

# Londonderry Times

February 29, 2024 ♦ Volume 26 – Issue 9

A FREE Weekly Publication



## Boxes & Bears

The North Elementary School Mascot congratulates students on collecting over 850 cereal boxes just before their vacations. Four schools took part in the collection this year and donated over 2,000 boxes. See more page 12 and 13. Photo by Chris Paul

## Most School Warrant Articles Sent To Ballot Unchanged

ALEX MALM  
LONDONDERRY TIMES

A number of warrant articles were sent to the ballot during the Feb. 10 School District Deliberative Session without any debate.

One of those warrant articles was for the School Lunch Program and Federal Fund Projects.

The warrant article reads: "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; further to raise and appropriate such funds in a special revenue fund as follows: school lunch program, \$2,041,000; and

federal projects, \$1,631,000; for a total appropriation of \$3,672,000 such funds to be self-supporting through local, state or federal revenue sources?"

School Board member, Amanda Butcher, explained that there are benefits to students and families, as well as the community with the warrant article.

continued on page 9

## Residents Raise Concerns on State of the Town Address

ALEX MALM  
LONDONDERRY TIMES

During the Feb. 20 Town Council meeting, Town Councilor, Ron Dunn, addressed concerns he had heard from residents following the State of The Town Address given by Town Manager, Mike Malaguti, at the Feb. 10 Deliberative Session.

"Since this time I've spoken with over 25 local residents," Dunn said, noting that he got phone calls, emails, and texts.

He said "They're all

very concerned about the comments that we're made," noting that most of them said they were "inappropriate and shouldn't have been addressed in a state of the town address."

Dunn said he hasn't had the chance to discuss it yet with Malaguti yet, but he will address it with him when Malaguti returns from his vacation. He also thanked residents for bringing their concerns to his attention.

Resident, Kristine Perez, during public comment said she was

concerned with the remarks made.

"I have to admit that I was taken back and somewhat offended by our town manager's town address," she said.

She stated that during the state of the town address, he spoke about ongoing events that are a "wonderful part of our town, but occur every year."

Perez noted that she also heard many attacks made "on individuals and or groups and some praises of individuals that took more than half

continued on page 7

## Petition Warrant Articles on Town Ballot Explained

ALEX MALM  
LONDONDERRY TIMES

Voters in Londonderry will have the chance to vote on a number of warrant articles submitted by citizens, at the polls on Tuesday, March 12.

Many of those were submitted by resident, Deb Paul, who explained during a recent interview the intent behind them. Each citizen's petition warrant article had at least 25 residents signatures.

All of the following warrant articles were amended during the Deliberative Session to make them advisory only, meaning if voters support them, they will be non-binding.

Article 17 One of the warrant articles submitted by Paul, will move the Planning Board from an appointed body to an elected one.

She explained currently there is no mechanism for members of the community to have someone removed from the Board if they feel members aren't doing a good job, or if they think the Board should be going in a different direction.

By making the members of the Planning Board elected, Paul said the idea will be to allow voters to decide who should be sitting on the Board, which she described as arguably the second most powerful

board behind the Town Council.

Paul noted how currently there are ex-officios, and liaisons to the Planning Board and those positions would remain appointed.

### Article 18

Warrant article 18 looks to make a change to the Municipal Code by making it so all official town meetings

continued on page 3

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# Two Town Clerk Candidates Look for Voter Support March 12

There will be two names on this year's local election ballot for the position of Town Clerk.

The current clerk, Sherry Farrell, will be trying to hold onto her position, while resident, Amanda Longo, will try to be elected for the first time in the Town Election on March 12.

We asked each candidate to answer the question: Why are you the best choice for voters?

The following is their answer to the question.

## Sherry Farrell Incumbent

My name is Sherry Farrell and I love Londonderry! I was honored to be elected your Town Clerk in 2014 and have loved being your Clerk every day since. Our Town Clerk/Tax Collector Office is open and available to residents Monday through Friday. In 2016, I was asked to be the Department Head and run the office full-time. I love interacting with residents every day. As someone who grew up in Londonderry

and raised my family here, I am honored to serve my community.

Through the years, I have worked to advocate for Londonderry statewide. I have been a member of the New Hampshire City and Town Clerks Board for 7 years.

