connell wrote in a memo.

It was explained by Connell that if they have the program in place, it would be optional for families to use.

"Enabling this func-

tion will allow families to donate funds to help with student debt if they choose," she explained. "It will also allow the District to utilize funds from graduated seniors who have not requested a refund of remaining lunch funds."

Connell explained during the meeting that the funds that come from the Feed It Forward program would not be able to be used to pay individual accounts.

"These funds will be used to help pay back negative lunch debt," she wrote in a memo. "All usage plans will be shared with the School Board for approval to ensure fairness concerning the use of funds."

It was also noted by Connell during the meeting that currently, if someone has extra funds in their account upon graduating, they have to request the funds; otherwise, the funds just stay in an account and can't be used for anything.

The idea is that it would also allow those families to donate the extra funds instead.

"Our goal is to provide a means for families to donate to their individual school's meal debt should they choose, while also providing the District Office another avenue to help combat school meal debt," Connell wrote.

The School Board gave its OK to move forward with the program.

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Annual Baby Contest Crowns Little Miss & Master



The winners of this year's Old Home Day Baby Contest were: Sophia Salk, 10 mos. and five-month old Brooks Schartner. There were 20 local newcomers entering the contest this year with Sophia winning the Little Miss Londonderry Crown and Brooks taking the Little Master sash. Judges this year were: Miss N.H. Teen Megan Plaza; Miss Londonderry Sara Catizone; Miss Londonderry Teen Avery Chick; and John Antonellis. Proud dads were: Drew Salk and Robert Schartner.

Photos by Chris Paul

VINTAGE *Wheels*



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Contamination

continued from page 1

Cohas Brook allowed the applicant to avoid a larger buffer associated with named streams, although it could not avoid impacting the smaller wetland buffer. "It's a 60-unit residential project," said Chadwick. "There are a total of 597-square-feet of new buffer impact." As the project would be located at the old S&S Metals facility and would impact the wetland buffer zone, several significant environmental concerns were raised by the Conservation Commission.

"Have you conducted a Phase One environmental investigation of the property?" asked Alternate Commissioner Mike Spletz. "Where does that stand?"

Chadwick stated that ongoing Phase One and Phase Two studies have been conducted for the

past five to seven years. "The elements that were found had to do with MTBEs," he said, referring to Methyl Tertiary Butyl Ether, a former gasoline additive and drinking water contaminant. "Those are slowly decreasing over time. It's expected that within the next year or so, that will totally dissipate to acceptable state levels. I think there's only one nearby well that has traces above the limit." Spletz noted that the construction and landscaping plan would inevitably disturb a large volume of soil. "How do we assure ourselves that soil disturbance doesn't result in releasing aerosols or something?" he asked. "There's going to be a lot of dirt moving around." Chadwick did not see himself as qualified enough to give an answer but added that they were working with the NH Department of

Environmental Services (DES) and a contractor called the Turner Group to monitor the situation.

Commissioner Deb Lievens noticed that the application included a "complex" landscaping plan, which seemed to involve vegetating much of the preexisting gravel on the property. "Outside of the edge of pavement, we'll remove whatever gravel is there and add loam," said Chadwick, who added that the plan would allow previously disturbed areas in the buffer to naturalize. "We'll loam it and plant vegetation." The applicant had been in contact with the Planning Board, who were reportedly "excited" to see the old S&S facility replaced.

There was also concern from at least one member of the public. "Personally, I would have a lot of concerns," said resident Ray Bres-

lin, reflecting on the possible environmental impact of the project. "All of the things we are dealing with in this town, like

the impact from contamination, from growth, from traffic, all of this is difficult." In the end, the Commission agreed to

recommend approval of a conditional use permit for the plan, thanks in part to the oversight from the DES.

Library

continued from page 1

minimum is three to stay open for safety purposes, but the majority of the time we will have four, if not more."

