

# Londonderry Times

February 20, 2025 ♦ Volume 27 – Issue 7

A FREE Weekly Publication



## Field Day Feast

Kenneth and James Bell relax by the fire at the Landing during the Musquash Field Day held on Saturday, Feb. 15. Hot dogs, hot chocolate and cookies were being served up for those who braved the elements See more photos page 8. Photo by Chris Paul

## Warrant Article Looks To Fund Unforeseen Increases

ALEX MALM  
LONDONDERRY TIMES

At the last week's Town Deliberative Session, a warrant article was debated that would set up an Expendable Trust Fund.

The warrant article states:

"To see if the town will vote to establish an Expendable Trust Fund

for additional overtime & payroll costs in Public Safety under the provisions of RSA 31:19-a for the purpose of assisting in the costs associated with unforeseen circumstances and/or situations that may arise that would exceed the Town's budgetary ability for the Town's Public Safety Departments

(Fire, Police, Public Works), and further to raise and appropriate the sum of \$200,000 to be placed in said fund, and to authorize the use of \$200,000 from the June 30 Unassigned Fund Balance towards this appropriation. Further, to name the Town Council as agents to

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## Long-Term Plans Being Made for Energy and Water Development

PAUL CONYERS  
LONDONDERRY TIMES

The February meeting of the Londonderry Utilities Committee saw progress on long-term energy planning for the town, especially with solar power.

"I have done a little bit more work on that, especially on residential solar," said Chair Lynn Wiles. "I've been collecting some information from the assessor's office on how solar arrays are assessed and taxed in town. I think we might want to make some recommendations on our master plan on how that could be changed to provide a little bit more incentive."

The hope was that a

few changes to tax assessments would encourage more residents to invest in rooftop solar without much of an overall revenue impact on Londonderry. Wiles also hoped to include the Utilities Committee more in the ongoing master plan process, which has emphasized the importance of housing.

The Community Choice Aggregation Plan saw no progress through the first month of 2025 as Londonderry continued monitoring energy rates.

"Rates do not appear to be coming down," said Committee member Paul Ramsey. "In today's energy market, 24% of power in New England is imported from Canada."

There were concerns over the availability of imported energy and how that could continue to impact the cost of electricity in the coming months.

Jeff McGraw and the water subcommittee also looked towards long-term planning with an eye on having a clear, coherent strategy in the master plan.

"There are a couple different vectors we're pursuing and we're looking to get a little more detail on water quality across town," he said. "That's just a couple more phone calls on my part, I plan on getting some more data so that we'll be ready to pull

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## Trustees Question Claims of Library Overspending

PAUL CONYERS  
LONDONDERRY TIMES

The Feb. 5 meeting of the Leach Library Board of Trustees saw a high public turnout, including State Rep. Kristine Perez, who expressed concerns over library finances.

"When it was brought up about the top 14 biggest library budgets in the state, and Leach being one of the top 14, it concerned me," said Perez. "You're last in adult programming attendance, the only library with all Master's

degrees, lowest website visits, the highest percentage of money spent on salary and benefits, that's the highest in the state."

Perez also claimed the Leach Library had the second lowest e-book circulation numbers in NH, the second lowest audiobook circulation numbers, and the second lowest young adult programming numbers.

"I just wanted to see what you all, as a board, want to do to try and rectify all that," said Perez. "Those are just

not a good show for the town with all the money that is being spent."

These claims were initially brought up by Councilor Shawn Faber at a recent Town Council meeting and could not be immediately verified, with Perez saying they

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# School Warrant Articles Sent To Ballot at Deliberative

ALEX MALM  
LONDONDERRY TIMES

Several warrant articles were moved to the ballot during the Londonderry School District Deliberative Session held on Feb. 7, without any debate.

One of the warrant articles was to raise \$520,000 to be placed in the District Wide Buildings and Grounds Capital Reserve Funds. The estimated tax rate impact is 7 cents.

Another article is for the District Technology Network Infrastructure Capital Reserve Fund. The warrant article states: "Shall the voters of the Londonderry School District vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$125,000 to be placed in

the School District Technology Network Infrastructure Capital Reserve Fund established in March 2019 School District meeting to provide funds for equipment and services for the school district network infrastructure such as, but not limited to, routers, wiring, switches, access points, wireless network improvements or any other equipment software or service that is necessary for the maintenance, improvement, performance or management of the district's network?" The estimated tax rate impact would be 2 cents.

Article 10 would be for the Equipment Capital Reserve Fund. This warrant article states:

"Shall the voters of the Londonderry School District vote to raise and appropriate up to the sum of \$95,000 to be placed in the School District Equipment Capital Reserve Fund established in 2013 for the purpose of funding the acquisition of minor ongoing equipment and tools, such as but not limited to classroom furniture, technology, furniture, building maintenance equipment and tools, used in the School District, with this sum to come from the June 30, 2025 fund balance available for transfer on July 1, 2025 and no amount to be raised by additional taxation?"

Article 11 is for the Vehicle & Machinery

Capital Reserve Fund. The warrant article states: "Shall the voters of the Londonderry School District vote to raise and appropriate up to the sum of \$50,000 to be placed in the Vehicle and Machinery Capital Reserve Fund established in March 2020 for the purpose of funding the acquisition of vehicles and machinery with this sum to come from the June 30, 2025 fund bal-

ance available for transfer on July 1, 2025, and no amount to be raised by additional taxation?"

The school lunch program warrant article was also sent to the ballot. The warrant article states: "Shall the voters of the Londonderry School District vote to accept and receive federal grants and other such funds to support the school lunch program and federal projects; fur-

ther to raise and appropriate such funds in a special revenue fund as follows: school lunch program, \$1,716,000; and federal projects, \$1,579,000; for a total appropriation of \$3,295,000 such funds to be self-supporting through local, state or federal revenue sources?" The warrant article won't have any tax rate impact.

Voting day will take place on March 11.

## Plans

Continued from page 1 things together and put pen to paper. I suspect we'll be done far in advance of the rest of the master plan."

Part of that strategy involved bringing well users onto the municipal water system as the water subcommittee planned to gather more information on the engi-

neering and cost challenges.

"That's a long-term discussion and we're simply looking at the engineering and the cost. We're not having any policy discussion in any shape or form," said McGraw. "When and if those conversations go on, that will be out of my hands."

The Town Manager's office and the Town

Council are expected to handle water policy.

The water subcommittee also raised the possibility of working with HCTV to produce a few public service announcements on public access television.

"I do think we can do some educational type things," added Vice-Chair Martha Smith, who noted that Committee member Ann Fenn was already working on an announcement for PFAS contamination.

Committee members raised the possibility of using public access PSAs for any number of topics related to utilities, ranging from recycling to septic system upkeep.

"I think what would be a really interesting one is maybe explaining why we don't have natural gas to everybody because the rocks are so prevalent in NH, at least that's what I've been told," said McGraw. "I'm sure there's a lot of stuff that could be discussed."

The Utilities Committee is scheduled to meet again on Tuesday, March 4, at 7 p.m. in the Moose Hill Council Chambers.

## OBITUARY

Michael James Toomy



Michael James Toomy, passed away peacefully in the early morning of Feb. 10 with his family by his side after a courageous, decade-long battle with cancer. He was born at Malden Hospital on April 26, 1964 and was a graduate of Stoneham High School Class of 1982. A longtime

resident of Londonderry, NH, Michael was dedicated to his family. He was an incredibly talented artist, lyricist, and musician; a popular lead singer and front man for several local Boston bands in the 1980s. Most notably, he made his living as an artist and created hundreds of portraits and concept paintings. Also, Michael sold his own contemporary art as the sole proprietor of Londonderry Fine Art. Michael was beloved by his family and friends.

He is survived by his wife of 32 years, Leslie Toomy and their two children: daughter Colleen Toomy Olson and husband Ryan of Londonderry, NH, and son James Robert Toomy, of Manhattan, New York City. He is also survived by his siblings: John Toomy and wife Gay, Mark Toomy, and Kathleen Bedell and husband Larry as well as treasured nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by both of his parents, James and Malvina Toomy and his sister, Maryanne as well as his sister-in-law Diane. In lieu of flowers, please consider donating blood in honor of Michael.

Calling Hours were held on Friday, Feb. 14 in the Peabody Funeral Homes.



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## Library

continued from page 1  
were from statewide statistics.

Several Trustees questioned the validity of the claims, as did Town Council Vice Chair Ted Combes.

"Having a source is important," argued Trustee Jan McLaughlin. "I've heard in the past that

the state or somebody said this officially and when you track something down it wasn't an official document or it was a document being passed around that only had part of the statistics."

