

Londonderry Times

December 19, 2024 ♦ Volume 26 – Issue 51

A FREE Weekly Publication



Sweet Housing

North Elementary School second grade student Fausto Gomez was busy working on a delicious home last week during the annual Gingerbread House Building event at the school. See more photos on page 8.

Photo by Chris Paul

Planning Board Discusses Moratorium On Development

ALEX MALM
LONDONDERRY TIMES

At the end of the Dec. 3 Londonderry Planning Board meeting, board member Tony DeFrancesco once again brought up the topic of potentially having a temporary moratorium on development.

“We need to discuss it, we need to talk about it, we need to bring it up,” Planning Board Chair Jake Butler said during a previous meeting.

At that meeting, Butler explained that they

are in a “unique time” right now, explaining that in the past year, they have had over 1,000 units either approved or actively being worked on.

Butler added that they have infrastructure issues that they need to

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PUD Development Raises Residents Traffic Concerns

PAUL CONYERS
LONDONDERRY TIMES

The first December meeting Planning Board saw extensive public input for the latest stage of the Village at Technology Hill Planned Use Development. Many worried the design did not go far enough in reducing traffic concerns.

“My understand was that nobody was going to address the intersection at Page and Old Mammoth for traffic,” said Robin Steward of 522 Mammoth Road. “The Old Mammoth, and we’ve been fighting for this for several years, finally got stripping down the middle and we did

get stop signs.”

In particular, she noted speeding and noise from large trucks already using Mammoth and the surrounding roads would only grow worse considering the scale of the industrial PUD. The Page/Mammoth intersection has seen several accidents over the past few years.

“What are you doing to protect us?” asked Steward. “We already pay our taxes, and we already live here.”

Engineer Nick Golan noted there had been an overview of their traffic study at an earlier meeting.

“We evaluated off-site intersections to see if any improvements would be

required,” he said. “In this instance, two off-site improvements were required: those are left-hand turn lanes at Technology and Akria, and at Kitty Hawk.”

Developers were coordinating their traffic improvements with Town Engineer John Trotter.

“What dictates those off-site improvements?” asked Planning Chair Jake Butler. “What is the mechanism that says you have to do this as a result of their traffic study?”

Golan stated that concerns over traffic delays and congestion drove the study, along with what off-site

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Community Aggregation Plan Tentatively Launching March

PAUL CONYERS
LONDONDERRY TIMES

The Londonderry Utilities Committee met on Dec. 3 to hear about progress on the Community Aggregation Plan from Bart Fromuth of Freedom Energy Logistics, who assured the Committee they were clear of all regulatory hurdles with the state’s Public Utilities Commission.

“We got our approval from NH PUC in August, and since that time, we’ve effective been ‘street legal’ in the state of NH for our Community Choice Aggregation Program,” he explained.

“The one thing I’ve been waiting to find out is where the Eversource rates are going to go. We hope to learn that information on Dec. 12.”

Fromuth was confident prices were looking “competitive,” allowing him to give an estimated start date of March 2025. That date was not set in stone, initial rate estimates have been inaccurate in the past.

“We think, right now, there’s a market opportunity that will have us some good savings,” he said. “We still have to do mailings to the residents. When the Town Manager or their design-

nee signs off on our first power contract, we have an obligation per the state statute to give our residents a 30-day notice via mailing. After that mailing has been issued, we also have an obligation to have a public hearing a public gathering where we answer question from residents.”

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Proposed Athletic Budget Reviewed by School Board

ALEX MALM
LONDONDERRY TIMES

The Londonderry School Board reviewed the proposed \$480,840 athletic budget, which would be an increase of \$36,538 over the current budget. For game officials Athletic Director Jimmy Lauzon said they were proposing \$66,500 for Londonderry High School and \$18,000 for Londonderry Middle School.

“Another part of the game official budget line is termed security, which

is the money allocated for hiring police officers to cover games,” Lauzon said. “This amount, \$7,500 dollars, is the same as last year, and it is the amount requested for security to cover all home football games, most basketball games, and various other tournament games and athletic events held on school district property and at the hockey arena.”

Another line item part of the budget is for the high school’s repair/maintenance, which

Lauzon said is being proposed at \$13,000 which is the same amount they spent last year.

“The amount reflected in this line is needed because as our football helmets and shoulder pads age, and the cost to recondition them increases due to an increase in the number of parts that need to be replaced, which is necessary to certify them to meet the NOCSAE safety standard. There has been an increase in the high school football pro-

gram, which has required more helmets and shoulder pads,” Lauzon said.

He explained that the “remaining balance is set aside for unanticipated repairs that may occur during the season.”

“Lastly, this line includes money to repair and maintain the three-school district owned minibusses to keep them in top condition and the decrease in spending in this line is primarily because the minibuses were purchased in the last two years and the repair/maintenance costs have dropped significantly,” Lauzon said.

Another highlight of the proposed budget is for rentals which is being proposed at \$90,000.

“This money is used to rent ice time and a locker room for our JV and Varsity ice hockey teams, pool time for our swim teams,” Lauzon said.

He said \$19,000 is for “indoor rental for spring sports prior to being able to use our outdoor facilities or facility rentals for when our fields are unusable.”