There was at least one case where Leach Library opened later than scheduled due to missing employees. Matlin also listed several other cases where she had to cancel library programs to keep desks manned during regular hours.

"When I once spoke to Erin about closing the library earlier, I said to her, one of the most important things about your job is keeping the library open, she said it was not the most important thing," said Thomas, explaining her reasoning

for the addition to Section 8. "My position is that you're open eight hours, nine hours, ten hours, depending on what day, you need to have sufficient staff in the front end and the back end with one extra person to meet the needs of this community."

Matlin denied ever saying keeping the library open was not her top priority, saying it had "always been" her main priority.

"I work hard to keep this building open when we are really stretched for staff. I have stayed late a number of days, and I have come in early a number of days to make sure people are here," she said. "I try to keep this library open and I try to keep it func-

tioning to the best of my ability and with the resources I have."

Trustee Nancy Hendricks agreed that there had been recent staffing issues.

"If we had a full staff, that wouldn't be a problem," said Hendricks, who questioned the Chair's assertions.

Thomas reiterated her desire to keep the library open and eventually offered to remove the controversial clause.

"This library is so vibrant, and everyone loves it," said Thomas, who was happy to hear Matlin's commitment to keeping the library. "Whenever you need to close early or open later, just send a notice after it happened."

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Police Remain Champs in Annual Softball Competition



CHRIS PAUL
LONDONDERRY TIMES

The Old Home Day Softball game changed slightly this year, but the result

remained the same, with the Londonderry Police Department claiming the bragging rights again.

This year's competition consisted of three

games involving the Fire Department, School District, Town staff and the Police.

In game one, taking place behind Matthew

Thornton on Friday afternoon, Town Hall staff shocked the Fire Department with a 12-6 victory in five innings.

In game two, bet-

ween the School District and the Police, LPD opened up with a big eight-run inning and never looked back. They finished with 15-3 win

over the School.

The third and deciding game between the Town and the Police finished with a 15-5 win for the cops.

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Blues Festival in 11th Year of Veteran Support

Feel the Rhythm at the 11th Annual Londonderry Blues Festival – Benefiting Local Veterans.

Get ready to groove as the 11th Annual Londonderry Blues Festival returns to the Londonderry Town Common on Saturday, August 23, from 12 to 4 p.m.

This event promises an unforgettable afternoon of live music, great food, and local flavor — all in support of a worthy cause.

This year’s headliner is the renowned Dr. Harp’s Blues Review Band, bringing high-energy blues to the main stage from 2:30 to 4 p.m. The event also features performances by:

- X Band starting at noon to 12:45 p.m.
- Lee and Dr. G Band from 1:15 to 2 p.m.

Attendees can enjoy food from Smokin’ Spank’s BBQ food truck, sweet treats from ice cream and novelties vendor, Scoop’s Out, and explore local artisan booths and vendors throughout the event.

Best of all, 100 percent of proceeds from the festival will be donated to the Combat Veterans Motorcycle Association NH5-1, supporting local veterans and their families.

“This festival is about great music, community, and giving back,” said Londonderry resident and Coast Guard veteran, Dennis Martin, aka. “Dr. Harp,” the event’s organizer. “We’re proud to support the CVMA NH5-1 and invite everyone to come enjoy the day with us.”

Admission is free,



Dennis “Dr. Harp” Martin

and all ages are welcome. Bring a blanket or lawn chair and join the community in celebrating music, service, and summer in Londonderry.

For more information on how to get involved next year, contact Dennis Martin, drharp83@hotmail.com



Karate Kid Londonderry’s “Karate Kid” recently brought home medals from the AAU Junior Olympics. Andrew Emery, an upcoming Londonderry freshman competed in the 2025 AAU Karate Jr. Olympics held in Houston, TX. This elite competition featured athletes who had qualified at both district and regional levels where Emery earned three medals: Gold in Long Weapons, and Bronze medals in both Open Style Kata and Style Specific Kata divisions.