She conceded that if the information is confirmed, the Trustees would prioritize every issue raised.

"I had Kate Burbidge of the Budget Committee send along to me the notes she had taken on the library, and I have to refute some facts that were just presented," said Combes. "She compared nine other libraries that are similar in population: Derry, Bedford, Hudson, Salem, Rochester, Portsmouth, Keene, Dover, and Merri-

mack. This is from the 2023 data boasted on the NH state government library site. Londonderry spent 71.99% of the annual operating budget on staff expenditures. This is the third lowest of the group of comparable towns."

Combes also claimed that Leach Library spent a higher percentage of its operating budget on expanding its collection than any town on the list.

"I'll follow up on the source," promised Trustee Liz Thomas. "If this is true, we need to address it immediately, but what we'll do is verification. I'll do it as soon as possible."

The issue is tied into other recent questions

surrounding the conduct of the Leach Library.

"I think today's an example of how important it is that our community gets involved. Our library is a staple resource for our community," said Trustee candidate Beth Marrocco. "It is a resource that is valuable, it is free, it's accessible, and it is inclusive of everyone."

Resident Dan Bouchard encouraged the library to continue focusing on book purchases to expand their collection, only asking that they avoid exceeding line items. Spending on book purchases has come under some scrutiny in recent months.

"I feel the library has been very fiscally cau-

tious," said Thomas, who argued that the Leach Library routinely finished its fiscal year under its allotted budget.

Director Erin Matlin promised to rename line items geared toward books and periodicals and include digital downloads.

"We admit that can be a little deceiving," she said. "You can look at that and say 'Why are they spending \$100,000 on books and periodicals?' that's not the case, it includes databases, it includes the downloads, and books and periodicals plus the Library of Things."

The next meeting of the Library Board of Trustees is scheduled for Wednesday, March 5.

## Trust

continued from page 1

expend from said fund for the purposes for which it was established, with a super majority vote required for approval."

Finance Director Justin Campo said it ultimately establishes and funds a trust fund for public safety over time if an emergency were to occur and the budget couldn't sustain it.

"This warrant establishes and funds an expendable trust fund to allow the town additional funding for public safety and over time should situations occur in which the operating budget will not be able to sustain it," Campo said.

The Town Council voted 4-1 to recommend the warrant article and the Budget Committee voted 4-3 to support it.

Councilor Shawn Faber argued that they already have a mechanism in place should they have a disaster or an emergency in town.

He also explained that he feels that if they are going to spend the

money it should be on the appropriate line items so people know exactly what they are spending money on.

Budget Committee Chair Patrick Cassidy said that it's ultimately an emergency fund and if they don't need to spend it then it would carry over from year to year.

Town Councilor Ted Combes voted to recommend the warrant article saying that the only way they could get money from the undesignated fund balance for an emergency would be by going to court. "We need to have a responsible solution for an emergency if it were to occur," Combes said.

It was noted during the Deliberative Session that in order to use the

funds it would need to go to the Town Council for approval.

Town Councilor John Farrell said he asked for it to be a super majority vote where four town councilors would need to approve it in order for funds to be spent from the fund.

Deb Paul said "she wasn't necessarily for or against the warrant article and went on to say she "doesn't think it should be taken out of the unassigned fund balance. If the voters want to vote for this they should be fully aware of the cost and not be misled that it has no cost."

Voters will have the chance to vote on the warrant article on March 11.

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# Editorial

## Election Day is March 11

In the days leading up to the election, we hope you will take the time to listen to candidates, read their statements, and ask them questions about the issues that matter to you.

The March election does not include State or National candidates, which traditionally leads to lower voter turnout. However, it is important to remember that your vote has a much greater impact on local government races than it does at the State or federal level.

Equally important are the warrant articles on both the town and school ballots. These may include the school budget, requests for funding, citizen petitions, and other community needs. When evaluating town and school requests, consider your own finances; can you afford it? Is it a necessity or a luxury? Is it something you can postpone, or would that lead to greater costs in the future?

If you don't understand what you're being asked to approve, seek out the information. The right to vote is crucial, but it carries the responsibility to understand the issues at hand. Your vote should not be swayed solely by the opinions of the budget committee or your neighbors. Remember to differentiate between needs and wants on the ballot. Choose wisely.

Candidates have been asked why they are seeking office, and

warrant articles have been reviewed and discussed in this paper for several weeks. Please take the time to read and understand the full impact of each article, even if it may not affect you this year. Consider the implications for future years as well, and do not overlook how officials vote on each item.

Regarding union contracts, have you read them? If a contract covers just one year, its costs may be clear. However, most contracts are for three to five years. Ensure you understand the costs associated with each additional year; although you won't get another chance to vote on it in the future, the expenses will be included in the overall budget and reflected in your tax bill. There may be additional costs in the contract beyond raises and salary adjustments. Do your own homework.

Get the full picture. The choice is yours, and each article presents both pros and cons. It's beneficial to listen to both sides and read the actual documents instead of relying solely on someone else's interpretation.

Many people take pride in their patriotism. One of the best ways to express this patriotism is by heading to the polls and making informed choices.

For your own benefit and the good of the community, be informed, and please vote on March 11.

# Letters

## Who I Support

To the editor,

As the Town election of March 11 quickly approach, it is encouraging to see so many citizens running for assorted offices.

While each office is important for various reasons, I want to focus on the following races in particular:

Town Council – Deb Paul

This has got to be one of the most challenging, rewarding, and at times frustrating elected positions in town. It takes knowledge, grit, and dedication to listen to various sources of information in order to reach an unbiased decision. As a former Councilor, Ms. Paul knows the standards to be followed and won't be shy to call out those who attempt to diverge from those standards.

Budget Committee – Nick Mills and Patrick El-Azem

A contentious topic that Londonderry citizens always refer to is the cost of living in town. One way to restrain costs, while still having excellent services, is to have the right people creating/overseeing the budget. Both Mr. Mills and Mr. El-Azem have the ability and experience to develop fiscally sound solutions needed for Londonderry to thrive and be the envy of NH.

Library Board of Trustees – Maria Barud

Our beautiful Leach Library provides an amazing resource to the town for the young and the young-at-heart. The services provided by our town treasure are second-to-none and need competent and caring oversight to continue this tradition. Ms. Barud has demonstrated her dedication to the town in various capacities, and especially as a Friends of the Library member. Leach Library would be well-served by Ms. Barud's qualifications and compassion.

Please join me in voting for these outstanding candidates – Deb Paul, Nick Mills, Patrick El-Azem, and Maria Barud.

Sincerely,  
Brian Crowley  
Londonderry

## Debra Paul and Richard Bielinski

To the editor,

My wife and I moved to Londonderry 13 years ago to enjoy a small-town atmosphere still with access to Boston and Manchester shopping centers, sports and restaurants. Since then, we've seen Londonderry expand beyond our vision with ever increasing property taxes. We could move, but with family close it's not an option.

It seems we have a town council who doesn't seem to get it that most Londonderryites want a small-town vibe and lower property

taxes. That's why I'm voting for Debra Paul. Debra believes it's time to pause and evaluate how we can better align town expansion with Londonderry's needs.

Debra believes there is a lack of transparency in the council's decisions driven by an individual who is overly influential on council decisions. Council members should be able to make decisions free of influence by another. Being the editor/owner of this newsletter and having formerly served on the town council, Debra has an intimate knowledge and experience in political interactions of the council and the social fabric of Londonderry.

Debra's contributions in making Londonderry a better place to live: organized Concerts on the Commons, served on Board of the Granite YMCA receiving their Community Champion Award, served as VP of Londonderry Historical Society, established Energy Task Force leading to formation of current Utility Committee, worked to get West Road Soccer Fields built, recognized by Londonderry Lions, LYSA, LAFA for community work, served on Londonderry Old Home Day Committee for over 10 years, and other accomplishments, too numerous to list here.

As there are two, three-year seats open for election on the town

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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.

Nutfield Publishing, LLC

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[www.nutpub.net](http://www.nutpub.net)

Owner/Publisher – Debra Paul

Art Director – Chris Paul

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## 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. We are asking that all endorsement be a maximum of 350 words to allow space for weekly news and sports. We will not be running election related letters after out Feb. 27 issue as it doesn't give time for corrections.



# Letters

**Continued from page 4**  
council, I'm also voting for Richard Bielinski, Jr. Richard is a 40-year resident regularly attending town council meetings advancing Londonderry resident concerns. Richard delves deeply into issues such as unwarranted expenditures that may violate town regulations. Richard knows Londonderry and his election to a council seat along with Debra will break the power influence that currently exists on the council.