“The increased cost is due to the new additional costs for golf course rental for our golf team, which was free previously,” Lauzon said. “In addition to the golf course change, there is also a new cost for the rental gymnasium for our meets during gymnastic season. Lastly, any other increase to this line is because of the increase in pool and ice rental costs along with

the cost to rent ice.”

For general supplies the proposed budget would be for \$32,000 at Londonderry High School and \$4,500 for Londonderry Middle School.

“These amounts represent money to purchase balls, scorebooks, medical supplies, and other miscellaneous equipment needed,” Lauzon said.

Lauzon said that the proposed budget “reflects our commitment to maintaining a high-quality athletic program while adapting to increasing costs and evolving needs. We continue to prioritize student safety, program excellence, and responsible fiscal management while providing comprehensive athletic opportunities for our students.”

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PUD

Continued from page 1
 improvements would be required. He noted that

the off-site improvement plan previously received approval from Londonderry officials. "Delays are not en-

ough to judge," argued Steward. "How are you going to stop the traffic? How are you going to let us live our lives when you have people shooting down this road all the time?"

Town Council liaison Shawn Faber added that traffic concerns has been a "hot button" issue across Londonderry.

"There's a lot of other roads, there's a lot of other intersections that

need to be taken care of," said Faber. "We need to start looking at this from an overarching level."

Co-Developer Dick Anagnost claimed the PUD would represent the "second largest taxpayer" in Londonderry, behind Granite Ridge, and that their revenue would be an important contributor to costs associated with policing and infrastructure improvements.

Bob Merrill, of 569 Mammoth Road, also expressed his concerns about how the PUD would impact people already living in the area.

"Going back to August when we were doing the infrastructure one of the things that were brought up is that they wanted to run most of the truck traffic up to the industrial area. I think it should be spread out where some of it is going up Kitty

Hawk and maybe even spread out some of it to go toward Technology," he suggested. "Not all the traffic will be going towards one spot."

Merrill worried about safety and noise issues if all traffic attributed to the PUD was funneled onto Mammoth without controls in place.

Despite the concerns, the board voted to conditionally approve the site plan.

OBITUARY

Winfield "Skip" Thurlow

Winfield "Skip" Thurlow, a beloved husband, father, brother, grandfather and friend passed away peacefully after a short illness on Dec. 10, 2024 in North Carolina at the age of 78. Born on April 29, 1946 in Lowell, MA, Skip lived a life full of love, dedication and passion.

Skip was a devoted husband to his wife, Linda Plante Thurlow, with whom he shared 60 wonderful years of marriage. They were wed on April 4, 1964 in Lowell, MA. Together, they built a family rooted in love and faith, raising their children and cherishing their grandchildren. Skip & Linda moved the family to Nashua, NH in the 1980's where they would live until they decided to spend the remainder of their retirement years in NC to enjoy the warmer weather in 2020.

Professionally, Skip excelled in the semiconductor field, where he served as a group leader in various locations. His leadership and expertise were highly regarded by his colleagues and peers.

Skip had a zest for life that extended beyond his professional achievements. He was an avid golfer and a cherished member of the Nashua NH Senior Center Golf League. His passion for golf was one of the reasons for the move to NC, so he could continue to golf year round. His love for music was evident in his talent for playing the guitar and his enthusiasm for karaoke, bringing joy to those around him with his performances. He loved entertaining family and friends with his impersonations of Elvis which he was quite good at. Skip also had a great sense of humor and will always be remembered for his funny jokes and silly wit that brought on laughter and happiness to those around him. He greatly enjoyed the many years he spent with his wife Linda vacationing at the Poland Springs Resort, ME, where they would meet up with the many good friends they met there. His greatest joy in life though was spending time with his family, whether it was camping or just family gatherings & BBQ's, Skip embraced every moment.

A man of deep faith, Skip accepted Christ at an early age and was a lifelong Catholic, finding strength and guidance in his beliefs throughout his life.

Skip is preceded in death by his parents, Winfield and Hope Nichols Thurlow; his sisters Ginny Kokoliadis and Carol Pratt; his brother Edward Thurlow; and his beloved son Michael Thurlow. He is also predeceased by his brother in law George Kokoliadis and sister in law June Thurlow.

He is survived by his loving wife, Linda E. Thurlow; his daughters Linda M. Thurlow, Cheri Dubois and spouse Marc of Londonderry, NH; his cherished grandchildren, Nicky Sawyer and companion Paul Healy, Jason Sawyer and spouse Carolyn, Kevin Sawyer, Corinne Dubois and Connor Dubois. He also leaves behind his sisters; Cynthia Reid and spouse Gary, Jean Lizotte, Gloria Paicopolos and companion Louis; many nieces, nephews, grandnieces, and grandnephews.

Skip's legacy of love, kindness and joy will be remembered by all who knew him. His memory will live on in the hearts of his family and friends, who will forever cherish the moments shared with him.

A service will be held followed by a celebration of life at a future date that has yet to be determined.

Aggregation

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The Utilities Committee hoped to get the contract for the plan signed sooner rather than later, something that would require coordination with the new acting Town Manager.

"The Town Manager has signature authority, when do we need to present that to him to sign it?" asked Committee Chair Lynn Wiles.

Presuming the rates were favorable, Fromuth wanted the contract signed on the same day they got the final rates. This would likely be sometime after Dec. 12, as several rounds of "indicative pricing" were needed to make a final determination of Aggregation rates. He agreed to send the Committee a sample contract, giving its members time to look over likely terms in the Aggregation agreement, even without the final rate numbers.

