# Londonder

**August 22, 2024 ◆ Volume 26 – Issue 34** 

A FREE Weekly Publication

#### **Town Councilor Calls To Adjust Local Regulations** ALEX MALM lot of information," Far- it's been about 15 years LONDONDERRY TIMES rell said, noting that the since they have updated t the Aug. 12 Lon- town is currently work-

donderry Town Council meeting, Town Councilor, John Farrell, announced that he was nominated by the governor as the Chair of the NH State Water Council, saying he was recently confirmed to the position, and the Department of Environmental Service moving forward.

research.

"With that. I did a lot research around where we're going and started coming across a

ing on updating its master plan.

He said ultimately he wants to find out why they decided to go the route of updating the master plan instead of options.

would be working with I would like to see if we can get a briefing from the planning department the open space that and the planning board He said he will be about why we chose to the development rights learning more about it, go down the path of the that we've gained conand has been doing master plan which is trol over as a town had going to take about 12 to 18 months to do that this our build out would versus updating all our regulations," he said.

Farrell explained that

and refreshed their regulations, including site plan regulations, ordinances, and "various other pieces."

He also made note to coming across a plaque in his office from when looking at different he was on the Open Space Task Force in "My end game is that 2002, which was critical for limiting growth.

"Right now with all we've purchased and all we'd not done any of have been 45,000 people," Farrell said, noting

continued on page 3



HISTORY Made The 125th celebration of Old Home Day took place on Saturday, Aug. 17, with lots of family-friendly activities to take part in. At the Morrison House Museum attendees could witness and learn about what life was like during the Revolutionary War era. Pictured children learned how to spin wool. Photo by Chris Paul

## **Steering Committee Emphasizes Importance of Master Plan Update**

PAUL CONYERS LONDONDERRY TIMES

Steering Committee met on Aug. 15 to reiterate the importance of updating the Master Plan, something Chair, Jeff Penta, wanted to address a week's worth of feedback from Londonderry residents.

essential for addressing The Master Plan the significant changes our community has experienced between both 2012 and 2024, but it's also crucial for ensuring compliance and statutory requirements in adopting new regulations," he explained, noting that a shift in population has "Updating our Mas- contributed to the issue

ter Plan is not only of an outdated Master Plan as more families and retirees have moved in. "This population growth necessitates thoughtful planning to manage land use and infrastructure effectively, catering to the needs of all ages and populations within are community."

Housing has been a continued on page 8

## **Public Hearing on Demolition** of Historic Building on Aug. 22

ALEX MALM LONDONDERRY TIMES

t the most recent meeting of the newly formed Londonderry Demolition Review Committee, on Aug. 13, members determined that they will hold a public hearing on Aug. 22 for a house located at 4 Nashua Road, which the current owner is looking to demolition.

The hearing scheduled will be to, "Review the potential architectural or historical significance 4 Nashua Road."

ly the site of a real estate the committee during business and sits near the Derry town line.

This was the first time the committee as met since Nov. 26, 2019, according to minutes publicly available on the town's website.

At the somewhat short Aug. 13 meeting, committee member, Sue Joudrey, was selected as the Chair of the threemember committee. Ann Chiampa and David Colglazer are the only other members at this point.

The town's Adminisof the property located at trative Support Coordinator, Kirsten Hildonen, The house was formal- explained the charge of

the meeting saying it was "very narrow."

She told members that when a property meets three contingencies is submitted to the building department for an application for demolition permit, a building permit involving a dem-

continued on page 6

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### School District Continues to Look For Feedback For Moose Hill

ALEX MALM LONDONDERRY TIMES

to look at different potential options for the future of Moose Hill, as well as the potential for full-day kindergarten in town, the School Board was presented with a proposal to have a community survey ahead of its next meet-

"Below is a draft of a before the September 3rd School Board Meeting when we have all the Black said.

costs and other informathe School looking for on the op-Board continues tions," Superintendent, Dan Black, wrote in a memo to the School Board.

> He said they want to get the survey out to the community so they can get information about what people in the community think about some of the different options on the table.

"I think it's been very survey that could go out helpful to get public community wide right comment from staff, from parents, and from community members,"

Black said one thing tion the School Board is they have already done aside from having public comment at meetings was a small survey for current Moose Hill families, and said that the results will be brought back for the next meeting on Sept. 3.

He said the plan is to have costs available for the Sept. 3 meeting, along with as much feedback as possible.

Black explained that people are becoming more aware of the fact that they are discussing the Moose Hill project once again, following a munity.

we're talking about all these things," Black said, explaining that he thinks people will be more engaged when school starts saying that they want to " make sure we're having a good dialogue with the community."

School Board Chair, Bob Slater, said he thinks it's important to get the feedback for the September meeting.

The School Board approved having a survey sent out to the com-

The School Board new policy related to curriculum adoption.

"This policy requires school board approval for adding or eliminating courses of study. IGD is the NHSBA's coding for Curriculum Adoption." Assistant Superintendent, Jason Parent, wrote in a memo to the School Board.

The proposed policy states that "A dynamic instructional program requires ongoing alteration in the curriculum and courses of study."

"It is the policy of the "People are realizing also had a first policy Board that no basic reading for a proposed course of study shall be eliminated, or new courses added without approval of the Board, nor shall any sharp alteration or reduction of a course of study be made without such approval," the proposed policy states.

> The School Board unanimously approved sending the policy to a second reading without any proposed changes.

The next Londonderry School Board meeting is slated to take place on Sept. 3 at 7 p.m.

## **Look for New Locations for Solar Farm**

PAUL CONYERS LONDONDERRY TIMES

Committee saw its members tackle the latest update to the Community Choice Power Aggregation Project following two public hearings on the topic. Aggregation still requires state approval, something Chair, Lynn Wiles, did not see as a barrier as similar projects move forward across the state.

"Colonial Power Group with Freedom Energy and Logistics now has four communities they're con- on Aggregation.

tracted with," he said, referring to the compa-The August Utilities nies partnering with Londonderry for the Aggregation program. "They're expanding their realm. I think as they pick up more towns, they're representing it will just benefit everybody as they'll have more buying and negotiating power with suppliers."

Both companies will be setting up a webpage linked to the town site. It should include customer service points of contact and general information

MR. STEER (14:11)

**NOW HIRING** 

to sign the contract," Wiles clarified. "We're going to wait for the next rate table to be published by Eversource, and we'll see how they can compete with that rate table for the next six months."