The March 11 election of town councilors is most consequential to the future of Londonderry.

For town council transparency and managed Londonderry growth, vote for Debra and Richard.

Bob Pitre  
Londonderry

## In support of Deb Paul for Councilor

To the editor,  
Like John Perez, I have lived in Londonderry a long time. Actually, I have lived here for more than half of my life and I'm 83 years old! Like John, I believe that many of the changes, particular over the last twenty or so years, have been detrimental to the culture and environment of Londonderry that was so attractive when I first moved here.

I shall support Deb Paul for Councilor at the upcoming election. She tried very hard to work for the benefit of the residents during her previous term but much her effort was undermined by the prevailing administration at that time.

I'm sure we shall again hear protests about a member of the press taking public office but that has previously been shown to be inapplicable at a local government level like this. It certainly is far less of a conflict than having people connected with real estate and development making decisions about how the town should develop in the future. We have had plenty of such influences in the past.

It is time to change the line up.

David Ellis  
Londonderry

## Tom Croteau for School District Moderator

To the editor,  
For years, Tom Croteau has attended school board meetings, committees, and town discussions to observe, learn, and contribute to the success of the Londonderry School District. As he has witnessed firsthand at the Deliberative Sessions, the moderator's role is 'to conduct the business and to preserve order.' Tom is a positive choice for this position based on his

background in facilitating discussions, following processes, and running meetings at his place of employment, and within different groups.

Tom is a devoted father and community member who seeks to engage others and give back to the town. He will create a respectful environment where all parties can share ideas, questions and dialogue on the important topics facing our children, staff and schools.

Between his work as a project manager, involvement with his children's activities and spreading Christmas cheer for local non-profits, Tom possesses the qualities to earn your vote. He will represent the District's mission, enable discourse on important issues that directly affect our schools, and maintain a fair and consistent session between all participants.

Please vote Tom Croteau for School District Moderator!

Thanks so much,  
Heather Burr Carey  
Londonderry

## Adequate Education

To the editor,  
Neighbors, I hope you are aware of what HB 283 will do to the requirements for a high school diploma.

If you are not, here is a brief overview of the dumping down of the

courses to graduate. English/language, the arts, reading, mathematics, science, social studies-that undefined. (However if you read the bill the following are scratched out to be understood as do not teach: American History, World History, US Government, economics, holocaust and genocide. Physical Education, Health and Wellness would stay.

This is what is considered an adequate education for the 20th century?

Do you happen to notice that there is no Arts Education including music and visual arts, no world languages, no engineering or technologies including applications, no computer science, no digital literacy, and no personnel finance literacy.

The bill reads credits needed 13 down to 8, believe this is inaccurate, at the moment it is 20 credits and many schools require higher.

Now here is the kicker which all of us need to understand, if passed, the

school districts will only be funded what the state calls an adequate education. So can Londonderry taxes be able to provide for our children, what we have now at LHS?

Folks moved here because of our very fine education system here in town. Also, we must keep in mind if the Federal Dept of Education is eliminated there will be no funding help from there. Does this seem like Project 2025's dream come true? It would be helpful, if we all sound the alarm.

Jane Cooper  
Londonderry

## What We Loose

To the editor,

Recent decisions at the NH Science, Technology and Energy Committee failed to support bills to address climate change and are at odds with what is best for NH citizens - especially for the most vulnerable of us. Small cost savings maintaining the status quo will burden our children with costly changes as they address challenges in the future. We are already seeing effects of global warming on area businesses. Wind-blown XC, the cross-country ski place I grew up visiting, was forced to close a few years ago - after 48 years. They no longer receive enough consistent snow. Two years ago, during our trip home from dropping our son at Scout camp, my husband and I were the last few cars on a road that was deemed impassable after half had washed out from flooding. Our neighbors in Vermont were hit two years in a row by severe flooding. And the flooding that happened in North Carolina showed us that no place is safe from the potentially devastating effects climate change is having across our country and world.

The science on the causes of our changing climate is settled. It is not under debate. Our climate is warming due to the release of greenhouse gasses largely from

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# Letters

**Continued from page 5**

our use of fossil fuels in our energy sector. This is not under dispute by any credible scientist or engineer seriously studying this problem.

What is under debate is what we citizens, our politicians and our policy makers are going to do with that information. I am hopeful because we have excellent solutions to our climate change problem in the form of energy capture technologies that do not release greenhouse gasses such as solar, wind and geothermal. Nuclear is another option that would be a welcome shift from fossil-fuel based electricity.

If we do not plan for resiliency now, the future costs will be a burden to our children. The idea of "drill, baby, drill" is short-sighted and harmful. We, as a matter of public policy, need to support sensible solutions to help us make the shift towards clean energy. The time for going slowly was two decades ago and if our children are to be able to weather this storm of ecosystem change, they need us to stand up for them now.

With sincere hope,  
Jocelyn Fraga Muller  
Londonderry

## Deb Paul for Council

To the editor,  
I am writing this let-

ter in support of Deb Paul, who is running for one of the open Town Council seats in the upcoming March election. The election will be held on March 11, 2025 at the LHS Gym from 6 a.m. - 8 p.m.

Deb has made Londonderry her home for over 28 years. Since that time she has also worked hard as the publisher of our local newspaper, The Londonderry Times. Deb follows closely what is happening in Londonderry because that is her job. Deb served as a Town Councilor prior to this election. However, after taking a cycle away since the last election, she has decided that her ideas for the future of Londonderry are important and must be brought forward. A change in leadership is refreshing and it offers an opportunity for others to serve the town they live in and love.

Deb Paul is dedicated to this town and wants transparency in local government. She is concerned with fairness and the welfare of all of our citizens. New ideas brought by the leadership of this town is needed. Our community is changing and we, as residents of this town, have to voice in we want our home town to look like in the future.

Deb is a person who will listen and focus on those areas that are most urgent for our

community. We have water contamination in our wells, roads that must be maintained, traffic issues in congested areas, etc. Let's take a close look at how are taxes are being used and spend our money where it is most needed. We do not have to forego services, but we must have a vision.

I urge you to give Deb your serious consideration when you cast your vote on March 11. I will be working at the polls that day, so I hope to see everyone there to vote on the important issues that have a significant effect on our lives within this community.

Martha Smith,  
Londonderry

## The Cost

To the editor,  
Imagine that you are a Londonderry taxpayer. You recently paid your local real estate tax bill and you are mad as heck. You didn't quite make it to the school and town deliberative sessions, but nearly every single warrant article will be on the ballot on March 11; without you none were amended to a lower number, despite the implication for still higher taxes. So, you decide you will look at the ballot to see which articles represent "wants" that can be deferred as opposed to "needs" that you will grit your teeth and pay for.

First you go after the "big bucks," the operating budgets. Not much help there: the \$89 million school operating budget is proposing to spend less than the default budget; the \$26 million town operating budget raises \$457 thousand more than the default budget, largely because of a \$494 thousand increase to fully staff the chronically undermanned fire department, which seems like a good idea, since you own a home and aren't getting any longer.

Having reviewed most of the spending, you look to the remaining 32 warrant articles on the town ballot and the seven articles on the school ballot. Nearly half of these articles are to approve employment contracts with town and school staff; the proposed increases look like they will be consistent with, or less than, the inflation we have experienced of late. Most of the remaining articles set aside funds for large, one-time purchases; the idea is to keep from clobbering the taxpayers in any one year - you don't want to be clobbered.

This leaves two remaining warrant articles. The big one is for full time kindergarten and school offices. This catches Londonderry up to most of the large school districts in the state and gets us out of an expensive lease. The small remaining article is to complete the Londonderry rail trail.

Unlike all the other articles, funding the rail trail brings over \$5 into

the town for every dollar it asks of the taxpayers. Is this the "want" you've been looking for to vote against? Not if you use the rail trail. Not if you think saving \$8 on your tax bill is less important than losing \$535,402 of outside funding. Not if you (or your dog) think Londonderry should be more than traffic filled roads. Not if you want to expose your kids to nature in a safe, secure environment. Not if you want a safe place to ride your bike.

If you still feel you need to find something to vote against, look for something that won't cost you money in the long run - and good luck with that.

Mike Speltz  
Londonderry

## Running for Budget

To the editor,  
Hello Londonderry, My name is Nick Mills. I'm currently running for Budget Committee.

I originally moved here at the end of the 90s and was here for a few years and moved up to the Manchester/Hooksett area for a few years and started my family and moved back here several years ago. For well over 20 years I've been in the Transportation/Logistics field. Throughout the years, I've had to budget my time and time of others, I've had to budget many other costs in regards to fuel, repairs and other day to day issues.