If the Dec. 12 rates prove to be higher than expected, the March launch would be pushed

back to summer 2025. Freedom Energy Logistics and Colonial Power have repeatedly emphasized the need for a launch date with rates below Eversource.

"The next launch window would not be until about July, because that's when we get the rate information for the

August cycle," said Fromuth, who reiterated the importance of showing immediate results from Community Aggregation. "If it's choppy, or if there's not savings to be had, it kills the program in the cradle, and towns usually fold after that in terms of moving forward with this."

"A few of us have a briefing with the Town Manager to tell him where we're at for this program and to get him ready to sign on the dotted line," said Wiles.

The next meeting is set for Tuesday, Jan. 7, 2025, on the first floor of the Moose Hill Council Chambers.



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Editorial

Peace on Earth Good Will Towards Man

Every year, in this issue, which comes out right before Christmas, we like to be light-hearted and full of good wishes. As always, we wish our readers the best during the holiday season. Looking back at a year full of meaningless death, hate, bullying, and the hard times many are going through, there is nothing brighter than the smile or hardy laugh of a child during this season to give us hope for a better world.

Children who look at the world with innocent eyes only see something wondrous and magical about to happen as we head into the brightest day of the year. They sing with their loudest voices and widest grins, they'll do their best to be good, for goodness' sake. They give us hope that mankind can do better and be better.

Young children at Christmas time are unaware of the world's evil; in their innocence, they remain immune to most of the evil, horrors, and misfortunes that are so apparent to the rest of us. We should take a cue from the young and try our best to lose ourselves in the magic and wonder of the season, and do our best to make their dreams and hopes a reality.

The happiest time of the year can also be the saddest or hardest time for many, so be of kind heart

with words and actions.

This week I got a few calls from residents who don't know me, but were concerned about my health and well-being. This business is very hard and thankless; you see more of the ugliness in the world than most. Yes, we see the good but less of it compared to the bad. Back to these calls, I think my heart grew three sizes to know that there are still good, caring people out there in the world.

We are reminded even more to cherish those we hold dear; not to take for granted our loved ones and our neighbors, and to celebrate the true spirit of the holidays. A spirit that is not about gifts, material goods, and feverish bouts of shopping, but centers on love and appreciation of those close to us.

Lend a hand where and when it's needed to spread the spirit of joy to those who will have trouble finding it; that's a blessing in itself. So, when the dark nature of news, events, or circumstances threatens to erode your holiday joy, stare into the eyes of a child, recall their smile, and let that fill your heart with hope.

Let the spirit of the season fill you with joy and love in your hearts, and work toward goodwill toward all.



St. Mark's Annual Tree Sale

St Mark's Knights of Columbus has been conducting their yearly Christmas Tree Sale at Chuck's BP in Londonderry. Thanks to donations by local businesses, Chuck's BP, Penske for transportation, and Sunnycrest Farm for pallets, that allow the Knights to make donations to local charities.

All proceeds go to charities such as Special Olympics, Coats for Kids, Scholarships, Food Pantries, and other community needs.

The sale started on Friday, Nov. 29 and take place starting at Noon to 6 p.m. and runs until the trees are gone. Hours are Mon, Thur. & Fri. 6-8 p.m., Sat & Sun 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Pictured are: Left to right: Joe Maffatone, Owen Cook, Chris Cook, Bob Oliver, Ed Doherty, Jim Spies, Mark D'Anjou, Nick Maffatone, Scott Nutter, Jim Cassidy, Jim Pacocha, Brian Roche, Greg Cappiello, Wick Wickline, Chris Beliveau, Bruce Marianelli, Paul Bartlett, Tim Bowen

Planning

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address along with staffing issues as well.

"We have a lot of things that need to be addressed," Butler said.

It was explained by DeFrancesco during the Dec. 3 meeting, that he thinks they should decide on whether or not they wanted to ask the Town Council at this point to look at implementing a temporary moratorium on development.

DeFrancesco said he thinks if they were to go with a temporary moratorium the "legal calamity that it could cause is very real."

He also said that based on his research he thinks the case law is "sketchy" and said if something was enacted now "it could cost the taxpayers quite a bit of money" also noting it could disrupt some things.

"We need to have consensus one way or another," DeFrancesco said.

Planning Board Vice Chair Art Rugg said he thinks the best thing to do is to have a joint meeting at some point between the Planning Board and the Town Council.

"They're the ones that are going to make the decision on it, it's not us," Rugg said.

Planning Board ex-officio Giovanni Verani previously said he thinks staffing needs to be addressed independent of a proposed growth moratorium.

"I think that starts with the Town Council to hire a Town Manager," he said.

He also noted that there is a housing crisis going on in the State, and that Londonderry is in a favorable location to build.

"There is a huge housing crisis out

there," Verani said, noting that they should look at smart development.

It was ultimately decided by the Planning Board to not take any action at this time.

Butler said that it's important that they at least discussed the potential for seeking a temporary moratorium.

"I think what's important is we had the conversation about it because it seems a lot of the time we don't have conversation," he said.

He also said he hopes the Town will support looking at the infrastructure needs in Town.