As Town Clerk, I am responsible for ensuring that our elections are fair and transparent. I work with state officials to certify that all election requirements are met. In Londonderry, our polling place is one of the largest in the state. I am very proud of the work our team has done to make voting as efficient as possible. Experience matters and our team has worked hard to earn your trust.

Our office is also responsible for car registrations, dog registrations, and vital records. In 2014, I became a Justice of the Peace and the first Londonderry Town Clerk in over 20 years to perform a marriage ceremony in town. We offer the opportunity to get married at Town Hall and charge a fee for the

service which goes to the town to help offset the operating budget. This has brought in thousands of extra dollars for the town.

I am also responsible for keeping all town records and swearing in first responders, elected officials, and appointed officials. Recently, I had the privilege of swearing in our new Fire Chief, Bo Butler, with his family by his side.

In 2018 and 2023, I was honored with the Loyalty Award from the VFW.

A few fun facts about me: 1. I taught at Londonderry High School for seven years and was inducted into the Hall of Fame in 2019. 2. I have been on the Senior Resource Committee since 2010. 3. My ancestors, the Morrisons, were some of the first settlers of Londonderry in 1722. 4. My mom, Pearl, was Mr. Steer's first employee.

I love Londonderry and it is an honor to be your Town Clerk. Please VOTE FOR SHERRY on March 12th!

## Amanda Longo

My name is Amanda Longo, and I would love nothing more than to serve as your Town Clerk.

For the past decade, my family and I have called Londonderry our home, and each day has been filled with gratitude for the warmth and support of our friends and neighbors. As my husband transitioned from his military service, we chose Londonderry because of its unparalleled sense of community. And now, I am honored to have the opportunity to give back to the place that has given us so much.

The role of Town Clerk is not about partisanship; it's about being a steadfast guardian of

our records and ensuring the integrity of our elections. It's about being a reliable resource for every member of our community, from residents to businesses to elected officials. I run for this position not as a seasoned politician, but as a passionate member of this community.

Town Clerk is an elected position - not because the role is intended for an expert - but rather intended for a member of the community to serve. I am driven to serve something beyond myself and for my impact to reach far and wide. My experience as a Human Resource Consultant for small businesses has honed my skills in organization, multitasking, and above

all, service to others. I am detail oriented, resourceful, and organized. I understand the importance of prioritization and adaptability. I also worked in the Town offices for several years processing payroll, and in that time, I had the opportunity to witness the dedication and hard work it takes to be a Town Clerk.

I do promise to approach this role with humility, openness, and an unwavering commitment to service. I believe that true leadership is not about having all the solutions, but about having the heart to listen, learn, and adapt in order to act in the best interests of our community. The New Hampshire Municipal Association puts it best when they say, the Town Clerk is the "information booth" addressing concerns and answering a variety of questions. I want to be that resource for our community.

So, I humbly ask for your support, not just for me, but for the vision of a town where every voice is heard, every question is answered, and every citizen is valued. Please vote at our election on March 12th from 6AM to 8PM held at the Londonderry High School Gymnasium.

## OBITUARY

### Diedra M. Kotsakis



Diedra M. Kotsakis, 52, of Londonderry, NH died Thursday Feb. 22, 2024 at the Elliot Hospital, Manchester, NH following a brief illness. Diedra was born in Danvers, Mass., on Oct. 2, 1971, a daughter of Michael Bresnahan and Gail Santarella. She had resided in Londonderry for over 20 years, formerly living in Danvers.

Diedra was a fun loving free spirit who felt most at home when she was by the ocean. She carried a light of positive energy with her that could fill a room and was noticeable even by those who didn't know her. Most of all, Diedra loved her three children unconditionally and she made it her life's mission to support and cherish them. In that regard, she couldn't have been more successful.

She is survived by two sons, Troy Ward of Manchester, and Nicholas Kotsakis of Londonderry, one daughter, Eleni Kotsakis of Londonderry, her father, Michael Bresnahan of Manchester by the Sea, Mass., her mother, Gail Santarella of Danvers, two brothers, Sean Bresnahan and his wife Jennifer of Danvers, and Eric Powers of N. Chelmsford, Mass.

Following cremation, calling hours were held on Wednesday, Feb. 28, at the Peabody Funeral Homes and Crematorium. To send a condolence or for more information, please visit [www.peabodyfuneralhome.com](http://www.peabodyfuneralhome.com).