We have an amazing community along with many amazing people.

We need to keep

these amazing people and keep the community they know.

Costs are high. Budgets seem to keep creeping up. It needs to stop.

We need lower budgets. Not for one but for all. This town needs an honest budget. The town needs to be responsible and accountable when assigning or spending our tax dollars.

I ask for your vote and hope to get it.

On many of the Londonderry Facebook pages I've shared my candidacy page, feel free to join to support me and/or just come ask any questions you may have.

Not on Facebook?

Email me at Mill-snicks@gmail.com

Thank you.

Nick Mills  
Londonderry

## Re: Hate the Hate

To the editor,

I read last week's letter with interest. A question was asked; "When did we become a nation divided and hateful? I will try my best to provide an answer.

I would say around the year 2000. Fox was growing and with the advent of people like Sean Hannity, Rush Limbaugh and O'Riley, began to take over Americas airwaves. Their message was a simple one, being one of largely Mistrust and Hate. Fast forward to 2015 with the likes of Trump, the Hate was off the charts!

People may remember the Birther movement and "If I don't win, it will be because of Fraud!". Things like these only intent was

*continued on page 7*

## 3<sup>rd</sup> Year Anniversary In Loving Memory of

**Kristin Marie Pfau**

April 28, 1993 - February 23, 2022

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# Conservation Commission Debates Impact of Proposed Commerce Park

PAUL CONYERS  
LONDONDERRY TIMES

The Conservation Commission met on Jan. 28 to hear Engineer Jim Petropulos from Nashua's Hayner Swanson give a presentation on possible environmental issues related to the industrial Gateway Commerce Park development at Woodmont Commons.

"The purpose of being here this evening is to seek your input on a proposed design review submittal for development to be located in the eastern part of Londonderry," explained Petropulos. "Currently, the property measures 198 acres, it's in the industrial zone. During 2013 this was part of the Woodmont Commons

planned unit development."

"We've mapped and flagged the wetlands in accordance with jurisdictional requirements in the state of NH," said Petropulos. "What we have along the western border is several wetland complexes that exist. There are forested wetlands, there are several vernal pools in

this location and intermittent water courses that all flow towards I-93."

More vernal pools flowing to Ash Street were also along the east side of the property. The project also included an extensive stormwater drainage plan, taking several parking lots into account. The project included a request for a dredge and fill permit from the state. A central concern of the Conservation Commission was how the development could impact local wetlands.

"I didn't notice, do you have it indicate that buffer signs will be installed?" asked Commission Chair Marge Badois, who wanted the wetlands and surrounding buffer zone clearly marked during construction.

Petropulos promised the development would mark wetlands to the best of their abilities, though he warned it could be difficult on

some of the more wooded areas. The plan also included a restoration effort using a "conservation mix" of local plants in disturbed areas.

"I have placed, in our site plan set, several conservation signs in strategic areas, not just in the wooded wetland or the 50-foot zone. To be truthful, I used 100-foot spacing instead of the 50-foot spacing, he explained. "I don't think it looks natural to have stakes every 50 feet."

The Conservation Commission also heard a presentation from Civil Engineer Jon Rokeh and Surveyor Robert Deegan for a subdivision and street improvement plan along Wilson Road.

"This is a site we've been working on for several years," said Rokeh. "It's an eight-lot subdivision along Wilson Road on the one-way section. There's no wetland impacts associated with this project, and what we're proposing to do is along our side of the

road, we're going to be putting in drainage and ditches."

The project would also involve cutting down curves on a section of the road to improve driver site distance.

"What's really going to improve it is we're going to be cutting back some of the embankments off the road," said Rokeh. "There's no drainage along the edge; the water can go on the road right now in a lot of places."

Looking at a map of the property, Badois noted that while there were no wetlands directly on the property, several patches were nearby.

"So, it will be treated before it gets to the wetland?" she asked.

According to Rokeh and Deegan, all stormwater runoff would drain into a series of detention basins. Overall, no member of the Conservation Commission had any objections to the plan.

## Letters

Continued from page 6

to divide America. Also, when President Obama became President, the hatred was nothing short of being palpable.

The bad news is, we have only gone downhill from there!

Some avid readers may remember some of the Hate filled lies spread during President Biden's term; "Biden killed the Keystone Pipeline". Complete Falsehood! The point being how did so many people become filled with so much disinformation and hate? My answer to this is above. I won't even get into what the "stolen election" BS did to divide America.

If you don't agree, you would just have to watch the news (real) any day of the week. Examples: When Federal Judges blocked some of President Biden's Executive Orders, the GOP cheered! Now that they are Blocking Trumps orders, well now they

say they are enemies of the State! This is largely how the former Republican party was taken over by the Maga Cult. Basically, agree with us or we will destroy you. Recently, the AP was blocked from attending an Oval office meeting by this administration. Basically, demanding the AP state what the administration wants it to state. If this doesn't scare you, I believe nothing would.

The next election can NOT come fast enough. That is if elections are even allowed then. The "Vote for me and you will never have to vote again" comment is beginning to sound more ominous.

Steve Homsey  
Londonderry

### Town Treasurer

To the editor,

My name is Tom Dolan and I have been a contributing member of our great Londonderry community for many years. During that time, I

have served on the Londonderry Town Council, Budget Committee, and presently as a state representative in the State Legislature. I am humbled that the citizens of Londonderry have trusted my leadership in all these elected offices as well as the honor of being named Londonderry Citizen of the year in 2021. Now I am asking for your vote of confidence again on March 11 as I am running for Town Treasurer. This position is an important government role to assure the town's bills are paid on time and in accordance with state law.

I continue to hope you will trust and believe in my leadership as I look forward to serving again in our town government as your elected Town Treasurer. Please come out and vote on Tuesday, March 11 at the High School gym. I respectfully ask for your vote as Town Treasurer. Thank you.

Tom Dolan  
Londonderry

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# Residents Enjoy a Mild Winter Day at Annual Musquash Day



The Londonderry Conservation Commission organized and held its annual Musquash Field Day over the weekend with residents trekking out to the Landing to enjoy hot dog, toasted marshmallows, cookies and hot chocolate by the campfire. The annual tradition also featured a scavenger hunt for the children attending the event.

*Photos by Chris Paul*



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## OBITUARY

### Phyllis Caprio Mavrikis



Phyllis Caprio Mavrikis, born Rafaela Maria Caprio, in Portland, ME, on April 24, 1931, the daughter of the late Alfred (Alfredo) and Julia (Giulia Giannino) Caprio of Nashua, NH, passed away peacefully on Feb. 1, 2025, at All American Assisted Living in Londonderry, NH.

She is survived by her children, Donald James Mavrikis and his wife Karen of Nashua, NH and Brenda Ann LaSalle and her husband William of Londonderry, NH. Her grandchildren, Michael William LaSalle of Londonderry, NH and Kristina Fowler of Nashua, NH. Her sisters, Celia Rocco and her husband Dr. Angelo Rocco of Hillsboro Beach, FL and Theresa Murchie and her husband Gerald Murchie of Deerfield Beach, FL and several nieces and nephews.

Phyllis was a graduate of Nashua Senior High School, leading the high school band as drum majorette. She went on to graduate from the New England School of Art in Boston, MA with a degree in Women's Fashion and Design. She was crowned with the title of Mrs. NH in 1968. She owned and operated Phyllis' Bridal and Fashions of Nashua, NH until her retirement in Jan. 1985 at which time she moved to Hillsboro Beach, Florida with her husband James D. Mavrikis, who predeceased her in Aug. 2019, sharing 64 years of marriage. Phyllis will be remembered as a devoted mother and wife. She enjoyed spending time with her family and many friends. Phyllis was a successful business owner with a very special talent for sewing. She chaired many fashion shows for charity, both in New Hampshire and in Florida. She was an active member of the Northeast Focal Point Women's Auxiliary at The Center for Active Aging since 1997, in Deerfield Beach, FL, volunteering her time and talents for many fundraising events over the years.

The family would like to express their deepest love and gratitude for the true love, compassionate devoted care and special attention given to Phyllis each and every day from the professional staff at All American Assisted Living of Londonderry, NH since June 2021. Thank you from the bottom of our hearts.



# LONDONDERRY SPORTS

## Anderson Grabs 1,000th Rebound, Lancers Continue Winning

CHRIS PAUL  
LONDONDERRY TIMES

The Londonderry High School Girls' Basketball team continued to plow through their opponents, tacking on three more victories to remain undefeated in the division with just four games left before the playoffs.