"I hope that through this conversation our leadership at the council realizes that the infrastructure throughout this town is a real issue and it should be front and center and it needs to be discussed. It needs to be figured out how some of these improvements can be funded," Butler said.



Londonderry Times

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Swag Night Gets Residents in the Holiday Spirit



The GREEN Team of Londonderry held its annual Swag Night recently at the Granite YMCA. Holiday greens were donated by Estey's Country Store and members collected materials to create holiday swags and wreaths. *Photos by Chris Paul and Linna Lee*

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Hudson Teenager Threatens Teens, Mom Near Airport with a Machete

PAUL CONYERS
LONDONDERRY TIMES

An 18-year-old Hudson man was arrested last week on four counts of criminal threatening with a deadly weapon after police say he used a machete during an argument near the Manchester Regional Airport.

According to a report by Lt. Garrett Malloy of the Londonderry Police Department, on Friday, Dec. 13, at approximate-

ly 11:15 p.m., the Londonderry Police Department responded to a report of Criminal Threatening with a weapon.

Officers determined that three juvenile females had been stopped in a vehicle on Planeview Drive when a second vehicle approached. The occupants of the second vehicle allegedly shouted at the juveniles before leaving the area. The juveniles recognized



Timothy Maghakian

the individuals due to an ongoing dispute be-

tween the parties.

One of the juveniles called her mother, who arrived at the scene. Shortly thereafter, the suspect vehicle returned, and the male driver exited the car, holding what appeared to be a machete. The suspect reportedly threatened the juveniles and the adult with the weapon.

The victims provided officers with a description of the suspect and the vehicle, including its

registration number. A "Be On the Lookout" (BOLO) alert was issued to surrounding law enforcement agencies for 18-year-old Timothy Maghakian of Hudson.

According to the report, Maghakian was apprehended just over an hour later in Merrimack.

The report states, "At approximately 12:30 a.m., the Merrimack Police Department located the vehicle and took Maghakian into custody. He

was arrested on four counts of Criminal Threatening with a Deadly Weapon. His vehicle was impounded, pending a search warrant. No injuries were reported in the incident.

Maghakian refused bail and was transported to the Rockingham County House of Corrections."

Maghakian was scheduled to appear in Derry District Court on Monday, Dec. 16.

Conservation Commission Tries to Determine Status of Land Donation

PAUL CONYERS
LONDONDERRY TIMES

The Conservation Commission met on Nov. 26 to discuss what the impact would be regarding the recent resignation of Town Manager Mike Malaguti would be regarding environmental planning in town. Recreation Director Art Psaledas will serve as the Acting Town Manager.

"Art can contact Mike and ask him any questions you guys have. Mike has agreed to help us out with the transition," said Town Council Liaison Ron Dunn. "Anything you guys have in

the works; Mike is willing to help us."

Chair Marge Badois was particularly concerned about legal issues around land acquisitions the Conservation Commission hoped to finalize over the next few months, including a land donation around the intersection of Highway 102 and Parmenter Road. Alternate Mike Speltz was unsure when that donation would come before the Town Council for approval.

"I did inspect the property. I saw no environmental concerns," said Speltz. "My offer was to draft a deed, but I

don't have an answer if the town wants that."

He wanted more information on the matter from the Town Manager and the Town Council on the donation. Members wanted to eliminate any question over land ownership.

The Conservation Commission announced progress on the boat launch.

"We have gotten an approval from our permit-by-notification," said Speltz. "One of the requirements is that we record an agreement with the DES at the registry. That requires the signature of not only Marge, which is pretty straightforward, but of the contractor as well. The contractor is obligated to follow the con-

ditions of approval and right now, the contractor doesn't even know we're revising the design."

Getting approval from the NH Department of Environmental Services had taken longer than expected.

The Commission also talked about what they wanted to do in response to the developing Master Plan, which had undertaken a survey.

"We are going to be publishing the results of the survey," said Badois.

"There is interest in people keeping informed on this."

Green development had been a topic of discussion with both the Conservation Commission and the Master Plan Committee, mainly as part of the debate over what to do with existing land-use regulations in town.

"It would be appropriate to have something in the plan saying we should have something in the plan saying we should revise site

plan and subdivision regulations to be more supportive of green development," said Speltz. "No minimum required parking spaces, EV charging, sidewalks, all of these things."

He singled out adding more EV stations as an area he believed the Commission should focus on, especially with the expected growth of both Londonderry and electric vehicle ownership in the coming decades.

Nutfield Publishing Will Not Be Publishing on Jan. 2, 2025

In lieu of the upcoming holidays, Nutfield Publishing will not be printing a newspaper on Jan. 2. The staff uses this time each year to take a short break to celebrate the holiday. Our next paper will be produced on Thursday, Jan. 9. We thank our readers and wish you a happy and safe new year.

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Library Trustees Face Questions Over Support of Library Director

PAUL CONYERS
LONDONDERRY TIMES

The Leach Library Board of Trustees had a decent turnout from the public at its Dec. 4 meeting, first hearing from Head of Circulation Services Megan Donovan of 45 Chase Road.

“There have been many instances of people coming up to me: patrons, friends, talking about how the Trustees don’t support the library staff,” said Donovan, who specifically wanted to address rumors that at least some Trustees wanted to remove Library Director Erin Matlin. “Is that something you support here in the library staff, or do you want to see a change?”