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# Articles

**Continued from page 1**  
would have public comment at the beginning and at the end of the meetings.

Paul explained the idea behind allowing public input at the beginning and the end of official town meetings, would make it so members of the community could comment on things that come up during the meetings.

For example she said the Town Council only takes public comment at the beginning of the meeting, but if something comes up during

the meeting that someone has a comment on, they would generally have to wait two weeks, or sometimes longer before the next meeting in order to express their concerns, ask questions, or give their input. In some cases by the time that happens, it may be too late.

## Article 19

Warrant Article 19 will ask voters to support amending the Municipal Code, making it so all official town meetings have to occur during a time that is most convenient to the general public.

Paul explained that

the idea behind the warrant article is to make it so different boards and commissions are meeting at times that are convenient for most people in Town.

She said as an example, currently the Traffic Safety Committee meets at 5:30 p.m., which is not convenient for everyone. Other meetings like the Trustees of the Trust Funds meet in the morning, which is difficult for people who work during the day.

## Article 20

Warrant article 20 would make it so all official town meetings in town are recorded going

forward.

Paul explained it's something she has been working on for a few years, including from the time she was on the Town Council, however, she said a number of meetings for various boards and commissions continue to not be recorded.

She explained the idea behind the meetings being recorded every time, is that it would allow residents to be able to go back and review the meetings at their convenience, which would be particularly helpful for people who are unable to attend meetings.

## Article 21

Warrant article 21 seeks to eliminate the town manager from his

position. Language contained in Article 21 is statutory from RSA 37:15 and is read in conjunction with RSA 49-D. A no vote is in support of removing the town manager from his position.

## Article 22

The final warrant article submitted by Paul, would be an amendment to the Municipal Code, to make it so the Londonderry Budget Committee is no longer just advisory, "in accordance with RSA40:14-b that states the "Budget Committee" shall create the default budgets."

Paul explained that the Budget Committee does a lot of work to look at different ways to save money in the bud-

get, and makes suggestions, however in the current system, they ultimately are only an advisory board, despite all being elected officials.

As part of the change, the Londonderry Budget Committee would also be responsible for creating the Default Budget, instead of the Administration proposing both the operating budget, and the Default Budget.

*Note: During the Deliberative Session, residents voted to make Articles 17, 18, 19, 20 and 22 advisory only. Meaning that if passed, the Town Charter would then need to be amended.*

# ZBA OKs Garage on Raintree

ALEX MALM  
LONDONDERRY TIMES

During the Feb. 21 Zoning Board of Adjustment meeting, one of the agenda items was in regards to a variance request to allow an encroachment of six feet into the 15 foot side set back, for the property located 14 Raintree Drive.

The property, which is located in the AR-1 zoning district, is owned by Ashley and Stephen Mayo.

"We want to build an attached garage," Ashley Mayo said, explaining that they are looking to build a room above it.

She said the garage would be attached on the right side of the house.

It was explained that there are a lot of other properties that have additions near them, and a lot of other properties are closer to the road giving them more

room in the back, which makes their property unique.

Stephen Mayo said based on the way their property is, it would give their abutting neighbor more privacy than they have now.

"Really this is our only option to go off the side," Mayo said, explaining that if they go off the front or on the other side their septic is there.

It was also noted that if they go off the back of the house they wouldn't be able to because they have a pool and a deck there.

"There really wouldn't be a way to get a garage back there," Ashley Mayo said.

One abutter opposed the application asking how it would impact their property by being next to them.

"We oppose the encroachment," they wrote

in a letter to the ZBA.

Ashley Mayo explained that those abutters would be on the other side of where it would be, and the abutters on the side of where it would be were in support of it.

Stephanie Miville, who said she lives across the street from the Mayos, explained that there used to be a lot of starter homes in the neighborhood, but due to the real estate market, more people are creating additions in order to grow their families. She added that they were on board with it.

The Zoning Board of Adjustment unanimously approved the variance request, with one condition being that it can't be bigger than 16x24 in size.

The next ZBA meeting is set to take place on March 20 at 7 p.m.



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# Editorial

## Why is it That My Property Tax Bill Never Goes Down?

It is said that, "there are only two things in life that are certain: death and taxes".

We can say with equal certainty that taxes almost always go up. Do you ever wonder why?