Andrew trains exclusively at the House of the Samurai and wishes to extend his deepest gratitude to the Dimicali Family. Over the past decade, their guidance and support have provided him with life-changing opportunities. In 2024 and 2025, he traveled to Malta with the Dimacalis as part of Team USA, achieving remarkable success against the world’s best athletes. Andrew aims to return to Malta in 2026 to defend his championships. *Courtesy photo*

Leadership Londonderry Seeking Applicants

The Town of Londonderry announced the return of Leadership Londonderry, a civic engagement program launching again this fall.

Beginning Sept. 11, this initiative offers residents an in-depth opportunity to explore the inner workings of local government to help folks become more actively

involved in shaping the town’s future.

Leadership Londonderry will have ten sessions, every other Thursday evening from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Through tours, presentations, and discussions with Town leaders and department heads, participants will gain firsthand insight into municipal opera-

tions and services that impact daily life.

Londonderry resident aged 18 or older who cares about the community and want to make a difference are encouraged to apply.

Enrollment is limited to 20 participants, selected on a first-come, first-served basis. Participation is free, but

space fills quickly.

Applications will be accepted until August 31, 2025, or when the class is filled. Early registration is strongly encouraged.

Applications are available online at londonderry.nh.gov/leadership or in the Town Manager’s office.

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Historical Society Helps Bring History to Life on Old Home Day



The grounds of the Londonderry Historical Society had lots of visitors on Old Home Day, Revolutionary War era reenactors also filled the grounds with a number of areas set up to explain life during the Colonial America time period. *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.

Ice Cream Open House

Etz Hayim Synagogue will hold an Ice Cream Social Open House on Tuesday, Aug. 26 at 6 p.m., so students and parents can meet the teachers and review the curriculum of the school. Etz Hayim's has religious education programs for children ages 4 to 18. Etz Hayim is located at 1-1/2 Hood Rd., Derry, NH. To learn more, visit us at www.etzhayim.org/learn, or email Irina at hsadmin@etzhayim.org.

Costume Closet on Saturday

The Friends of the Leach Library will be hosting a Costume Closet on Saturday, Sept. 27, from 9:30 a.m. - 4 p.m., in the downstairs meeting room

at the Leach Library. Members of the community are invited to come select a costume from a selection of gently used costumes. If you would like to donate costumes or accessories to this event, please drop them off at the front desk of the library before Sept. 26. If you have any questions, please email friendsofleachlibrary@gmail.com

Blues Festival

Get ready to groove as the 11th Annual Londonderry Blues Festival returns to the Londonderry Town Common on Saturday, Aug. 23, from noon - 4 p.m. This beloved community event promises an unforgettable afternoon of live music, great food, and local flavor - all in support of a worthy cause. This

year's headliner is the renowned Dr. Harp's Blues Review Band, bringing high-energy blues to the main stage from 2:30 - 4 p.m. The event also features performances by: X Band and Lee & Dr G Band. Food will be available for purchase as well as many local artisan booths and vendors throughout the event. 100% of proceeds from the festival will be donated to the Combat Veterans Motorcycle Association NH5-1, supporting local veterans and their families. Admission is free, and all ages are welcome. Bring a blanket or lawn chair and join the community in celebrating music, service, and summer in Londonderry. For more information or to become a vendor, contact Dennis Martin, drharp83@hotmail.com

mail.com

Democrats Meeting

The next meeting of the Londonderry Democrats is scheduled for Tuesday, Aug. 26 at 6:15 p.m., in the Leach Library downstairs meeting room. Local Democrats and Democratic-leaning Independents and UnDeclareds are urged and welcome to attend. Please reach out to LondonderryNH Democrats via Facebook or email pskud@gmail.com for more details. The group will also have a booth at Old Home Days on Saturday, Aug 16 feel free to stop by.