Donovan said the source of the rumors could not be confirmed.

“That’s obviously a rumor,” said Trustee Christine Fitzgerald. “I support the library and I support its staff, otherwise I wouldn’t be here as a Trustee, but I also support the citizens and taxpayers.”

Fitzgerald added the Library Trustees were volunteering their time.

When pressed for a yes or no answer as to whether they supported the Library Director, the Trustees declined to elaborate beyond emphasizing their support for the library. Other members of the public expressed frustration at this, including Donna Reinhold of 77 Pendleton Ln.

“I want to put it on the record, I think Erin Matlin is doing a great job. I’m a little concerned there are rumors, be-

cause rumors come from somewhere,” said Reinhold. “I’m concerned there is a member of the Board who will not outright answer. I know that libraries are being politicized, let’s no politicize Londonderry’s library. This is the gem of the town.”

Responding to the questions over the Board’s support of Matlin, Treasurer Jan McLaughlin argued that their connection to the Library Director was like “an employer-employee relationships.”

“Those relationships aren’t something that any manager or employer should be answering about any employee that they manage. It’s not appropriate, they should be addressing it directly with the employee in question,”

said McLaughlin. “I think for my colleagues to say ‘I support the library’ is an appropriate thing for a Library Trustee to say.”

Trustee Liz Thomas agreed, saying the Board should use more discretion when discussing sensitive topics.

“Because rumors are appearing in this envi-

ronment, we need to be conscious about what were saying in public,” said Thomas.

Resident Erica Laue praised library programs put in place over the last few years.

“I really appreciate what you, and Erin, and all the staff at the library have done for our kids and I agree we should

keep moving in this direction. I appreciate that,” she said. “I think the reason that people come and speak at things like this and people volunteer to become Trustees is because we all care so much about this public resource.”

Laue asked that everyone to “work together.”

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Gingerbread Housing Developed at North School Event



Second grade students at North Elementary School took part in the annual Gingerbread House building event on Friday afternoon, Dec. 13. Parents sent in thousands of sweet materials for the students to build with. *Photos by Chris Paul*

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LONDONDERRY SPORTS

Lancers Boys' Basketball Wallop Warriors in Home Opener

CHRIS PAUL
LONDONDERRY TIMES

The Londonderry High School Boys' Basketball team had an excellent start to the 2024-25 winter sports season, beating the Warriors of Winnacunnet High School by 13-points in the team's home-opener.

The Lancers have come into the new season hoping to improve on their 9-9 record from last year, a not so distant memory where they entered the Division I tournament as the number 11 seed and were taken out in the first round by the Windham

Jaguars.

In their first game of the season, on Friday night, Dec. 13, at home, Londonderry was able to lead throughout the contest, outscoring WHS in three of four quarters.

The Lancers started the first period with a slim 15-14, but pulled away 35-26 by the half.

The LHS squad was then outscored 13-10 in the third, but rebounded in the final quarter 23-16 for the eventual 68-55 victory.

Senior forward, Mason Paquette, led the team in scoring with 16-points.

Paquette had five

successful shots inside the arc and went 6-6 at the foul line.

Senior forward Blake Thompson went four-for-four outside the arc and finished with 12-points in outside shooting.

Senior forward Matt Luongo scored 11-points, getting one three-pointer, one for two and was also 6-6 in free-throws.

Senior Nathan Marshall had nine-points in every quarter. He had three from the floor and three free-throws.

Senior guard, James Totten, had eight points

with one three-pointer, two baskets and one free-throw.

Other scorers were: Senior Jameson Seaman with six; Senior Cam Madden had three; freshman Garrett Nahlik got two and junior Jaylan Ncala scored one.

The team is scheduled to have two more regular-season games before the holiday break.

The Lancers played in Exeter on Tuesday, Dec. 17, and will finish the week at home against Manchester Memorial on Friday night, Dec. 19, starting at 7 p.m.



Mason Paquette

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Lancers Girls' Hoops Start with Big Win Over Warriors

CHRIS PAUL
LONDONDERRY TIMES

The Londonderry High School Girls' Basketball team hopes to build off the success from last season's 16-2 finish and they managed to get off to an outstanding start in Hampton at their first game of the season.

The Lancers easily got past the Warriors at Winnacunnet High School on Friday night, Dec. 13, winning by 55-points and making short work of a

distant road game.

The LHS squad made it as far as the semi-finals last season, finishing their exceptional season with a 78-54 semi-final loss to rivals Pinkerton Academy in the Division I playoffs.

In last week's 81-26 victory over the Warriors Londonderry took an early lead and never looked back, outpacing their opponents in each and every quarter.

Sophomore guard Gemma Murray finished

the game with 28-points, playing in all four quarters, getting five three-pointers, five for two-points and three free-throws from the line.

Junior guard/forward Sammy Sullivan and junior guard Brooke Eacrett each had 17-points in the victory.

Sullivan played in three quarters, getting three from outside the arc, two inside and went four for six at the free-throw line.

Eacrett put up five

field goals, one three-pointer and went 4-4 at the line.

Senior guard Mia Giampa ended with two, three-pointers and finished with six-points.

Senior guard Talia Iorio and junior Brooke Wilson had five points in the game. Both got two buckets in the win, one for which were three-pointers.