In the first of those three wins, versatile senior, Reagan Anderson, also hit a major individual milestone by getting her 1,000th rebound of her high school career.

The achievement came in the fourth quarter of the team's win 44-32 victory over the Portsmouth Clippers on

Tuesday, Feb. 11.

The game was a rather low-scoring event, with Londonderry barely hitting double digits in each of the four quarters.

After the first, the teams looked fairly evenly matched, with each getting 11-points.

The Lancers separated from the Clippers in the second, outscoring the visitors 13-6 to take a 24-17 at halftime.

Portsmouth was held to just 15-points in the second half, with LHS putting up 10 in each quarter for the 12-point win.

Going into the game Anderson needed eight rebounds to hit her mile-

stone, she got that rebound with 1:45 left in the game when Brooke Wilson missed her second free-throw.

With that, the game stopped to honor her major accomplishment.

Head coach Jon Doherty stated, "Reagan Anderson has been a four year starter here at Londonderry High School and has helped build the culture of this program."

He added, "Reagan has spent tireless games living up to the reputation of being 6'4 in a 5'5 body, tonight is proof of that."

He also said that she is one of the most selfless players this pro-

gram has been lucky enough to have and we cannot thank her enough for all her hard work and commitment."

Sophomore Gemma Murray was the lead scorer in the game, finishing with 21-points, including three from outside the arc.

Junior Sammie Sullivan finished with 10-points and junior Brooke Eacrett put up eight.

On Friday night, the Lancers got win number 13 when they traveled to Trinity High School and outmatched the Pioneers 60-22.

The 42-point victory continued on page 11



Reagan Anderson has over 1,000 rebounds.

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# Lancers Wresters Wrap Up Season with Tie to Astros

CHRIS PAUL  
LONDONDERRY TIMES

The Londonderry High School Wrestling team hosted its final Dual Meet of the season last week that turned out to be a very well attended and exciting match against the Pinkerton Academy Astros.

The meet finished in a 41-41 draw, coming down to the final bout of the evening.

Starting at 215 pounds, the Astros won by forfeit.

At 285 lbs., PA's James Caruso pinned Dakota Shaffer to give the visitors a 12-0 start.

Anthony Cipolletta (106) gave LHS their first win with a Fall at 2:00.

At 113 lbs, Lucas DeLeon tied the match with an 18-0 technical fall.

Cam Roussell was given a forfeit win at 120 lbs., followed by Ayden Murray's fall win at 126 lbs. over Logan Dulac.

Pinkerton then strung together three consecutive wins, includ-

ing two forfeits before the Lancers tallied two more victories.

Caleb Holden (150) and Manny Perez (157) both won by fall before the Astros took the final two of three matches.

Londonderry's final win of the night came from David Pento Jr., at 175 lbs., securing the team's tie.

Over the weekend the Lancers team competed in the J.V. States, placing 16th with six wrestlers. Four of the six placed in the tourna-

ment with Freshman Odin Delorey placing first in the 165 lbs. weight class.

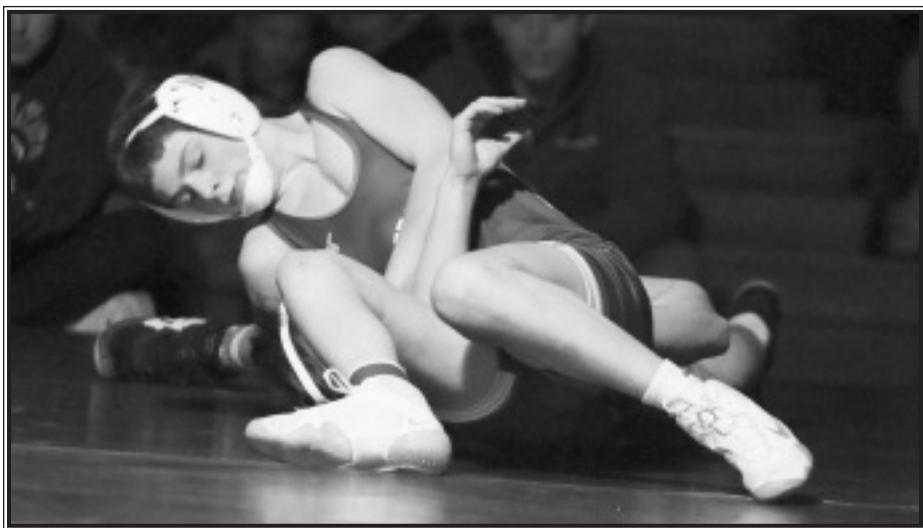
Anthony Cipolletta had a sixth place finish at 100 lbs.

Moqsid Rahmani went 3-2 at 153 lbs. for fifth place.

Liam Cronin took fourth place at 165 lbs., also finishing at 3-2.

The Lancers will be hosting and competing in the Division I State Championship on Saturday, Feb. 22, starting at 9 a.m. and going on throughout the day.

The top six wrestlers in each weight class will move on to compete in the Meet of Champions the following week at Pinkerton along with Fira Shaffer and Jaylynn Valentin who will compete in Girls State Championship.



Ayden Murray had a win over PA at 126 lbs. Photo by Chris Paul

## Londonderry Swimmers Race at Division I State Championship

CHRIS PAUL  
LONDONDERRY TIMES

The New Hampshire Interscholastic Athletic Association's Division I State Championship was held over the weekend and some Londonderry High School swimmers were able to place..

The Lancers Girls' Swim team placed sixth out of the 18 teams competing and the LHS boys' placed seventh.

LHS junior, Will Erdtmann had two first-place finishes during the meet.

Erdtmann had a time of 1:46.65 in the 200-Yard Freestyle for his first state title and he also took first in the 100-Yard

Butterfly, with a time of 51.72.

The team of Helena Smart, Mia Robinson, Ali Von Pichl and Charlotte Rolfe took sixth in the 200-Yard Medley Relay. The boys team of Chase Von Pichl, Braedon Raduazzo, Theo Paccione and Tucker Burton had a ninth-place finish

Mia Robinson had a time of 2:25.71 to take fifth in the 200 Yard Individual Medley.

In the Girls 50-Yard Freestyle, Helena Smart took third with her time of 25.23.

In the Girls 100-Yard Butterfly, Mia Robinson was fourth at 1:03.57.

In the Boys 500-Yard

Freestyle, Jayden Howard got a ninth-place finish at 5:41.90.

The team of Braedon Raduazzo, Chase Von Pichl, Jayden Howard and Will Erdtmann took fourth in the 200-Yard Freestyle Relay with a time of 1:44.64.

In the Girls 100-Yard Backstroke, Helena Smart was fifth with a time of 1:02.03.

The team of Ali Von Pichl, Charlotte Rolfe, Mia Robinson and Helena Smart were sixth in the 400 Yard Freestyle Relay. Theo Paccione, Chase Von Pichl, Jayden Howard and Will Erdtmann placed sixth in the boys' race.



### TOWN OF LONDONDERRY LEGAL NOTICE INVITATION TO BID

The Town of Londonderry, New Hampshire is accepting separate sealed Cost Proposals for the Collection, Transfer, and Recycling at the Londonderry Drop Off Center located on 13 Recovery Way of the following items:

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Requests for Proposals can be obtained through the Department of Engineering and Environmental Services, Londonderry Town Offices, 268B Mammoth Rd., Londonderry, NH or mailed upon request.

All Proposals must be received in the Department of Finance, Town of Londonderry, 268B Mammoth Rd., Londonderry, NH 03053 no later than 2 p.m., on Tuesday, March 4, 2025. Proposals submitted after this time will not be accepted. All proposals will be publicly opened and read aloud at 2:15 p.m. All proposals must be submitted in sealed envelopes addressed to the **Finance Department Purchasing Agent** bearing on the outside, the **vendor's name and address** and the note "Proposal - Drop Off Center". (If forwarded by mail, the sealed envelope containing the proposal and marked as directed above, must be enclosed in another envelope addressed to the Town of Londonderry, Attn: Finance Department Purchasing Agent, 268 B Mammoth Rd., Londonderry, NH 03053, preferably by registered mail).

All decisions in reference to the proposals will be made by the Director of Engineering and Environmental Services or an authorized agent. The Town reserves the right to reject any and all proposals or any portion of any proposal or waive any informality deemed in the best interest of the Town. No vendor can withdraw his proposal within sixty (60) days after the date of the opening

Department of Engineering and Environmental Services  
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# Londonderry Boys' Basketball Lose Two, Drop to 8-7

CHRIS PAUL  
LONDONDERRY TIMES

The Londonderry High School Boys' Basketball team had a tough pair of games last week, losing 52-75 at Portsmouth

High School then falling 61-69 at the Lancers home gym.