The idea was to have Aggregation go into effect when local rates are lower than Eversource.

Committee members continued discussing possible locations for a potential solar array,

"We're still not at a this time focusing on that would be perfect for ness will want it, you've point where we're going whether any property near the airport could be dedicated to a solar farm.

> "They know how to put solar panels near airports to not blind pilots," said Jeff Mc-Graw, town representative of the Manchester Airport Commission. "The response when I spoke to the director of the airport, is that he was enthusiastic as we've been trading emails, but we haven't talked yet. He said there's a hilly piece of land that you can't build on, I'm assuming for buildings,

solar."

Without nothing but emails, it was not immediately clear how a solar arrangement with the airport might work.

"Would the energy go to the airport?" asked Committee member, Anne Fenn.

McGraw indicated that any power generated by any solar farm would be sold directly to the energy grid.

Other options for solar power included partnering with local companies for rooftop solar.

"Some of the busi-

got a lot of big, flat-top roofs," said Fenn.

Using the airport or rooftop solar would have the advantage of being near existing electrical infrastructure. A reoccurring issue with the originally proposed Auburn Road Landfill site was the need to run expensive power lines out to the site.

"If the airport is interested in doing it, that just solves a lot of the infrastructure problems we've been talking about," said Wiles. "But we're a long way from making it happen."

The next meeting of the Londonderry Conservation Commission is scheduled for Tuesday, Sept. 3, in the Moose Hill Council Chambers at 7:30 p.m.

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## **Exception to Use of Specific Course Materials Policy Approved**

ALEX MALM LONDONDERRY TIMES

t the most recent School Board meeting, one of the agenda items was in regards to a final policy reading for the School District's amended policy on Citizen Request for Exception to Use of Specific Course Materials.

"This amendment includes changing the states that the parword "Citizen" to "Parent/Legal Guardian" because the rest of the document reads "Parents/Legal Guardians"," Assistant Superinten-

School Board. other amendments provide more time for Parents/Legal Guardians to appeal to the Superintendent (two to three school days), and the Superintendent respond in writing (three to five school days)."

The amended policy ent(s)/legal guardian(s) must:

a. Notification in writing to the Building Principal or designee regarding specific course dent, Jason Parent, material to which they

b. Within five school days the parent(s)/legal guardian(s) must provide a written description or actual copy of the course material they propose to use as an alternative to the District's course material. (Must meet applicable State requirements). If not submitted within five school days, the matter will be considered closed.

c. Provide written detailed description of how and when the alternative course material will be delivered to the

assessment, grading cri- methods of delivery, teria and timeline for methods of assessments same. (Note: If timeline exceeds normal grading periods, an incomplete will be given - pending completion with agreed upon timeline.)

Under the amended policy "The Building Principal or designee shall review the materials and plans of delivery and methods of assessment no later than five school days after receipt of material."

"The Building Principal or designee shall notify the parent(s)/ legal guardian(s) no later than the seventh school day of his/her decision after the re-

child and method(s) of and/or actual materials, and timeline for same." the amended policy states.

> It also states as part of the amended policy that "Parent(s)/legal guardian(s) must provide documentation as detailed in the approved plan that the student has successfully completed the material as per agreed upon timeline. Absent said documentation student will not receive credit for the work."

explains that if "the parent(s)/legal guardian(s) and the Building Princi-ry School Board meeting pal or designee cannot is slated to take place on ceipt of the description agree on the plan, the Aug. 6 at 7 p.m.

parent(s)/legal guardian(s) may appeal within two three (3) school days to the Superintendent or designee. The Superintendent or designee's decision is final. If the Superintendent or designee does not approve the plan, the student will continue to participate in the regular program."

"The Superintendent or designee will respond in writing within five school days," the amended policy states.

On a unanimous vote the School Board ap-Under the policy, it proved the amended policy.

The next Londonder-

Continued from page 1 that the full build out is around 33,000 to 34,000 people now and the town is currently at approximately 27,000 people.

Farrell said they have a number of issues that need to be addressed including issues with water and questioned why they were spending resources on a strategic plan when about 80% of the Town is already developed.

"We only have about 20% of build remaining," he said.

Farrell said he also wants to work with the Planning Department to find out what actions they need to take to potentially change laws, saying, for example, building moratoriums are mostly illegal.

"Why can't we ask for that to be changed," Farrell said, noting that they have "zero authority to limit growth."

Farrell said he thought it made sense to really kicks off," he said. invite the Planning place and adjust our regulations accordingly and we're not doing that."

Council Vice Chair, Ted Combes, agreed.

"I think certainly it would be helpful to have vice chair of the plan- a presentation set up.

ning board and a representative from the planning department hopefully before budgeting

Combes said they Board to a meeting to could also meet with ask them "why did we their land use attorney choose the path... of a to talk about what they strategic vision when we could do to help their really need to execute community and other the plan that's already in communities with development, water, "and other issues moving forward."

It was ultimately agreed on by the Town Council to reach out to both the Planning Board probably the Chair and and legal counsel to have



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## Editorial

### **Getting Ready for a New School Year**

How can it be? Wasn't it just a few short weeks ago that school let out for the summer, and a fine summer it has been. But there's more than a glimpse of fall in the air already, and the first day of the new school year arrives next week. Next

The opening of the school year brings with it a sense of everything new once again. Empty notebooks, sharpened pencils, new pens, and for the younger set, untouched crayons carry with them an excitement about what lies ahead. And for those of us long past worrying about where we'll sit in the classroom and whether we'll remember the locker combination, we still have our memories.

For parents, the start of school is sure to bring a sudden wave of nostalgia and the reality that the years are passing quickly. But school also brings an obligation for parents, just as it does for students.

What parents think of school is conveyed to their children. Parents who attend open houses, participate in Parent Teacher Association activities if their work schedules allow, meet the teachers and familiarize themselves with the school buildings, and prioritize homework are going a long way toward creating a positive learning experience

for their children. And we all know kids learn by example.

Just as it's a child's job to attend classes and be open to learning, it's a parent's role to be involved with their child's education. A teacher can only do so much; how much value parents place on education and the learning process goes a long way toward making that learning possible.