Senior Reagan Anderson and freshman guard Emerson Dodge both had a basket two finish with two each.

After the great start to the season, the team was scheduled for just one more game before the holiday break.

The Lady Lancers faced the Exeter Blue Hawks on Monday night, Dec. 16 at Londonderry High School



Gemma Murray scored 28-points during the season opener in Hampton. Photo by Chris Paul

Londonderry Wrestlers Run Into Troubles Near & Far

CHRIS PAUL
LONDONDERRY TIMES

The Londonderry High School wrestling team had a tough start to the winter season, facing four exceptional schools and dropping all four contests.

On Wednesday night, Dec. 11, the Lancers headed south to take on the two-time Division I champions, the Salem High School Blue Devils.

The team was also without one of last year's state champions, Nic D'Alessandro, who

will be out most of the season after a hand injury suffered during practice.

Londonderry fell 24-60 in their season opening Dual Meet watching six straight bouts go to Salem to start the evening.

Londonderry was able to stop the wave of wins with the team's first victory coming from sophomore Caleb Holden, at 150-pounds with a fall at 4:22.

At 157-pounds, senior Conner Parsons also won by fall. His match finished at 4:57.

Junior Brendan Egan, at 165 lbs., was able to add another six-points to the team tally with a Fall at 2:25.

The final LHS win came from state champion David Pento Jr. (175 lbs.) over Lucas Rodrigues with a quick

pin at 1:21.

Overall, the Blue Devils took 10 of the 14 matches for the win.

Over the weekend, the Lancers traveled to Westford Academy for the Westford Duals facing teams from Westford Academy, Danvers, Foxborough, and North-east/Metro Tech.

In the dual match against Northeast Tech/Bishop Fenwick, Londonderry fell 48-36.

Wins came from: Caleb Holden (150 lbs.) Fall at 1:03; Brendan

Egan (165 lbs.) Fall 1:28; David Pento (175 lbs.) Forfeit. Lachlan Buttle (190 lbs.) Fall at 3:08; Lucas DeLeon (106 lbs.) Forfeit; and Cam Rous-sell (120 lbs.) Fall at 0:27.

Against Westford Academy, Londonderry fell 54-30.

Wins came from: Cam Rousell (120 lbs.) Fall at 0:20; Dylan Nadeau (132 lbs.) Fall at 3:12; Caleb Holden (150) Fall at 1:27; Brendan Egan (165) Fall at 1:57; and Lucas DeLeon (106) Fall at 0:22.

Londonderry fell 7-68 to Foxborough with the team's only victories coming from Cam Rous-sell (120) with a 14-11 decision and David Pento Jr. (175) with a 19-2 technical fall at 2:00.

The team is sched-uled to host two events this week, first, a home dual meet with the Bedford Bulldogs at Londonderry Middle School on Thursday night. They will then host the annual Holiday Tournament at LHS on Saturday, Dec. 21.



Conner Parsons got one of the four wins against the Salem Blue Devils. Photo by Chris Paul



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Dodgeball Youngsters Battle Parents in Season Finale



The Londonderry Recreation Dodgeball program finished its eight-week season with a friendly game of Parents vs. Kids last week. Three groups took advantage of the second season of the program: Grades K-1, Grades 2-4, and Grades 5-8. Rec has three sessions offered throughout the school year (Fall, Winter, and Spring). Each week, teams play a variety of different dodgeball games ending with each session with the Parents vs. Kids night.

Photos by Chris Paul



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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.

Annual Tree Burn

All are welcome on Friday Jan. 3 with a rain date on the Jan. 4, to Estey's Country Store in Londonderry on RT 102 for their 4th Annual Tree Burn from 6 p.m. until . Friends, customers, bring a tree or just stop by for a bonfire, s'mores, Hot Chocolate, and good company.

Library Holiday Hours

Leach Library is open Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m. - 8 p.m.

and Friday and Saturday from 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. For the holidays, the library will close at 2:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Dec. 24 and Tuesday, Dec. 31. The library will be closed on Wednesday, Dec. 25 and Wednesday, Jan. 1.

Holiday Gift Book Sale

Come to the Leach Library for the first Holiday Gift Book Sale. Items for sale include books, unopened DVDs, and puzzles. They are brand new or like-new items that can

be used as gifts for friends and family. Items are priced as marked and may be paid by cash or check. All proceeds support the Leach Library. The sale ends on Dec. 31, but supplies are limited, and they are going fast, so stop in today.

Washi Painting for Teens

Come to the Leach Library on Monday, Dec. 23 for a fun washi tape painting afternoon. Teens and tweens will create

their own painted masterpieces using acrylic paint and washi tape. Space is limited and registration is required. This program is intended for participants aged 9-18. Registration begins on Monday, Dec. 16.

Baker Street Escapes Mini Escape Rooms

Mini escape room program once a month in Leach Library's Study Room A for teens. Find inspiration from the original consulting detective, Sherlock Holmes, and unlock the mystery. Each month will feature different themes and puzzles to solve. Join the next mystery on Friday, Dec. 20 from 3-4 p.m. Space is limited and registration is required. This program is intended for participants aged 12-18.

Adult Book Bingo

Adults are invited to

play Bingo and win free books from the Leach Library book sale. This event will be held at the library on Friday, Dec. 27 at 10 a.m. Registration is required.