The team started the week, on Tuesday, Feb. 11, at the seacoast, where they were bested by the Clippers in a 23-

point blow out.

The Londonderry squad then returned to LHS on Friday night, where after leading at the half, gave up 26-points in the third quarter and eventually fell by eight-points.

The Lancers led 19-17 after one period, then opened that margin to 32-26 by the break, outscoring Trinity 13-9 in the second quarter.

In the third period, the Pioneers were able to dominate on offense, tallying 26-points to the Lancers 17 for a three-point lead going into the final period.

In the fourth, the LHS squad had a tough time getting the ball to drop in, due to a difficult defense set up by their opponent and the Pioneers had a five-point advantage to hold on for

the win.

Former Londonderry varsity basketball head coach and current President of Trinity High School, Nate Stanton, was one of the many fans in the stands to witness his new team's victory.

LHS senior forward Mason Paquette was held to just 14-points. Fellow seniors Nate Marshall and Kiet Totten put up 17- and 12-points in the game. Totten was perfect at the foul line, going 6-6.

The team was scheduled to take on the Titans in Nashua on Tuesday, Feb. 18, followed by a Senior Night home game on Friday, Feb. 21, facing the division leading Bedford Bulldogs (12-3). The game is expected to start at 7 p.m.



Nate Marshall

## OBITUARY

### Forrest H. Pratt

Forrest H. Pratt, 96, of Londonderry, NH, died Tuesday Feb. 11, 2025 at his daughter's home in Manchester, NH surrounded by his loving family. He was born on Jan. 27, 1929 in Londonderry, a son of the late James and Marion (Mitchell) Pratt, and had been a lifelong resident. He was a US Air Force veteran serving during the Korean Conflict. Forrest was the Boston Post Cane Holder for the Town of Londonderry which he received in 2018.

Forrest spent his early years at school house #7 Grenier Field Road in Londonderry and Central High School. Forrest grew up working in his father's garage (Pratt's Garage) in North Londonderry as a mechanic. After high school he enlisted in the Air Force. He served his country proudly as a flight engineer. Forrest was stationed in Iceland and Greenland during the Korean War conflict. He gained the rank of Staff Sergeant in charge of Air Force alert ground crew at Keflavik, Iceland. He received a letter of commendation as he aided in the removal of air crew members trapped in the tail section of a crashed and burning C-97 aircraft. When he got out of the service Forrest met the love of his life, Marian J. Hall and got married in 1955.

Forrest was a family man and enjoyed music, playing drums, guitar and singing country songs. He played and sang at family gatherings and also played in public at the fireman's hall to raise money for equipment for the volunteer fire department. He played his guitar and sang country songs at 4 p.m., every day for his beloved wife Marian during her battle with cancer.

During his life he worked as a cabinet maker, a volunteer fire fighter for the town of Londonderry, a truck driver for many trucking companies and a member of the Teamsters. After retirement he enjoyed working at the Union Leader and the Auto Auction in Derry. He enjoyed working on his cars and trucks, wood working, making airplanes, carving, traveling with his wife and kids, riding motorcycles and going to the firing range. After he stopped working, he got together for coffee daily at Dunkin' donuts in Londonderry where he was a regular and every server knew his name. He met and made many friends at Dunkin Donuts including other veterans during those years. Forrest had a sharp mind and wit well up in his 90's. He had a love for Londonderry, but he was a history book of Londonderry experiencing growth and change. He lived every day with a smile and had a real love for his family and for life.

He is survived by his son, David Pratt and his wife Heidi of Claremont, NH; two daughters, Brenda Cunnien of Manchester, and Belinda Horning and her husband Richard of Laconia, NH; five grandchildren; two great grandchildren; his brother, James Pratt and his wife Nancy; his sister, Marion Gibson and her husband Chandis; his sister-in-law Patricia Pratt; as well as several nieces and nephews. He was predeceased by his wife, Marian J. (Hall) Pratt in 2012, and his brother, Rensford Pratt in 2021.

Following cremation, calling hours will be held on Saturday, March 1 from 9 - 11 a.m., in the Peabody Funeral Homes and Crematorium, 290 Mammoth Rd., Londonderry. A memorial service will follow at 11 a.m., in the funeral home. Private burial will be in Glenwood Cemetery in Londonderry in the Spring. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to VNA of Manchester and Southern NH, 1070 Holt Ave., Ste. 1400, Manchester, NH 03109, or to the VA Medical Center, 718 Smyth Rd., Manchester, NH 03104. To send a condolence please visit [www.peabodyfuneralhome.com](http://www.peabodyfuneralhome.com).

## Anderson

continued from page 10

was the teams 13th consecutive, putting them four behind the Bedford Bulldogs with 17 wins.

The following day, the Lancers traveled to Farmington, where they took on the 12-4 Division IV Tigers.

That game also

turned out to be a low scoring event with Londonderry edging out the Tigers 45-41.

The Lancers head into the final stretch with four games remaining, one of which will be Bedford final game of the season, in Bedford, on Friday night, Feb. 21, starting at 7 p.m.

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## TOWN OF LONDONDERRY LEGAL NOTICE

The Londonderry Town Council will hold PUBLIC HEARINGS on the following items:

Resolution 2025-02: Adoption of the Pettengill Road Area Tax Increment Financing (TIF) District

Ordinance 2025-01: Creating the Londonderry Commercial and Industrial Property Tax Incentive Program

The public hearings will occur on Tuesday, March 3 at 7 p.m., in the Moose Hill Council Chamber at the Londonderry Town Hall, 268B Mammoth Rd., Londonderry, NH 03053.

Londonderry Town Council

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# Londonderry Gymnasts Compete at State Championship

CHRIS PAUL  
LONDONDERRY TIMES

The Londonderry High School Gymnastics team head-

ed to A2 Gym and Cheer, in Salem, to compete in the New Hampshire Interscholastic Athletic

Association's State Championships on Saturday, Feb. 15., where despite being plagued with a number of injuries this season, the team finished in fifth-place overall.

The Lancers team score of 132.575 was just over 15-points behind the winning team from Bishop Guertin.

The Lady Cardinals finished with a score of 147.9 to take the State Title with the Pinkerton Academy Astros being edged out by one point for second with a score of 146.9. The Bedford Bulldogs took third at 141.925 and Goffstown High School was fourth with a point total of 135.825.

The Lancers highest event finish was on the Floor, with Londonderry getting an overall score

of 34.65. Sophomore, Evelyn Gillespie, was the highest finisher for LHS, getting 19th place with a score of 8.8. Junior Cailee Anderson had an 8.7 for 21st place and freshman Hannah Linscott scored an 8.575 for 24th.

In the Vault event, the team combined for a 34.45, with sophomore Gabby Nadeau taking seventh-place, the team's highest finisher of the day. Nadeau scored a 9.1 with the winner of the event, Caroline Butler, of Bishop Guertin getting a 9.7.

Anderson had a score of 8.75 and tied for 13th place in the event. Linscott scored an 8.35 for 24th.

On the Beam, Londonderry had an overall score of 33.025 with junior Annabelle Hicks finishing with an 8.6 and placing 16th, top for LHS. Anderson had a score of 8.27 and finished in 24th and Gillespie was tied for 25th with a score of 8.0.



Lancers junior Annabelle Hicks was given an 8.6 on beam, the highest score for her team.

On the Bars, the team had a score of 30.45 with the Lancers top finisher, Anderson, getting a score of 8.6 and coming in at 16th. Linscott was tied for 18th with an 8.45 and senior Sophia Beau-regard scored a 7.6 for the 22nd spot.

Anderson, getting a



LHS sophomore Gabby Nadeau scored a 9.1 on Vault for seventh place. Photos by Chris Paul

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# AROUND TOWN

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

## Democrats Meeting

The next meeting of the Londonderry Democrats is scheduled for Thursday, Feb. 27 at 6:15 p.m., in the Leach Library downstairs meeting room. Local Democrats and Democratic-leaning Independents and Undeclareds are urged and welcome to attend. Please reach out to LondonderryNH Democrats via Facebook or email [pskud@gmail.com](mailto:pskud@gmail.com) for more details.

## Mini Escape Rooms

The Leach library will hold a mini escape room program once a month in 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 us for the next mystery on Friday, Feb. 21 from 3 - 4 p.m. This program is intended for participants aged 12-18. Registration is required.

## Winter Festival

Join the Leach Library for a week-long celebration filled with fun, creativity, and community from Feb. 24 to March 1. There will be a variety of exciting activities for all ages-kids, teens, and adults. Every participant who attends a program during the Winter Festival will receive a raffle ticket for a chance to win a plush penguin. The winner will be announced on Monday, March 3, so don't miss out on the fun.