We hear a lot about team building in schools, but the most important team to build at this time of year is the one involving parents, their children, and their school staff and administrators. Starting out right, with communication and mutual respect in the forefront, will go a long way toward making this school year a good one for each

And a reminder: Be extra cautious around schools and whenever children are walking to and from school. Pay attention to crosswalks. speed limit signs and blinking lights in school zones. Watch out for school buses.

There's nothing like the opening of school, like the opening of a new book, to remind us of all we have yet to learn, and of the excitement that knowledge of new things can bring. Enjoy!



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

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## Letters

#### **Two Special Ladies**

To the editor,

I am writing to recognize the accomplishments of two very special ladies. The First is Bonnie Ritvo, president of Londonderry Senior Citizens Inc., an organization dedicated meeting the needs of Londonderry Seniors. Bonnie has been president of LSCI for the last 17 years. Her efforts and accomplishments are legendary. If you have gone to a Cookie Walk or an Ice Cream Social, or a Senior Picnic you have seen Bonnie in action.

I remember the first time I met her. She came to a Senior Resource Committee meeting. We were talking about how to get more services for seniors like rides to doctor's appointments or food shopping, or minor repairs around house. She told us about Community Caregivers and how they addressed these issues and more. For the rest of the meeting, she had answers to our questions about services and agencies that help seniors. I was and am in awe of her knowledge and energy.

She will still be working at the Senior Center after her retirement at the end of this year. So, I just want to say thank you. And if you happen these to come to a program at the Center or to the Fair on Nov. 4th, you can thank her too.

want to recognize is serve, and clean up. Oh,

Ilona Ardnt our Senior and can you have bingo Affairs Director for the Town. If you haven't been to the Senior Center for a while, you need to visit. The place is hopping. Programs and activities throughout the day from yoga to a mystery club to keep people healthy and active. Monthly health services like the foot clinic and hearing tests. Informational presentations like fall prevention, estate planning, health eating, and more. The Meals on Wheels program serves 120 meals a day at the Center or delivered. We seniors owe it to ourselves to take advantage of these wonderful opportunities.

But she has done so much more for the Senior Resource Committee. She is the focal point of our annual Senior Informational Expo (9/21/24 at LMS). Organizing our outreach to approximately 120 different service organizations. Her idea to use the information we collect for the Expo to develop a "Where Can I Get Help" booklet will be a treasure trove of contact information for people in need. Every day and in every way she is making life a little better for our senior citizens.

Just an example of two amazing women in action - Imagine you have to plan and Cookie Walk and Craft deliver a cookout for 200 guests. Catered, No, you need to find volunteers The second person I to cook, set tables,

to entertain the guests with some great prizes. Finish it off with an Ice cream truck. Then three days later have a trolly full of seniors for the Old Home Day Parade

I told you they are special.

> Jim Green Londonderry

#### **Doug Thomas for State** Representative

To the editor,

Over the past several years, it has been my honor to serve Londonderry District 16 as your state representative in Concord and I'm pleased to announce I am running again for state representative.

I've been inspired to run again because of the many critical issues important to our senior population, parents, and young residents. Immigration, inflation, economy, housing and other concerns weigh heavily with our citizens. We cannot let NH lose its advantage and I will continue to provide the respected representation Londonderry deserves. I've voted down state income and sales taxes and I've supported parents' rights and enacted strict water regulations such as PFAS limits. I've also voted for election integrity, effective energy policies, and bail reform. My priorities have been to stand up for my constituents and to keep our Live Free or Die values intact.

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Londonderry Times welcomes letters of up to 500 words on topics of local interest, and prints as many letters as possible. Please e-mail your letters to the Londonderry Times at londonderrytimes@nutpub.net. All letters must include the writer's name, address and phone number for verification if needed; name and town of residence will be printed. Londonderry Times reserves the right to reject or edit letters content. Anonymous letters will not be printed. Letters received/printed do not reflect the views of the publisher.

### **Endorsement Letters** It has been a longstanding policy

of Nutfield Publishing to publish campaign letters in the newspaper and also to allow people the opportunity to voice their endorsements. As we head into another election cycle, we are asking that all endorsement be a maximum of 350 words. The request to allow space for weekly news and sports articles. Thank you for your understanding.

## **Annual Old Home Day Parade Draws a Huge Crowd**

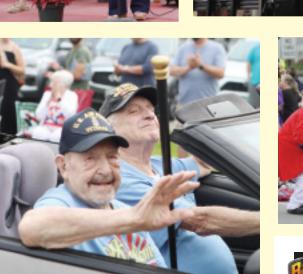




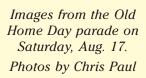
















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## School Board Review High School Credit Policy For 7th/8th Graders

ALEX MALM LONDONDERRY TIMES

The Londonderry School Board had a first reading for a proposed updated policy regarding high school credits for seventh and eighth graders coursework during its Aug. 6 meeting.

"This amendment includes changing graduation "competencies" to "requirements" and adds language that includes the middle school and high school creating clear benchmarks so that all students are properly challenged in their high school coursework," Assistant Super-

intendent, Jason Parent, wrote in a memo to the School Board. "It also includes the ability for middle school students to earn credit through Extended Learning Opportunities (ELO's) or in online classes. Finally, this amendment included the review of transfer students' transcripts by LHS to determine eligibility of credits for prior coursework, including advanced courses they took while in middle

As part of the proposed updated policy, it states that "Students in 7th or 8th grade may take advanced courses those courses toward high school graduation requirements, provided course demonstrates content consistent with related high school courses and the student achieves satisfactory standards of performance."

"School Board policies relative to assessment, mastery and competency shall apply. The School Board promotes this policy to allow for middle school students to take advanced coursework, not increase the number of students applying for early graduation in high school,"

and apply the credit of the proposed updated 7th and/or 8th grade policy states.

> The policy states that the high school and middle school principals "shall work together yearly to approve such course work and credit prior to the student enrolling in the class in order for such credit to be applied toward high school graduation."

> "The middle school and high school will create clear benchmarks to help with student placement in high school so that all students are properly challenged in their high school coursework. For a student that earns credit in their

graduation, they will be granted a "passing" grade only on their high school transcript," the proposed policy states.

It explains as part of the proposed policy that students in seventh and or eighth grade "who wish to earn credit for high school through "extended learning opportunities" and/or "virtual/online" classes, must first ensure those classes follow the requirements outlined in School Board Policy INAA Extended Learning Opportunities Virtual/Online Education."