Laser Tag Tournament

Teens and tweens are invited to a special after-hours program on Friday, Dec. 27 from 6 - 7:30 p.m. at the Leach Library. Participants aged 11-18 will participate in a friendly Laser Tag Tournament and capture the flag style experience in the Main Library. Space is limited and registration is required. This program is intended for participants aged 11-18. Registration begins on Friday, Dec. 20.

Saturday Children's Crafts

A variety of crafts will be available throughout the day on Saturday, Dec. 28 in the Leach Library

Children's Room, while supplies last. Stop by to work on a craft or two or take one home for later. Registration is not required for this program.

Adult Take and Make Craft

New Year's ornament crafts for adults will be available at the Leach Library on Saturday, Dec. 28 while supplies last. No registration required.

Jigsaw Puzzle Competition

Gather a team of up to 4 people to compete against other groups in a timed jigsaw puzzle competition at Leach Library on Monday, Dec. 30 at 10 a.m. Teams will have 90 minutes to put together their puzzle. Each team will be working on an identical 500-piece puzzle provided by the library. First place team members will

Continued on page 14

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Around Town

Continued from page 13

be awarded a free book from the book sale and bragging rights. Registration is required and opens on Monday, Dec. 16. Participation is limited to 20 people, and individual registrants are welcome.

Mini Art Studio

Teens and tweens are invited to unleash their creative sides by creating miniature works of art on Monday, Dec. 30 at 3 p.m.

in the Leach Library Meeting Room. Participants will have the opportunity to create tiny canvas pictures, decorate mini tile magnets, and fold little origami sculptures. This program is intended for participants aged 9-18. Registration begins on Friday, Dec. 20.

Noon Year's Eve Party

Celebrate the upcoming new year with a Noon Year's Eve Party for children at Leach Library on Tuesday, Dec. 31 at 11:30

a.m. Play a game, have a snack, and create your own party hat while we countdown the almost-New Year. At noon, we'll have a midnight-worthy celebration. Registration is required.

Red Cross Blood Drive

The Red Cross is in dire need of blood donations, please come and make a blood donation. The Londonderry Rotary Club, in partnership with the Red Cross, will be hosting a

continued on page 20

Londonderry Police Log

Selections taken from the daily Londonderry Police Logs

Monday, Dec. 9

8:39 a.m. Drug Offenses investigated at R&C Fabrications on Rockingham Road.

9:17 a.m. Welfare Check conducted by four officers on Vista Ridge Drive.

12:59 p.m. Shoplifting arrest made at Market Basket on Michels Way. Zana Gorman, 27 of Manchester, charged with: Theft By Unauthorized Taking of \$0-\$1,000; and Simple Assault (Physical Contact or Bodily Injury).

4:50 p.m. Arrest made by four officers during a Motor Vehicle Stop at Auburn Road on Rockingham Road. Joanne Ginnard, 69, of London-

derry, charged with: Reckless Operation; and Driving Under the Influence - Impairment.

Tuesday, Dec. 10

3:58 a.m. Medical Emergency at Manchester Boston Regional Airport transported to a hospital.

4:26 a.m. Services rendered for Suspicious Activity at the Manchester Boston Regional Airport.

8:59 a.m. Services rendered for Trespassing at Cracker Barrel Old Country Store on Nashua Road.

10:12 a.m. Motor vehicle stop at Planeview Drive, on Harvey Road,

leads to an arrest. Tom Nunez, 18, Manchester, charged with: Operation without a Valid License - License Required; and driving an Unregistered Vehicle.

10:18 a.m. Welfare Check conducted by three officers on Reed Street.

3:37 p.m. Warrant served and arrest made on Jack Rabbit Lane in Stratham. Seth Butler, 41, of Stratham, charged with Stalking - Notice of Order.

3:41 p.m. Medical Emergency transported to a hospital from Manchester Boston Regional Airport.

6:04 p.m. Services rendered to Keep the Peace on Isabella Drive.

6:02 p.m. Services rendered for Juvenile Offenses at Londonderry High School.

7:36 p.m. Warrant served and arrest made on Ash Street. Ethan Anderson, 23, of Springfield, VT, charged with: Reckless Conduct - Deadly Weapon; Unauthorized Use/Firearm/Firecracker; and Disorderly Conduct.

8:31 p.m. Warrant served at Awesome Cards, Collectibles, & Games on

Nashua Road, subject taken/referred to another agency. Ronald Mastropietro, 60, of Salem, charged with Theft By Unauthorized Taking of \$0-\$1,000.

Wednesday, Dec. 11

1:17 a.m. Animal Control responds to report of a Dog Bite on Harmony Drive.

8:37 a.m. Medical Emergency, at Londonderry High School, taken/referred to another agency.

3:38 a.m. Auto Theft investigated at Manchester Boston Regional Airport.

3:54 p.m. Disturbance on Ross Drive investigated by three officers.

5:10 p.m. Services rendered by three officers for a Domestic Disturbance on Rocco Drive.

Thursday, Dec. 12

8:10 a.m. Larceny/Forgery/Fraud investigated at the 7-Eleven on Rockingham Road.

9:10 a.m. Suicide Attempt/Threat on Clark Road transported to a hospital.

12:10 p.m. Three officers respond to a Disturbance on King Charles Drive.