## Penguin Craft

Crafters of all ages are invited to stop by the Leach Library Meeting

Room 10 - 11 a.m. on Monday, Feb. 24 or 2 - 3 p.m. on Saturday, March 8 to put together a playful penguin-themed ornament. This program is intended for participants of any age. Registration opens one week before each session.

## Growing Up Wild

Preschoolers and their caregivers are invited to the Leach Library on Monday, Feb. 24 at 4 p.m. for a brand-new monthly nature exploration program. This program is designed for ages 3 - 7, but older children are welcome to join in. Registration is required.

## Coding Club and Maker Lab

Unleash your imagination during the Coding Club and Maker Lab at the Leach Library! Stop by

Study Room B after school on Tuesday, Feb. 25 from 3 - 5 p.m. to explore, craft, and create. During this two-hour block, participants will be able to work independently or in small groups on projects and collaborations. Young inventors will be able to explore coding with simple coding programs and test out their programs with Hummingbird Bit or Makey Makey devices. Artists will have a variety of mediums available to use from paint to markers. Aspiring creators will have an assortment of materials to help bring their dreams into reality from a collection of building sets to a stop motion camera or music keyboard. This program is intended for participants aged 8-18. Registration is required.

## Let's Make Something Together

Children ages 6 and older are invited to the Leach Library on Wednesday, Feb. 26 at 4:30 p.m. for a new monthly program, Let's Make Something Together. Each month, make something fun that can be taken home at the end. This month, let's make play snow together! Registration is required

and begins on Wednesday, Feb. 19. To register, visit the library's online event calendar or call (603) 432-1127.

## Banned Book Discussion

Join Leach Library staff at the Londonderry Senior Center (535 Mammoth Rd) to discuss Toni Morrison's novel *The Bluest Eye* on Thursday, Feb. 27 at 10:30 p.m. Refreshments will be served. Pick up a copy of the book from the library. Morrison's novel has regularly been the target of censorship since its publication. In 2023, the American Library Association reported it was the sixth most banned and challenged book in the country. Registration is required and opened on Monday, Jan. 27. To register, visit the library's online event calendar or call (603) 432-1132.

## Reindeer Games

Teens and tweens are invited to participate in a variety of games and activities in the Leach Library Meeting Room from 11 a.m. - noon, on Feb. 26. Games will include reindeer ring toss, snowman bowling, a mini escape room puzzle, and an

indoor snowball showdown. This program is intended for participants aged 8-18. Registration is required.

## Blizzard Bash

Teens and tweens are invited to the Leach Library Meeting Room from 2 - 3 p.m., on Thursday, Feb. 27 for a winter-themed party. Participants will enjoy a hot cocoa bar, festive snacks, and a fun indoor snowman building contest! Dress-up in your favorite winter-themed outfits or come just as you are! This program is intended for participants aged 12-18. Registration is required and begins on Thursday, Feb. 20. To register, visit the library's online event calendar or call (603) 432-1132.

## Children's Snow Ball Party

Children are invited to the Leach Library on Thursday, Feb. 27 at 4:30 p.m. for a Children's Snow Ball Party. Play a few games, decorate snowman cookies, and have a light snack. Registration is required and begins on Thursday, Feb. 20. To register, visit the library's online event calendar or

**Continued on page 14**

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## Around Town

### Continued from page 13

call (603) 432-1127.

#### Movie Night

On Friday, Feb. 28 at 6 p.m., the Leach Library will host an after-hours movie night in the Main Reading Room! Watch as Manny the woolly mammoth, Sid the sloth, and Diego the saber-tooth tiger embark on an icy trek to return a baby to his father during this 2002 box office hit film (rated PG). Refreshments will be served while supplies last, and raffle prizes will be provided. Registration is required and begins on Friday, Feb. 21. To register, visit the library's online event calendar or call (603) 432-1132.

#### All Ages Craft

You're never too old to play with sand and make some beautiful art! Come to the Leach Library on Saturday, March 1 at 11 a.m. to make a sand art creation. Registration is required and begins on Saturday, Feb. 22. To register, visit the library's online event calendar or call (603) 432-1132.

#### Dr. Seuss Craft

Children are invited to the Leach Library on Monday, March 3 at 4:30 p.m. to work on a Dr. Seuss-inspired craft. All supplies will be provided, and library staff will be on hand to offer assistance. Registration is required and begins on Monday, Feb. 24. To register, visit the library's online event calendar or call (603) 432-1127.

#### Garden Strong

Join Master Gardener Doris Buco for a UNH Extension presentation at Leach Library on Wednesday, March 12 at 6:30 p.m. to learn ways to be garden strong! Are you a gardener

who spends so much time digging, weeding, watering, and hauling mulch that you are sore and tired at the end of the day? Learn some simple and important techniques for reducing stress on your body so you can garden without pain or injury. Participants will also be introduced to some adaptive tools that will make gardening easier for anyone. This program is generously sponsored by the Friends of the Leach Library. Registration is required and opens on Wednesday, March 5. To register, visit the library's online event calendar or call (603) 432-1132.

#### Literary Fiction Book Discussion

Come to the Leach Library on Wednesday, March 19 at 2:30 p.m. to discuss Tess Gunty's novel The Rabbit Hutch. Refreshments will be served. This program is generously sponsored by the Friends of the Leach Library. Registration is required and begins on Monday, Feb. 10. Copies of the book will be available to check out from the library. To register, visit the library's online event calendar or call (603) 432-1132.

#### True Crime Book Discussion

Come to the library on Thursday, March 27 at 6:30 p.m. to discuss Michelle McNamara's award-winning true crime book, I'll Be Gone in the Dark. Refreshments will be served. This program is generously sponsored by the Friends of the Leach Library. Registration is required and begins on Monday, Feb. 17. Copies of the book will be available to check out from the library. To register, visit the library's online event calendar or call (603) 432-1132.

#### Memoir Book Discussion

Come to the Leach Library on Thursday, April 3 at 11 a.m. to discuss Trevor Noah's memoir Born a Crime. Refreshments will be served. This program is generously sponsored by the Friends of the Leach Library. Registration is required and begins on Monday, March 3. Copies of the book will be available to check out from the library. Register online or by calling the library at (603) 432-1132.

#### Jeff Mrozek

On Feb. 22 from 2 - 4 p.m., come to American Legion Post Post 27 and see Jeff Mrozek perform. For more information go to the groups website [www.alpost27.com](http://www.alpost27.com) or call us at 603-437-6613.

#### 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 2:45 to 3:15 p.m.

#### Green Team Speaker Series

The Green Tem is hosting a series of Free educational presentations at the Londonderry YMCA. Seed Starting on March 27 at 6:30 p.m., during this workshop, attendees will learn the benefits and best practices for starting plants from seeds and cuttings. Container Gardening on April 24 6:30 p.m., attendees will learn the benefits and drawbacks of gardening in containers, as well as important techniques for successful growing. All are welcome to attend for more information see the groups facebook page [www.facebook.com/groups/greenteamlondonderry](http://www.facebook.com/groups/greenteamlondonderry) or email Marge at

continued on page 15



# Londonderry Police Log

Selections taken from the daily Londonderry Police Logs

## Monday, Feb. 10

**12:09 a.m.** Motor Vehicle Stop, at Nouria, on Rockingham Road, leads to an arrest made by five officers. Jordan Ryan, 41, of Londonderry, charged with: Driving Under the Influence - Impairment; and Speeding 11-15 mph Over a Limit of 55 or Less.

**7:45 a.m.** Motor Vehicle Stop on Route 102, at Route 93, leads to an arrest made by three officers. Luis Antonio Fernandez Feliciano, 47, of Nashua, charged with: Operation without a Valid License - License Required.

**9:26 a.m.** Neighborhood Disputes investigated on Winding Pond Road.

**4:13 p.m.** Disturbance investigated at T.J. Maxx on Michels Way.

**4:34 p.m.** Warrant served and arrest made on Brook Village Road, Nashua. Aaron Deciccio, 40, of Nashua, charged with: Criminal Threatening - Conduct; Stalking - Reasonable Person to Fear; and Disorderly Conduct.

**6:36 p.m.** Motor Vehicle

Complaint at Wendy's, on Nashua Road, leads to an arrest made by four officers. Qudratullah Yaqub, 40, of Londonderry, charged with: Driving Under the Influence - Aggravated - Passenger Under 16; and two counts of Endangering the Welfare of a Child.