"Any student that year for high school transfers from out of district will be subject to a standard review by the Londonderry School Guidance Department to determine if they are eligible to be awarded credit for their prior coursework, including advanced courses they took while in middle school," the proposed policy states.

> The School Board approved sending the proposed policy to a second reading.

The Londonderry School Board is scheduled to meet again on Sept. 3 at 7 p.m.

## emo

**Continued from page 1** 

olition, a site plan review involving demolition is made "the building inspector must de-

termine these three criteria; does the proposed demolition is it greater than 500-square feet of gross square area, was the building submitted more than 75 years before the date of appli-

cation for the building permit and is the building visible from the adjacent from the adjacent public right of way or public lands."

From there, if those three conditions are met, the application is then forwarded to the Committee and within five days of getting the application from the building inspector, Hildonen said the committee needed to make a determination of whether or not the "building might be of historical or archi-

tectural significance."

During the initial meeting, she said their role wasn't to determine what it is, or take any action, but instead they were only tasked with determining if the building might be of historical significance or not.

"Those are your two options today," Hildonen said.

Hildonen explained that if they determined that there might be historical significance they needed to schedule a public hearing by Aug.

12-day requirement.

Chiampa commented that she obtained information that the property was determined to be protected for its historical significants by the NH Department of Historical Resources.

After some discussion, it was ultimately decided that there might be historical significance and the Committee decided to have the required public hearing on Aug. 22 at 6 p.m.

Hildonen also noted that due to the production schedule for the Londonderry Times, they had to put the public notice in the Union Leader.

Chiampa asked if

25, in order to meet the they would be able to put it on the town's Facebook page in order to notify the community. Hildonen explained that they don't usually post those types of notices on the Facebook page, but she would look into it.

> Hildonen added that the applicant or the applicant's agent is invited to the public hearing to hear any concerns.

During the public hearing, Hildonen explained that they are tasked with determining if there is any historical significance or not.

If the Committee determines that there is significance, from there they would meet with the applicant.



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Continued from page 4

The common-sense policies of the Republican state house have helped keep NH safe from the many problems we see in our neighboring states. We hold to our principles of small government and low taxes which is why our state is consistently rated as one of the best places to live and raise a family.

I will continue to advocate for Londonderry and the state in my role on the Science, Technology and Energy Committee which oversees all forms of energy and technological policy bills. As Vice Chair, I've turned away many harmful energy policies that would only increase electric bills higher than they are now. I'm also proud of my 100% attendance in Concord and of my conservative voting record.

I also serve as Vice Chair of the Rockingham County Executive Committee which oversees the county budget.

As one of Londonderry's representatives, I keep abreast on town issues by attending most town council meetings and frequently conferring with town offi-TV program on the Londonderry Access Channel called "Concord Conversations" to inform residents of town, county, and state issues.

Thank you for allowing me to serve. I ask for your vote for state representative in the primary for District 16 on Bills. I wore my Legisla-

September 10. **Doug Thomas** NH State Rep. Londonderry, District 16

#### To All Londonderry Residents,

It has been my honor and privilege to serve as your State Representative for the past two years. My hope is to continue that service by being reelected. I know that there is much more to be done. I have already had residents reach out to me to submit two new Bills that they feel are important to Londonderry as well as the State. I welcome continued communication from you as my constituents of more. I submitted Bills last Session that were specifically asked for by you and I am pleased to say that two of these passed, with some modification Committees, and were signed by the Gov-

I met my campaign commitments to you to attend all House Sessions and to cosponsor several open meetings to inform and answer questions about what was going on in Concord. I will make this commitment again.

I was placed on the cials. Also, I co-host a Judiciary Committee by the Speaker and will ask to continue there if reelected. I was not quite sure why that was my placement but all in all feel it was a good fit. I learned to negotiate though some verv important and somecontroversial times

tive hat and often put my personal feelings aside to accomplish what was right and needed. I never compromised my values. I worked alongside members of the "other party" multiple times when it was what was needed for my constituents. I represent all the residents of Londonderry.

I am a firm supporter of free speech and transparency at all levels of government and feel that public information should be just that, public and free to all. I believe and will continue to support government accountability and you will always know exactly where I stand on every issue.

Please allow my voting record to speak for itself and is available online Gencourt.state.nh.us/nh gcrollcalls

I have been recognized by multiple organization for my conservative but fair voting record such as:

NH Liberty Alliance, Re-build NH, Granite State Taxpayers Association. Cornerstone. YAL. School District Governance Ass, of NH, and Make Liberty Win among others.

> Respectfully, Rep Kristine Perez Londonderry

#### **Eye Pollution**

To the editor,

It's very distressing driving down Nashua Road, especially the intersection with Mammoth Road, and seeing all these campaign signs. It's

clutter and a distraction.

Why must every candidate have to put multiples of their signs next to each other? Isn't one enough if we have to endure them? Are the signs on public or private property? If it's public property, shame on the Town for allowing it.

> Mike Yochim Londonderry

#### **Re-Elect Doug Thomas** for State Rep

I've known Doug Thomas for many years. He has been a steady and responsive state representative for Londonderry and has my utmost support to be reelected. Not only was he a valuable member and Chair on the Senior Resources Committee, but he also greatly helped me on the Old Home Day Parade Committee in previous years. I can rely on Representative Thomas to support the senior citizens, veterans, school parents and all residents to keep Londonderry a great place to live and raise a family. Please vote for Doug Thomas on the September 10 Republican primary ballot.

> Christine Patton Londonderry NH

#### **Ron Dunn for State** Representative

To the editor,

I am currently one of your State Representatives. It has been my honor to serve you for asking for your vote on Tuesday September 10th to send me back to Concord.

I am a fiscal conservative who will always look out for you, the taxpayer. I will not support a sales or income tax. I am a lifetime NRA member and will always protect your 2nd Amendment rights. I will continue to fight for Londonderry when it comes to funding for clean, PFAS free drinking water. I will support parents rights and their ability to manage their child's education with Education Freedom Accounts.

I co-sponsored legislation to allow the PFAS rebate program for private wells to continue. This allows a homeowner who's well exceeds the current maximum levels for PFAS to apply for a rebate. I co-sponsored legislation that allows the HB737 PFAS Commission to continue its good work for 5 more years. This is a bipartisan committee that I am on that focuses on PFAS issues in Londonderry, Merrimack, Litchfield, Bedford and Hudson. I co-sponsored HB1385 that allows veterans who were medics in the military to have an accelerated path licensing.