4:39 p.m. Suspicious Activity investigated by three officers at Manchester Boston Regional

Airport.

Friday, Nov. Dec. 13

11:32 a.m. Four officers investigate suspicious activity at The Learning Tree Early Education Center on Crosby Lane.

12:16 p.m. Drug Offenses investigated on Capitol Hill Drive.

3:46 p.m. Disturbance investigated on Symmes Drive.

4:16 p.m. Three officers investigate a Disturbance at The Learning Tree Early Education Center on Crosby Lane.

5:35 p.m. Welfare Check investigated by three officers at Home Depot on Nashua Road.

Saturday, Dec. 14

11:18 a.m. Services rendered for Trespassing on Charleston Avenue.

6:11 p.m. Six officers render services for a Sudden Death on Morrison Drive.

Sunday, Dec. 15

12:40 a.m. Motor vehicle stop on Rockingham Road, at Route 93, leads to an arrest made by four officers. Taylor Lorange, 30, Manchester, charged with Driving Under the Influence - Impairment.

10:34 a.m. Unlawful Activities investigated at an abandoned warehouse on Independence Drive.

1:14 p.m. Peace restored during a Domestic Disturbance on White Plains Avenue.

5:49 p.m. Five officers assist a citizen at Market Basket, on Michels Way, taken/referred to another agency.

Around Town

Continued from page 14

blood drive, on Monday, Dec. 23, from 11 a.m. - 4 p.m., at the Londonderry High School Cafeteria. To schedule your appointment for blood donation at this blood drive, please call 1-900-733-2767 or visit "redcrossblood.org" and enter the sponsor code: LONDONDERRY ROTARY.

Menorah Lighting

Join the Etz Hayim Synagogue for the 3rd night of Chanukah and Shabbat Services on Friday, Dec. 27, at 7:15 p.m. hey will light their outdoor giant electronic menorah. Please bring your own menorah and four candles. Etz Hayim Synagogue is located at 1-1/2 Hood Rd., Derry, NH.

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.

Free Meals

Heaven's Kitchen Mobile Meals is providing FREE hot meals in Londonderry every Tuesday and Thursday. They'll be serving at the Leach Library parking lot now through March 28, 2025 from 3:45 - 4:15 p.m.

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)

Be Kind - Do Good

The Sonshine Soup Kitchen located at 6 Crystal Ave., Derry, is seeking Volunteers age 18+ for help preparing and serving drive-through meals: Monday -Thursday, 3 - 6 p.m. For more information or if you have questions call 603.437.2833.

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OBITUARY

R. Stanley "Stan" Meisser



R. Stanley "Stan" Meisser, 92, of Londonderry, NH, died Saturday Dec. 14, 2024, at his home surrounded by his loving family. Stan was the son of Stanley and Katherine (Siek) Meisser, born in Lawrence, MA on Oct. 29, 1932 and had been a resident of Londonderry for the past 12 years, formerly living in Gilford, NH.

Stan was only three years of age when the family moved to Lowell where he attended the local schools and Keith Academy. He attended Merrimack College for two years before entering the Army. While in the service, he finished radio school and communication school. He was then shipped to Korea, working in communications and eventually becoming communication chief at the 366th EAB in Tague, Korea.

Upon being released from the service, Stan went back to Merrimack to finish up his studies. Also upon being released from the service, he rekindled ties with Frances, who would become his loving wife in 1958. Stan felt very blessed that their marriage lasted 63 years before her passing.

Stan worked in the family business his entire life. He worked various jobs, but the one he enjoyed most was driving tractor trailer for the Essem Packing Co., of which he was owner and president. He also enjoyed boating on "the big lake," Lake Winnepesaukee for over 60 years. Stan and his wife Frances were active members of the Nevins Community in Londonderry.

Stan also enjoyed playing both his piano and organ for anyone who wanted to listen. He found it relaxing and very enjoyable.

He is survived by his three sons, Robert Meisser and wife Mary Beth of Salisbury, MA, Brian Meisser and wife Veronica of Weare, NH, and Richard Meisser of Junction City, OR; one daughter, Karen Meunier and husband Alan of Bristol, NH; nine grandchildren, five great-grandchildren, as well as many nieces. He is predeceased by his wife, Frances, who died in August 2021; sister, Alicia McMurtrie, and brother, Rudolf "Jack" Meisser.

Following cremation, a Memorial Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated on Saturday Dec. 21, 2024 at 10 a.m., in St. Jude Parish, 435 Mammoth Rd., Londonderry. Private burial with his wife will be in Saint Mary Cemetery, Tewksbury, MA. Memorial contributions may be made to a charity of ones choice. To send a condolence please visit www.peabodyfuneralhome.com.



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SALES HOURS

Monday	9:00AM - 8:00PM
Tuesday	9:00AM - 8:00PM
Wednesday	9:00AM - 8:00PM
Thursday	9:00AM - 8:00PM
Friday	9:00AM - 6:00PM
Saturday	9:00AM - 5:00PM
Sunday	10:00AM - 3:00PM

SERVICE HOURS

Monday	7:00AM - 6:00PM
Tuesday	7:00AM - 6:00PM
Wednesday	7:00AM - 6:00PM
Thursday	7:00AM - 6:00PM
Friday	7:00AM - 5:00PM
Saturday	8:00AM - 3:00PM
Sunday	CLOSED