There are some people in our community who believe that if we welcome businesses, it will keep taxes flat. Unfortunately, with more business comes more need for housing. Then with increased residency comes the ask for bigger schools. We then need more fire and police due to the increase in utilizing services, and those departments need bigger budgets and better equipment to meet the increased need. The resulting increase in wear and tear on roads means we need more repair and plowing, so the DPW needs a bigger budget and better equipment, and before you know it, your "flat" tax rate is increasing at a pace that will price out the elderly and those on fixed incomes in our community.

I moved here 28 plus years ago to get away from the big city. The small town I once knew is quickly disappearing. We are known as the fastest growing town in Southern NH, yet with all this growth, I only see our quality of life diminishing. Considering the amount of growth that has happened in the in the

last 10-12 years, one would have thought my tax bill (note: not my tax rate) would have gone down, or at the very least stayed the same. Yet somehow, even with robust commercial growth, the total tax base stays the same or increases. Perhaps it is it time to think out of the box. Many spending articles are wants, not needs, and we really need to reevaluate what a "need" is before we take more money from the resident. After all shouldn't growth and prosperity lower taxes and distribute the burden over a broader base?

Voting for change is scary, as is voting for people who's faces you aren't as familiar with. But outside the box thinking is exactly what we need if we are going to create a healthier community environment and help prevent corruption, favoritism, nepotism, and cronyism.

Growth is inevitable and change is a good thing, but rapid growth without sound planning has disastrous effects on the tax rate. Growth and change are both good and should be welcomed but in a controlled, methodical, proactive manner; we should be moving with purpose and action as a community, not reaction.

GO VOTE ON March 12!

# Letters

## Change is Needed in Londonderry

To the editor,  
Witnessing the recent events taking place with our town officials has made me both upset and concerned.

The town manager used his podium at this year's deliberative session to insult a Londonderry resident for her service, then conveniently leaves on a two-week vacation, leaving the Town Council to deflect any responses to his statements. This was his behavior after his "frivolous" lawsuit about the same resident was thrown out of court. One would think he would use some of his "professionalism" and move on from this witch-hunt, but he just cannot stop himself.

Our elected town officials consistently tell us how great Londonderry is, but if this is the best we can do when it comes to a town manager, we are in big trouble.

One of those elected in town, who can, and should call out this behavior and address it is seeking reelection town council. Jim Butler sat silently while the town manager ranted against our former town councilor, Deb Paul. I cannot say I am surprised at this, as he has been seen on his own rants about her in the past during her three year term, citing "conflict of interest" when trying to have her removed from the council. He sat silent again during a recent town council meeting, when

the council was asked to apologize for the town manager's hate filled speech.

Is this the kind of person we should be re-electing to the town council? Londonderry can do better, with both the town council and our town manager.

We should not accept this behavior in our elected and appointed leaders.

Vote for Shawn Faber for Town Council on March 12th and since the current town council cannot, or will not, hold our town manager accountable for his recent missteps, vote "No" on article 21

Amy Nickulas  
Londonderry

## Town Clerk Compensation

To the editor,  
Town Elections coming up in 15 days and there are two individuals running for town clerk. I would think the Town would be able to answer a simple question 'how the Town Clerks compensation is calculated?'. The Town Manager has refused to answer that question which was asked in an email sent on 2/7.

According to the NH Secretary of States office there are only two ways that a clerk can be compensated. The is the clerk is entitled to \$2 of each fee collected or the clerk's compensation may be set at the annual town meeting in March. In all the years I've attended town meeting I cannot recall a ballot

question setting the Clerks Compensation.

The Town Clerks position was changed in 2014 as part of a \$110,000 cost saving effort. At the time the position of Town Clerk and Tax collector were held by one individual. At the 2014 Town Meeting Article 2 split the position into two separate positions. The Town Clerk remained an elected position but was changed to part time, and the Tax Collector became an appointed position.

The Town Annual reports indicates the yearly compensation of the Town Clerk, Sherry Farrell, as follows:

2015 -	\$37,500.00
2016 -	\$37,500.00
2017 -	\$49,500.00
2018 -	\$55,158.37
2019 -	\$47,010.63
2020 -	\$62,052.33
2021 -	\$66,543.36
2022 -	\$70,869.60

The 2023 Annual report is not available online.

If a new clerk were to be elected, how would they be compensated? I asked this question again during public comment at the 2/20 Town Council Meeting, all Town Councilors, the Assistant Town Manager, and the current Town Clerk were present. The response I received from Town Council Chairman John Farrell was 'OK Thank you' no one responded to the question.