All these bills have been signed into law and will help Londonderry residents. I would like to

the past two years. I am continue this good work for Londonderry. I will be out door knocking from now until Tuesday September 10th. I am looking forward to meeting and speaking with you all. I humbly ask for your vote on Tuesday September 10th.

> Let's Get It DUNN! Ron Dunn Londonderry

#### Re: Where has he been?

To the editor,

Mr. Minnillo, I was thinking the same thing about you. I am so glad you wrote in, as now it proves there is NO poscommunication sible with the other side. The answer to your question is simple, You had stopped writing your Propaganda.

Once again, I need to correct you, we never jousted. What transpired was you writing your regurgitated right-wing Propaganda and me (being an American) forced to blow it out of the water. You may recall my request to keep it civil early on, but alas you people are incapable, as hate and propaganda go hand in hand.

Thank you for your offer of a trophy. However, I would need to compete with over 100 million Patriotic Americans for that title.

Regarding Afghanistan, I see you still refuse to educate yourself. Still

continued on page 10

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### **Winners Crowned**

The annual Baby Contest kicked off Saturday's events at the 125th Old Home Day celebration.

This year's pageant featured 29 contestants vying for two titles. The Little Miss Londonderry title went to 10month-old Camilla Hondros, with her dad, Alex Hondros. The Little Master sash was presented to Denver Castillo, with mom, Nicole Castillo. Denver was napping during the final presentation,

Sashes and prizes were given to this year's winners by Sarra Catizone, Miss Londonderry, and Avery Chick, Miss Londonderry Outstanding Teen, who were also judges at the popular event.

Photos by Chris Paul

### **Master Plan**

continued from page 1 growing issue as more people move to Londonderry, a trend expected to continue over the next decade. The update would also address some economic changes Londonderry has seen, especially regarding planned use developments.

"These developments require updated zoning regulations and land use policies, which can only

be effectively addressed Vice Chair, Jake Butler. through a revised Master Plan," said Penta. "Addressing these changes requires a proactive approach."

Additionally, he claimed an updated plan would make it easier for the town to comply with changing environmental Executive Director of the regulations.

"I think this is a very important step that we need to take as a town to help us get to the future of Londonderry," added

The Committee also it wanted to check in on survey feedback related to housing, demographics, and land use, three topics that had been flagged as particularly important to many residents.

Sylvia Von Aulock, Southern NH Planning Commission, summed up the feedback as "this is long." The original survey was designed to be 50 questions.

"It was long because addressed pretty much every section in the entire Master Plan," said Von Aulock. "What we talked about was really focusing the initial survey on the 'top tier."

The revised survey should take 5-10 minutes. The hope was that a shorter survey would generate more feedback.

The reduced scope from members of the public, including Senior Resources Committee member, John Wilson.

"You have a good, substantive section on the initial survey to keep

transportation and I'm things short. here to ask you not to vey," said Wilson.

Recently, the Senior Resources Committee began examining what transportation opportunities exist for Londonderry residents and had hoped the Master Plan survey would make that task easier.

The Executive Direcprovoked a response tor expected to revisit the transportation section and the "lower tiers" of the Master Plan in five to six months. wanting to leave it out of

"The only issue I take it out of the sur- have with that is the Senior Resources Committee is working towards determining over whether to put a warrant article on the March ballot," said Wilson. "Doing a transportation survey later would probably negate being able to get a warrant article on, we would have to wait another year to deal with this issue."

> Penta expressed his sympathy, but worried warrant articles were beyond the scope of the Steering Committee.



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The grounds of the Londonderry Historical Society had lots of visitors on Old Home Day, Saturday, Aug. 17. Revolutionary War era reenactors also filled the grounds with a number of areas set up to explain life during the Colonial America time period. A black smith and a display of a hit and miss engine was also displayed and explained. Photos by Chris Paul







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## LONDONDERRY SPORTS

## **Boot Scootin' Boogie Has Three Locals Place in Top 10**



Luke Brennan, 20, of Derry, was the overall 5K winner.



Mary Klene, 41, of Manchester was the female winner this year.

unners in

LONDONDERRY TIMES

**CHRIS PAUL** 

annual Enterprise Bank Boot Scootin' Boogie 5K road race hit the streets of London- the annual Old Home derry

three of the top ten overthe all finishers hailing from L-Town.

The race is considered the final event of Saturday Day celebration with the

Luke Brennan, 20, of Derry, was the overall winner with his time of

evening, Aug. 17, with race starting and finishing at the LAFA Complex on Sargent Road and concluding with a country western concert.

place finisher with a time of 17:04. Fourth place overall went to another LHS running alumni. Will Plante, 20, of Londonderry finished at 17:31 and took the first place

place.

The young 14-yearold Patrick Ramsey of Londonderry, took second place in the 13-19 Division with a time of 18:20, good for ninth overall.

The first female runner to cross the finish line was Mary Klene, 41, of Manchester. She came in at 18:29.9, 1:56 behind the overall winner and

in his 20-24 age Division.

16:33.2. Londonderry High School (LHS) runner, Joshua Twomey, came in 20-seconds

later with his time of

16:55.7 to take second

Nashua, was the third-

Peter Caron, 26, of

Liz Belanger, 33, of Hooksett, was the second place female finisher with a time of 18:59 and Collette Soucy finished third in the female open division with a time of 19:23.8.

first among the 607

other female runners.

Londonderry's Marie race.

Ralff, 29, was the first hometown female to cross and finished first in the 25-29 Female Division with a time of 21:00.

According to the Milennium Running website, there were just over 1,100 participants finished in this year's road







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## Team Ammo Reigns Supreme in Softball Tournament













team from Town Hall vs. the Londonderrry Fire Department.

This was a much closer game, with each side scoring eight runs by the end of the five-inning match-up.

In the first extra-inning, LFD kept the town scoreless in their at bat, then scored two runs at the bottom of the final frame for the 10-8 victory.

Unfortunately for team LFD, the jubulation was short-lived as Team Ammo continued to tear it up at the plate in the deciding game of the evening.

The police squad scored 13 unanswered runs for the 13-0 decision at the first "Londonderry Classic Softball Tournament"

This year's Old Home Day celebration featured a newly added softball tournament with four teams battling it out for bragging rights and a shinny new trophy.

The contest was settled in three five-inning games, with the winners of the first two games, squaring off in the final, winner take on finale.