Sneaker Donation

Support Londonderry Girls Volleyball by donating your gently used athletic sneakers! Every pair donated helps to raise money for the volleyball program! Adult and child athletic sneakers accepted. Collection Sites are at Londonderry Planet Fitness and Londonderry Town Hall Lobby and will be open for collection until Sept. 30. Want to become a collection site or have questions? Email londonderryvolleyball@gmail.com.

GMLCS Library Hop

The GMLCS Library Hop is back and includes the Leach Library for the first time! From June 1 - Aug. 31, visit each participating library in the GMLCS Consortium, complete a unique challenge at each library, and earn prizes along the way. To get started, stop by your home library to pick up a game board. On your game board, you'll find each library's information and challenges. After you complete a challenge, show it to a library staff member to receive a stamp or sticker on your game board and earn a prize. Once you have completed all of the challenges, present your completed game board to your home library to be entered into a raffle for a \$100 gift card to The Bookery in Manchester, NH. The grand prize will be drawn at the end of the Library Hop, and the winner will be notified by their home library.

Voter Information

The Supervisors of the Voter Checklist will meet to correct the checklist and register voters at the Town Clerk's Office on

Nov. 5, 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 must bring that proof when they come to register. Qualified applicants who do not possess or cannot produce proof of domicile may register if they sign an affidavit attesting to their qualifications.

Summer Reading

Leach Library Summer Reading Program sign-ups for children, young adults, and adults begin on Monday, June 2. This year's theme is Level Up at Your Library, and the program will include story times, craft workshops, special presenters and performers, collaborative off-site events, reading incentive prizes, and more. Visit the library to register and pick up program details from June 2 through Aug. 31. For more information, call the library at (603) 432-1132.

Continued on page 15

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Londonderry Police Log

Selections taken from the daily Londonderry Police Logs

Monday - Aug. 11

4:42 p.m. Four officers investigate a Sudden Death on Olde Country Village Road.

8:19 a.m. Officers assist the Londonderry Fire Department with transportation to a hospital from Premier Drive.

9:43 a.m. Services rendered for Larceny/Forgery/Fraud reported at DS&S Sunoco on Nashua Road.

4:15 p.m. Six officers serve warrant and make an arrest on Beacon Street. Kevin Derepenigny, 42, of Derry, charge with Willful Concealment - Theft.

4:48 p.m. Services rendered on Kitt Lane for Neighborhood Disputes.

8:15 p.m. Six officers investigate a Disturbance on Timber Street.

9:15 p.m. Four officers investigate Suspicious Activity on Beacon Street.

10:56 p.m. Services rendered to Keep the Peace on Timber Street.

Tuesday - Aug. 12

9:06 a.m. Criminal Threatening investigated at Garner Hotel on Perkins

Road.

10:49 a.m. Welfare Check conducted on Olde Country Village Road.

12:10 p.m. Services rendered for a Disturbance on Scots Place.

12:29 p.m. Three officers investigate report of Drug Offenses on Page Road near Rockingham Road.

12:55 p.m. Criminal Threatening investigated on Hall Road.

3:30 p.m. Three officers render services for a disturbance on Larch Lane.

5:49 p.m. Services rendered during Neighborhood Disputes on Scots Place.

8:32 p.m. Arrest made by four officers during a Domestic Disturbance on Brookview Drive. William Travis, 51, of Londonderry, charged with Criminal Mischief.

Wednesday - Aug. 13

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

12:22 p.m. Warrant served and arrest made on Calef Road. Anthawn Axell Castro, 22, of Manchester, Charged with: Criminal Mischief; Disor-

derly Conduct; and Simple Assault (Physical Contact or Bodily Injury).

3:06 p.m. Welfare Check conducted on Pinto Lane.

3:16 p.m. Three officers conduct a Welfare Check on Pleasant Drive.

Thursday - Aug. 14

12:11 a.m. Motor vehicle stop on Nashua Road leads to an arrest. Melphe Mukaji Kanyinda, 21, of Manchester, charged with: Driving After Revoke/Suspension; and Suspension of Vehicle Registration.