## Tuesday, Feb. 11

**1:38 a.m.** Arrest made by five officers while assisting the Londonderry Fire Department on Midridge Circle. Giovanni Thomas, 29, of Hooksett, charge # 1: Driving Under the Influence - Impairment; and Possession of a Controlled Drug (Schedule 1-4).

**4:39 p.m.** Motor vehicle stop on Planeview Drive leads to an Arrest made by three officers. Sammy Khoury, 44, of Manchester, charged with: Felon in the Possession of a Dangerous Weapon; Disobeying an Officer; Driving After Revoke/Suspension - Administrative License Suspension; and Obstruction to Drivers View.

**5:33 p.m.** Services rendered for Shoplifting at

the N.H. Liquor Store on Michels Way.

**6:49 p.m.** Juvenile Offenses investigated by three officers on Bridle Path at Wallace Farm Apartments.

## Wednesday, Feb. 12

**12:37 a.m.** Motor Vehicle Stop on Route 93 at the Exit 4 Ramp leads to an arrest made by three officers. Derek Barczak, 42, of Derry, charged with: the Possession of a Controlled Drug; (Schedule 1-4); Transporting Drugs in a Motor Vehicle; Control Drug; Controlled Premises Where Drugs Kept; Drive After Revoke/Suspended - Administrative License Suspension; and Possession of Controlled Drug Schedule 1-4.

**1:30 a.m.** Disturbance investigated at Red Arrow Diner on Rockingham Road.

**9:50 a.m.** Services Rendered by four officers for Trespassing on Rain-tree Drive.

**6:51 p.m.** Disturbance reported at the Manchester Boston Regional Airport.

## Thursday, Feb. 13

**9:40 a.m.** Overdose at Alltown, on Hampton Drive, taken/referred to another agency.

**10:32 a.m.** Warrant served and arrest made on

Spruce Street. Andrew Majoy, 37, of Manchester, charged with: Theft By Unauthorized Taking - Two Prior Convictions.

**1:49 p.m.** Services rendered for Larceny/Forgery/Fraud, at Shaw's, on Orchard View Drive.

**4:10 p.m.** Services rendered for a Medical Emergency at Manchester Boston Regional Airport.

**4:13 p.m.** Motor vehicle stop leads to an arrest and Towed Vehicle, at St. Mary's Bank, on Nashua Road. Michaela Boule, 27, of Manchester, charged with: Drive After Revoke/Suspension; and Suspension of Vehicle Registration.

**4:54 p.m.** Motor vehicle stop and arrest made on Route 93 at Exit 5. Christopher Lemear, 34, of Manchester, charged with: Operating After Certified as a Habitual Offender.

**4:56 p.m.** Violation of Protective Order leads to an arrest on Calla Road. Andrew McInnes, 40, of Hampton, charged with: Violation of a Protective Order; and Stalking - Notice of Order.

**6:30 p.m.** Peace restored after a Disturbance on Fieldstone Drive.

## Friday, Feb. 14

**2:46 a.m.** Pedestrian Check conducted by four officers on Kendall Pond Road.

**12:19 p.m.** Motor vehicle accident Investigated by five officers near

Sweet Landscaping on Nashua Road.

**1:57 p.m.** Disturbance reported at Convenience Plus - Londonderry on Rockingham Road.

**6:02 p.m.** Domestic Disturbance reported on Constitution Drive.

**6:01 p.m.** Services rendered for an Auto Theft reported on Holly Lane.

**7:42 p.m.** Warrant served and arrest made on Litchfield Road. Walter Templeton, 19, of Londonderry, charged with: Three counts of Harassment; and Stalking; (Domestic Violence - Putting Person in Fear).

## Saturday, Feb. 15

**1:19 a.m.** Motor vehicle stop arrest made on Mammoth Road, at Windsor Boulevard. Kasey Miller, 29, of Pelham, charged with: Driving Under the Influence - Impairment; and Speeding 1-10 mph Over a Limit of 55 or Less.

**1:39 a.m.** Motor vehicle stop and arrest made on Gilcreast Road at Catesby Lane. Four officers assist with charging John Lever, 38, of Pelham, charged with: Driving Under the Influence - Impairment.

**10:32 a.m.** Motor vehicle

stop on Rockingham Road, at Route 93 leads to an arrest made by three officers. Marianne Murray, 51, of Londonderry, arrested on a Warrant.

**1:04 p.m.** Peace Restored during a Disturbance at the Manchester Boston Regional Airport.

## Sunday, Jan. Feb. 16

**12:26 a.m.** Suspicious Activity on Trail Haven Drive leads to an arrest made by four officers. Jeremie Dutterville, 18, of Malden, MA, charged with two counts of Unlawful Possess/Intoxication.

**1:06 p.m.** Three officers conduct a Welfare Check at the Wallace Farm Apartments on Bridle Path.

**2:05 p.m.** Auto Theft reported at the Park & Ride on Symmes Drive.

**2:10 p.m.** Neighborhood Disputes reported on South Road.

**6:38 p.m.** "Be on the Lookout" - Taken/Referred to another Agency from Quincy Road. Ryan Leo, 32, of Hudson, arrested without a Warrant for Domestic Violence.

**8:01 p.m.** Services rendered during a Disturbance at the Manchester Boston Regional Airport.

## Around Town

Continued from page 14

marge@margebadois.com

### 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.

### Voter Information

The Supervisors of the Voter Checklist will meet to correct the checklist and register voters at the Town Clerk's Office on March 1, from 10 - 11 a.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 must provide proof of age, identity, citizenship and domicile. Qualified applicants who do not possess proof of domicile or who do not bring proof with them may register if they sign an affidavit attesting to their qualifications. Applicants without sufficient proofs will be unable to register to vote at that time.

### 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., Londonderry.



## TOWN OF LONDONDERRY LEGAL NOTICE PLANNING BOARD

The Londonderry Planning Board will hold a public meeting on Wednesday, March 5, 2025, at 7 P.M. in Moose Hill Council Chambers to consider the following:

Public hearing on an application for formal review of an eight-lot subdivision along with associated site improvements and waiver requests. 23 Wilson Road, Map 16 Lot 9 and Map 18 Lot 24-5, Douglas & Maria Jones (applicant) and Evans Family Limited Partnership (owner).

Public hearing for a waiver from section 6.01 of the Site Plan regulations to allow for a Certificate of Occupancy without the pavement wearing course being placed. 244 Nashua Road, Map 3 Lot 135, Zoned C-III, Tangent Sphere Inc. (Applicant) and Woodland RNC (owner).

Public hearing on an application for formal review of site plan to construct a vehicle storage lot along with associated site improvements. 4 Nashua and 6 Londonderry Road, Map 10 Lots 118 and 121 zoned Commercial-2 (C-II), and Town of Derry, NH Tax Map 26 Lot 53 Windham Realty Limited Company & Windham Realty, LLC. (owner & applicant).

## OBITUARY

### Lloyd T. Ellsworth

It is with very saddened hearts that we announce that Lloyd T. Ellsworth at the age of 85 has passed away at Pleasant Valley Nursing Home in Derry, NH on Feb. 5, 2025.

Lloyd was the oldest child of two, born to the late Lloyd A. and Gertrude (MacDonald) Ellsworth. He was a Navel Veteran who liked Hunting, Camping and Snowmobiling. He also loved to fly and had his Pilots license. He loved spending time with his family and friends telling jokes and stories. He lived well, laughed often and was very much loved for all the advice, lessons and things he taught all of us about how to live life to the fullest

Lloyd is survived by his son, Michael L. Ellsworth and his wife Mary-Jane (Fales) Ellsworth; daughter Diane V. (Leone) Holley and her husband James H. Holley; grandchildren, Jamie L. (Holley) Walker, Lisa M. (Fales) Lancaster and Charles Carlyle, Freddie M. Parrott and wife Trisha A. (Long) Parrott, Christian C. McCullough, and Jessica J. T. Ellsworth and Norman Faucher; and great grandchildren, Kai and Cullen Walker, Payton Soltys, Isabella and Madilyn Travis, Jace Parrott, and Jaydon, August, and Delilah Rose Anne Faucher. He was predeceased by his loving wife of 55 years, Johanna Elizabeth (MacDonald) Ellsworth; daughter, Karen (Ellsworth) McCullough; and his sister, Jacqueline (Ellsworth) Gaff.

Following cremation there are no services set at this time. In lieu of flowers memorial donations may be made to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. The Peabody Funeral Homes & Crematorium is assisting the family with arrangements. To send a condolence or for more information please visit [www.PeabodyFuneralHome.com](http://www.PeabodyFuneralHome.com).



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