The first game featured a cop vs.

cop match-up with Team Ammo out gunning Team Zeus 17-1.

Team Ammo scored in every inning with the Zeus squad scoring in just their final at bat.

The second contest featured a

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## **Beatles Band Fills the Town Common for Series Finale**



The final show of the Concert on the Common series took place on Wednesday night, Aug. 14, with the Beatles Band "Studio Two" putting around 1,000 concert-goers in the center of town. The event was one of two happening that day to kick-off the Old Home Day celebration. Photos by Chris Paul



### Letters

**Continued from page 5** 

not allowed too in the Cult of the Ignorantly Brainwashed I see. A real shame as today it is so easy. If you have a Smart Phone, just say: "Afghanistan deal". That's all it takes. No worries, like always I will educate you: You would learn

Agreement with the Taliban. How trump agreed to hand Afghanistan over to them, released 5.000 Imprisoned Taliban terrorists, and leave Afghanistan within 12 months, all for please don't shoot at us while we leave. And what did he do in those 12 months? Pretty much noth-

about the 2020 Doha ing. But what did the Taliban do? Took over almost all of Afghanistan!

> I see you did not mention the "Biden killed the Oil Pipeline" as this was your past signature writing piece. Has there been education on this front? I know, kind of hard with the US Oil Production hitting record Highs these days.

am sure they don't tell you this in whatever garbage Right wing Hate filled Propaganda site you are glued to, so here goes: American Rescue Plan, Infrastructure deal, Safer Communities Act, Chips and Science Act, **Expanded Healthcare for** Veterans, Inflation reduction Act, Student

Accomplishments: I debt relief. The list goes on and on, but space here is limited. So, as always Educate yourself! However, what you will not see is a Multi Trillion Dollar (cost) tax break for Corporations and the wealthy. Kind of says it

Lastly, thank you for the laugh with the "Proud Londonderry resident" comment. would say if Londonderry was to give out Trophy's, giving Paul Minnillo a trophy as Londonderry's Propaganda Minister would be more appropriate, you have earned it.

> **Steve Homsey** Londonderry

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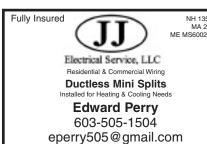
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# AROUND TOWN

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  ${\bf londonderrytimes@nutpub.net.}$ 

#### **Democrats Ice Cream** social

All Democrats are invited to join the Litchfield's Democrats at Lix Ice Cream and Catering, Located at 55 Charles Bancroft HWY (Rt. 3A) On Sunday, Aug. 25, from 1 - 3 p.m. Meet candidates, participate in values survey, get Absentee Ballot Application for upcoming elec-

#### **Retiree Day Luncheon**

The NH Ārmy National Guard (NHARNG) will hold its 15th Annual Retiree Day Luncheon on for Thursday, Sept. 19. Retirees who have not attended prior luncheons or have relocated are urged to contact Command Sergeant Major (Ret) David Follansbee via e-mail: dave\_follansbee@comcast.net or (603) 623-7757. Please RSVP no later than Sept. 13. This year's luncheon will be at the Joint Force Headquarters building on the State Military Reservation in Concord and will feature a briefing on the current stainterest to retirees. A group photo is also planned. The luncheon fee is \$5 at the door.

#### **Veterans Picnic**

Hudson Memorial VFW Post 5791 will host its 8th Annual Veterans Appreciation Picnic for All NH veterans and their families at the Hudson VFW, 15 Bockes Rd., Hudson, on Saturday, Sept. 21, from 11 a.m -3 p.m. The event is open to anyone who has served in any branch of the U.S. military. Veterans don't have to be a member of the VFW, American Legion, or any other veterans' organization to attend. This is just a recognition of service and an opportunity to meet fellow Veterans. Vets are encouraged to bring their spouses, kids, and grandkids. There is a large fenced-in picnic area (weather permitting) and a large hall if the weather is bad. There will be horseshoes, bocce, and corn hole games, plus games and activities for the kids. New this year, at noon tus of the NHARNG as well there will be a Cornhole

as exhibits and displays of Tournament with a prize for the winner. Veterans are automatically entered in a drawing for free door prizes! Various Veterans Service Organizations (VSOs) will be on hand to distribute information and speak with Veterans about the services they offer.

#### Skip Burbine Open **Tennis Tournament**

The annual Skip Burbine Open Tennis Tournament will be held this year Sept. 6 - 8, at the Skip Burbine Tennis Courts located on Sargent Rd. in Londonderry. Funds raised will be used to provide 2 scholarships for members of the LHS tennis team as well as support for research to the OMF (Ocular Melanoma Foundation). Details and sign-ups can be found on our new website at www.skipburbinefoundation.org.

#### **Tennis Camp**

Londonderry Tennis Camp is offering lessons starting Sept. 10 - 26 on Tuesdays and Thursdays from  $4:\tilde{3}0$  - 6 p.m. The cost is \$150. Court shoes and

racquet needed. Contact Roberta Davis, londonderrytenniscamp@gmail.com, with questions or to register your child

#### **Middle School Tennis** Club

All middle schoolers/ all levels welcome to this Tennis Club. Begins Sept. 10 and runs through Oct. 3, Tuesdays and Thursdays 2:45 - 4:15 p.m., at the town courts. This is a school sponsored activity. Contact Roberta Davis, londonderrytenniscamp@gmail.com, with questions or to register your child.

#### **Republican Meeting**

The Londonderry Republican Committee will be meeting on Thursday, Sept. 5 at 7 p.m., at Londonderry Baptist Church, 368 Mammoth Rd., Londonderry. Find more information at: Londonderry-GOP.org; facebook.com/LondonderryGOP; or contact us at lrc@londonderry-gop.org.

### **Food Pantry Fundrais-**

Hudson Lions Club fundraiser to benefit The Hudson Food Pantry, will take place on Saturday, Oct. 5, at The White Birch, 222 Central St., Hudson. The event will feature Country duo Ayal Brown and Rob Bellamy. Doors open 6:30 p.m. and runs to 10 p.m. It will be a fun evening of entertainment & dancing, there will be a cash bar. Tickets are \$35 per person. For additional information: Barbara, 603-305-5193.