6:30 a.m. Auto Theft investigated by three officers on Judy Drive.

10:45 a.m. Services rendered to Keep the Peace on Brookview Drive.

3:14 p.m. Larceny/Forgery/Fraud investigated at Workout Club & Wellness Center on Orchard View Drive.

3:38 p.m. Disturbance investigated on Timber Street.

6:19 p.m. Unlawful Activities investigated on St. Charles Street.

6:54 p.m. Welfare Check investigated at Kendall

Pond Conservation Area on South Road.

7:31 p.m. Disturbance investigated by three officers at the Macgregor Cut Apartments on Stonehenge Road.

8:30 p.m. Juvenile Offenses investigated by three officers on Windsor Boulevard.

10:21 p.m. Follow-up at the Salem Police Department leads to an arrest. Makaila Cruz, 20, of Tewksbury, MA, charged with: Domestic Violence (Simple Assault - Bodily Injury or Physical Contact); and Criminal Trespass.

10:25 p.m. Welfare Check investigated by three officers on Trail Haven Drive.

Friday - Aug. 15

7:57 p.m. Criminal Mischief investigated at Alcumet, Inc. on Planeview Drive.

9:19 a.m. Criminal Mischief investigated at Flying Tigers on Coteville Road.

11:30 a.m. Four officers assist another police department with arrest(s) at the Garner Hotel on Perkins Road.

1:44 p.m. Services rendered for Neighborhood Disputes on Mercury Drive.

4:26 p.m. Overdose on

Lawson Farm Road transported to a hospital.

4:54 p.m. Assault investigated on Longwood Avenue.

7:59 p.m. Medical Emergency, at Londonderry High School, transported to a hospital.

8:41 p.m. Four officers investigate a Domestic Disturbance on Sheffield Way.

9:01 p.m. Services rendered for Juvenile Offenses at Londonderry High School.

10:50 p.m. Peace restored during Neighborhood Disputes on Mercury Drive.

Saturday - Aug. 16

2:35 a.m. Welfare Check investigated by three officers at the Shell Food Mart on Nashua Road.

12:19 p.m. Criminal Threatening investigated at Dunkin Donuts on Rockingham Road.

12:51 p.m. Welfare Check investigated at Manchester Boston Regional Airport.

2:48 p.m. Services rendered for Neighborhood Disputes on Ashley Drive.

6:53 p.m. Neighborhood Disputes investigated on Alexander Road.

10:09 p.m. Four officers make arrest(s) during a

Domestic Disturbance on Rolling Ridge Road.

Sunday - Aug. 17

1 a.m. Peace restored after a disturbance on Main Street, Woodmont.

1:08 a.m. Arrest made after a motor vehicle accident on Nashua Road. Jeffery Grablewski, 55, of Barnstead, charged with Operating a Vehicle after being Certified as a Habitual Offender.

10:34 a.m. Assisted the Londonderry Fire Department with unpermitted fire on Wedgewood Drive.

11:52 a.m. Assisted the Londonderry Fire Department with unpermitted fire on Wedgewood Drive.

1:35 p.m. Welfare Check conducted on Mammoth Road.

2:18 p.m. Welfare Check conducted on Mammoth Road.

3:25 p.m. Juvenile Offenses investigated on Grove Street at Timber Street.

6:25 p.m. An assault at Shaw's Supermarket, Orchard View Drive, leads to arrest(s) made by five officers.

7:23 p.m. Three officers restore peace after a Domestic Disturbance on Pillsbury Road.

Around Town

Continued from page 13

Drop-In Tech Help

Curious about reserving library materials online from home? Want to learn how to access library databases and digital collections? Looking to get started with Libby and Hoopla? Need help navigating a new device? The Leach Library provides one-on-one assistance tailored to technology-related needs. No appointment is necessary. Stop in any Thursday between 10 a.m. - noon.