#### **Continuing Education Scholarship**

The Londonderry Women's Club is excited to announce the Continuing Education Scholarship, created to empower women in our community to advance their education and careers. This annual scholarship is open to Londonderry women of all ages who seek to enhance their skills, pursue a degree, or take professional development courses. Applications are open from August to September, with recipients announced in October and awards distributed in December. Eligible applicants must reside in Londonderry or neighboring towns, demonstrate financial need, and show a commitment to furthering their education. The application requires a personal statement, resume, and letters of recommendation For more information and to apply, visit www.londonderrywomensclub.co m/scholarships/adult/. Applications are also available at local libraries and the Marion Gerrish Community Center.

#### **Banned Book Discussion**

Join and discuss Jonathan Evison's coming of age novel "Lawn Boy" on Wednesday, Sept. 18 at 6:30 p.m., at the Leach Library. In 2022, the Amer-

(WKELLERALLING

ican Library Association reported Evison's novel was the seventh most challenged book in the country. This program is intended for adults ages 18 and up. Registration opens on Wednesday, Aug. 14 and is limited to 15 participants. To register, visit the library's online calendar or call (603) 432-1132. Copies of the book will be available to check out at the library's main desk.

#### **Cookbook Potluck**

On Monday, Aug. 19 at 11:30 a.m. stop by the Leach Library for a summer-themed potluck. Prepare and share a recipe from either The Picnic by Marnie Hanel, The Complete Summer Cookbook by America's Test Kitchen, or The Summer Table by Lisa Lemke. You can pick up a copy of the book from the library. Registration opens on Monday, July 15 and is limited to 20 participants. To register, visit the library's online calendar or call (603) 432-1132. Copies of the books will be available to check out at the library's main desk.

#### Cookbook Potluck

On Thursday, Sept. 5 at 6:30 p.m. come to the Leach Library for a vegetable-themed potluck. Prepare and share a recipe from either "Vegetable Simple" by Eric Ripert or "Vegetables Illustrated" by America's Test Kitchen. The library cannot guarantee each dish's ingredients

Continued on page 14

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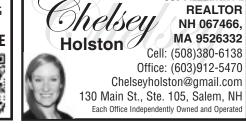
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### **Around Town**

Continued from page 13 or accurate preparation. Food served at this program may contain or come into contact with common allergens. This program is intended for adults ages 18 and up. Registration opens on Monday, Aug. 12 and is limited to 20 participants. To register, visit the library's online calendar or call (603) 432-1132. Copies of the books will be available to check out at the library's main desk.

#### **Library Hours**

Summer hours will take effect at the Leach library from Monday, June 24 through Saturday, Sept.

7. 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. Curbside service will continue to be provided during operating hours upon request.

#### Free PFOA Water Test By NHDES

You can request a water sampling here: Southern NH PFOA Investigation Private Well-Testing Request Form Survey (surveymonkey.com) Questions contact Amy Rousseau | PFAS Response Administrator -MtBE Remediation Bureau at NH Department of Environmental Services Email: Amy.Rousseau@des.nh.gov, Phone: 603.271.8801

#### **Blues Festival**

10th annual Blues Festival Aug. 24, from noon - 4 p.m. There will be a 50:50 raffle, barbecue truck, ice cream truck and vendors, location on the town common. Proceeds to go to the combat veterans motorcycle association to raise money for homeless veterans

#### Be Kind - Do Good

The Sonshine Soup Kitchen located at 6 Crystal Ave., Derry, is seeking Volunteers age 18+ for help preparing and serv-

Continued on page 15

## **Londonderry Police Log**

Selections taken from the daily Londonderry Police Logs

Monday - Aug. 12 8:17 a.m. Assisted the Londonderry Fire Department with transportation to a hospital from Burton Drive at Stonyfield Farms.

10:01 a.m. Suspicious Activity investigated at the Londonderry Senior Citizen Center on Mammoth Road.

1:13 p.m. Larceny/Forgery/Fraud investigated by three officers on Bockes Road.

2:46 p.m. Services rendered by three officers for Neighborhood Disputes on Shasta Drive at Reverend Parker Road.

7:55 p.m. Warrant served and arrest made by three officers on Main Street, Belmont. Mark Ballou, 40, of Belmont, charged with Violation of a Protective Order.

8:58 p.m. Services rendered by two officers to keep the peace on Adams Road.

Tuesday - Aug. 13 2:07 a.m. Motor vehicle stop on Rockingham Road, at Page Road, leads to an arrest made by three officers. Fethy Yan-

nick Serlin Mananga, 34, of Manchester, charged with Reckless Operation. 10:37 a.m. Juvenile Offenses Investigated by three officers at the 7-Eleven Food Mart on Nashua Road.

12:35 p.m. Warrant served and arrest made on Patricia Lane. Courtney Barry, 34, of Dracut, MA, charged with: Improper Person Operating Vehicle; False Report of a Motor Vehicle Accident; and Unsworn Falsification - Deceive Official.

1:30 p.m. Services rendered by three officers on Premier Drive to Keep the Peace.

**5:16 p.m.** Welfare Check conducted by three officers at 7-Eleven on Nashua Road.

**6:11 p.m.** Suspicious Activity investigated by six officers on Isabella Drive.

10:55 p.m. Three officers conduct a Welfare Check on Perkins Road.

Wednesday - Aug. 14 12:13 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop leads to an Arrest made by four officers on Rockingham Road at Auburn Road. Jhony Rony Aragao De Oliveira, 38, of Stratham, charged with: License Required - Operation Without a Valid License: and Motor Vehicle Tail Lamp and Reflectors violation.

4:55 p.m. Warrant served and arrest made at the Macgregor Cut apartments on Stonehenge Road. Jaxson Hebert, 36, of Londonderry, charged with Falsifying Physical Evidence (Alter, Destroy, Hide).

**5:12 p.m.** Pedestrian Check on High Range Road leads to an arrest made by four officers. Gregg Urbanowicz, 33, of Nashua, charged with: Driving Under the Influence - Impairment; and Conduct After an Accident.

**6:16 p.m.** Disturbance investigated by three officers at Convenience Plus Londonderry on Rockingham Road.

7:20 p.m. Suspicious Activity investigated by three officers at the Town Common on Mammoth Road.

Thursday - Aug. 15 12:28 a.m. Suicide Attempt/Threat on Lance Avenue Taken/Referred to Other Agency by three officers.

3:26 a.m. Peace Restored by three officers during a Domestic Disturbance on Whittemore Road.

12:30 p.m. Services rendered to Keep the Peace on Premier Drive.

2:20 p.m. Peace restored after a disturbance at the Aviation Museum on Navigator Road.

**4:39 p.m.** Four officers respond to the report of a Runaway Juvenile at Miles of Smiles on Rockingham Road. Taken to Family/Guardian/Other.

Friday - Aug. 16 6:39 a.m. Motor Vehicle Stop leads to an arrest made on Aviation Park Drive. Matthew Greenhalgh, 52, of Pelham, charged with: Driving After Revoke/Suspension; Arrested on a Warrant.

2:29 p.m. Warrant served and arrest made at the Macgregor Cut apartments on Stonehenge Road. Riley Winter, 22, of Londonderry, charged with: Reckless Operation; Conduct After an Accident; Operating After Certified as

Habitual Offender; Wit- on Vista Ridge Drive. ness Tampering (Retaliation); Falsifying Physical Evidence (Alter, Destroy, Hide); and Disobeying An Officer.

7:48 p.m. Missing Person at Londonderry High School Taken to Family/Guardian/Other. 8:22 p.m. Juvenile Off-

enses investigate at Londonderry High School. 9:51 p.m. Services ren-

dered by three officers for Juvenile Offenses on Ross Drive.

10:26 p.m. Juvenile Offenses investigated on Wallace Circle.

Saturday - Aug. 17 1:42 a.m. A Domestic Disturbance on Vista Ridge Drive leads to an arrest made by four officers. Brian Bianchi, 37, of Londonderry, charged with three counts of Domestic Violence (Simple Assault - Bodily Injury or Physical Contact.

2:21 a.m. Motor vehicle accident on King Arthur Drive leads to an arrest made by four officers. Casey Weatherly, 29, of Milford, PA, charged with Driving Under the Influence - Impairment. 7:51 a.m. Services ren-

dered to Keep the Peace on Judy Drive.

6:39 p.m. Welfare Check conducted by four officers transported to a hospital from Welch Road.

7:39 p.m. Peace restored by four officers at a Disturbance at the Nutfield Country Store on Shasta Drive.

10 p.m. A Domestic Disturbance on Gilcreast Road leads to an arrest made by four officers. Shannon Foose, 52, of Londonderry, charged with Criminal Mischief.

Sunday - Aug. 18 2:11 a.m. Motor vehicle accident on Rockingham Road, at Route 93, leads to an arrest made by six officers. Jesus Cepeda-Pizarro, 36, of Lawrence, MA, charged with: Reckless Operation; Reckless Conduct; and Disobeying an officer.

7:50 a.m. Suspicious Activity investigated at Haigh-Farr, on Industrial Drive.

1:14 p.m. Disturbance investigated at Cracker Barrel Old Country Store on Nashua Road.

2:33 p.m. Five officers investigate Weapons Offenses on Ash Street. 4:09 p.m. Peace restored after Juvenile Offenses

### **Around Tow**

Continued from page 14

ing drive-through meals: Monday -Thursday, 3 - 6 p.m. For more information or if you have questions call 603.437.2833.

#### **Voter Information**

The Supervisors of the Voter Checklist will meet to correct the checklist and register voters at the Town Clerk's Office on: Aug. 28 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; and Photo ID. Applicants for registration who possess proof of identity, age, citizenship, and domicile should bring that proof when they come to register. Qualified applicants 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.

#### **Women's Club**

Looking to dive into stories while connecting with your community? The Londonderry Women's Club invites you to join their book club, meeting monthly for engaging discussions. But that's not all! The club offers other social events catering to diverse interests. From white elephant bingo to cookie swaps, splatter painting, bake sales, and floral design, their activities promise fun and fulfillment. If you're curious about the book club or want to learn more about the Londonderry Women's Club and its initiatives, reach out at info@londonderrywomensclub.org.

#### **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 reference staff has you covered! We are here to provide one-on-one assistance tailored to your technology-related needs. No appointment is necessary. Stop in any Thursday between 10 a.m. and noon. Please note Drop-In Tech For more information or to make an appointment for another time, please call the library at (603) 432-1132.

#### **Child Find**

Londonderry School District Announces Free

community child find program for all residents ages two 1/2 yrs (2.5) through five yrs., 11 months (5.11) of age who are suspected of have developmental concerns child find will be held at: Moose Hill School 150 Pillsbury Rd., London-

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### **OBITUARY**

#### James B. Benesty



James B. Benesty, 62, of Londonderry, NH, died Saturday, Aug. 17, 2024 at Parkland Medical Center in Derry, NH. He was born on May 2, 1962 in Inglewood, CA, a son of the late Frank Benesty and Marlene (Reingold) Monsein. He was a resident of

Londonderry for the past 24 years, formerly living in Auburn, NH; Derry, NH; and Florida.

Jim's journey began in Brockton, MA, where his enthusiasm for sports, motorcycles, and cars took root. His cherished 1969 Chevy Nova was a testament to his enduring passion and joy. In his later years, Jim discovered a profound love for travel, immersing himself in the rich histories of European destinations during numerous cruises. His curiosity extended to a lifelong quest for knowledge, often spending time researching diverse topics on his computer and sharing his discoveries with others. Jim was celebrated for his unwavering love, kindness, and commitment to his family. His unexpected passing has left a significant void in our hearts and lives.

Jim is survived by his wife of 33 years Lena (Burke) Benesty of Londonderry; his daughter, Alyssa Marie Morin and her husband Eric Morin of Marlborough, MA; and his son, Ian James Benesty of Londonderry. Jim was predeceased by his brother, William A. Benesty of N. Miami, FL.

Following cremation, calling hours will be held on Tuesday, Aug. 27, from 4 - 6 p.m., in the Peabody Funeral Homes and Crematorium, 290 Mammoth Rd., Londonderry. To send a condolence please visit www.peabodyfuneralhome.com.





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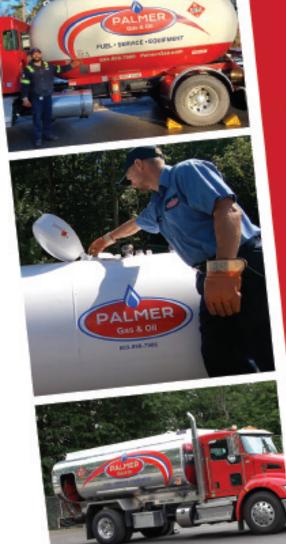
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