Library Summer Hours

Leach Library summer hours will take effect from Monday, June 23 through Saturday, Sept. 6. During this timeframe, the library will be open Monday

through Wednesday 9 a.m. - 8 p.m., Thursday and Friday 9 a.m. - 5 p.m., and Saturday 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. Please note the library will be closed to observe Juneteenth on Thursday, June 19 and Independence Day on Friday, July 4 as well as to celebrate Old Home Days on Saturday, Aug. 16

Clean Water Survey

Clean water is more than a resource; it's the lifeline of our community. Your voice holds the power to shape a healthier water future for you and for generations to come. Survey at www.surveymonkey.com/r/VOWNOV2024. As an added bonus, when you complete the survey, you'll have the chance to enter to win one of 25 fixed-mount or handheld water-saving shower-

heads, making your contribution to clean water even more rewarding.

Overeaters Anonymous

Is food a problem for you? Do you eat when you

are not hungry? Is your weight affecting the way you live your life? Overeaters Anonymous, no dues, no fees, no weigh-ins no diets. Meetings are on Tuesday's from 9 - 10

a.m., at St. Elizabeth Seton Church 190 Meetinghouse Rd., Bedford, use the rear doors for access to the meeting room in the church basement. Contact

Pat At 603-289-8476 Or Jane At 603-674-6540 With Any Questions (Not Affiliated With Any Private Or Public Organization)



LONDONDERRY SCHOOL DISTRICT LEGAL NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING SEPTEMBER 2, 2025

The Londonderry School Board will conduct a public hearing on September 2, 2025 to consider accepting an \$85,000 donation from the North School PTA and a \$41,325 donation from the Matthew Thornton PTA to fund the replacement of playground equipment. Such funds shall be received under RSA198:20-b, Appropriation for Unanticipated Funds.

The hearing will take place at Londonderry High School, 295 Mammoth Road, Londonderry, New Hampshire in the library on Tuesday, September 2, 2025 at 7 p.m.



TOWN OF LONDONDERRY LEGAL NOTICE PLANNING BOARD

The Londonderry Planning Board will hold a public meeting on Wednesday, September 3, 2025, at 7 P.M. in Moose Hill Council Chambers to consider the following:

Public hearing on a request for waivers from the Londonderry Site Plan Regulations: LSPR 3.07.c.1 to allow more than full pipe flow between structures; and Town of Londonderry Typical Details for Site and Roadway Infrastructure Exhibit D108. 4 Nashua and 6 Londonderry Road, Map 10 Lots 118 and 121 zoned Commercial-2 (C-II), and Town of Derry, NH Tax Map 26 Lot 53 Windham Realty Limited Company & Windham Realty, LLC. (owner & applicant).

Public hearing on an application for a lot line adjustment to adjust the lot line between two parcels. 31 Litchfield Road and 39 Litchfield Road, Map 12 Lots 11-5 and 16, Zoned AR-1. Vicky M. Eaton Rev. Trust and Gail Seekins (owners/applicants).



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"Every once in a while you come across a locally-owned business with a family spirit and a commitment to quality, honesty and customer service that sort of restores your faith in humanity. Gibraltar Pools is one of those rare operations. The owner came out personally to measure the property and give us a quote. There was no hard sell. The pool was delivered and installed two weeks before it was promised. The installation was flawless. The crew was attentive, caring, and detail-oriented. They really cared about how the finished product was going to look on our property. They went the extra mile and added some labor that they didn't even charge us for. We also have Gibraltar winterize the pool and get it ready for the summer every year."

- DAN P., TOPSFIELD

"We love [our Gibraltar Pool] because it adds so much to our back yard and our summers. We are retired and enjoy swimming laps. But more importantly, is the fun we have with our grandchildren. Our two 11 year olds when they visit are in the pool all day. And our 15 month granddaughter loves being in the pool."

- MARY B., OXFORD