I also asked at the same meeting why the Town newsletter the 'Londonderry Lantern' only provided informa-

continued on page 6



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## Election Letters

It has been a longstanding policy of Nutfield Publishing to not publish campaign letters in the newspaper on the week prior to the town and school election. Reason being: It does not give those affected by a letter published the chance to rebut any inaccuracies in the statements made. The only letters pertaining to the March 12 election appearing in the March 7 issue will be to correct inaccuracies made in letters/articles in prior publications.



# School Board Reviews Proposed Foster Care Policies

ALEX MALM  
LONDONDERRY TIMES

The School Board advanced two different policy proposals to a third reading during its Feb. 13 meeting.

One of the proposed policies is in regards to children who are in foster care.

"In our NH DOE Review of our Title 1 Plan for the last school year they found that we should have a separate policy on how we identify and service students in Foster Care as a School System," Superintendent Dan Black wrote in a memo to the School Board previously.

During the Feb. 13 meeting Black said that it's something they already do in practice but they need to have a formal policy.

The proposed policy states in part "It is the Board's intent to remove barriers to the identification, enrollment, and retention in school of children who are in foster care."

"All staff shall take reasonable steps to ensure that children in foster care are not segre-

gated or stigmatized and that educational decisions are made in the best interests of those students," the proposed policy goes on to state.

The policy also outlines different definitions, and discusses "Best Interest Enrollment Determinations, Disputes and Enrollment."

"Generally, a student in foster care will remain in his/her school of origin, unless there is a determination that it is not in the student's best interest," the policy reads. "The Foster Care POC shall assist DCYF or any other child welfare agency and the school of origin/receiving school POC to make a "best interest determination" education decision, particularly the determination of whether or not it is in the best interest of the student in foster care to remain in his/her school of origin or to enroll in a new school."

"Unless local procedures are established in accordance with state and federal law, the District will use the model procedures prepared

jointly by the NHDOE and DCYF," the policy goes on to state. "A best interest determination meeting of a child's out of home placement should ideally be held within ten calendar days If the determination is that the best interests of a child is not to remain in the school of origin, and instead placed within a new school within this District, the child in foster care shall be immediately enrolled in the new school ("receiving school"), even if any documents or records otherwise required for enrollment are not immediately available."

The policy also states that if there are disputes "regarding a determination regarding the best interest determination for a child in foster care, it is expected that DCYF and the separate school districts, both sending and receiving, will work collaboratively at the local level to resolve the issue."

If there is no resolution, the RSA "requires the Department of Health and Human Ser-

vices to request in writing that the two Superintendents involved resolve the dispute. If the residency dispute remains unresolved after 10 days after such request, the Department of Health and Human Services shall request that the Commissioner of the Department of Education determine the residence of the child for purposes of school enrollment."

No changes were proposed between the first and second reading.

The second proposed policy sent to a third reading unchanged is in regards to Employment References and Verification.

"This is a required policy that was noted missing during an audit from State on our grants," Business Administrator Lisa McKenney wrote in a memo to the School Board. "This policy fulfills the requirements of 8546(a) Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)."

The policy states that the school district "

shall act in good faith when providing employment references and verification of employment for current and former employees."

"The School District, and its employees, contractors, and agents, are prohibited from providing a recommendation of employment, and/or from otherwise assisting any school employee, contractor, or agent in obtaining a new position or other employment if he/she or the District has knowledge of, or probable cause to believe that the other employee, contractor, or agent ("alleged perpetrator") engaged in illegal sexual misconduct with a minor or student. This prohibition does not include the routine transmission of administrative and personnel files," the policy reads.

It also outlines times when the prohibition doesn't apply including if:

1. The information giving rise to probable cause has been properly reported to a law enforcement agency with

jurisdiction;

2. The information giving rise to probable cause has been reported to any other authorities as required by local, state or federal law (for instance NH Division of Children, Youth and Families "DCYF"), and

3. At least one of the following conditions applies:

a. The matter has been officially closed;

b. The District officials have been notified by the prosecutor or police after an investigation that there is insufficient information for them to proceed;

c. The school employee, contractor, or agent has been charged with, and acquitted or otherwise exonerated; or

d. the case or investigation remains open and there have been no charges filed against or indictment of the school employee, contractor, or agent within four years of the date on which the information was reported to a law enforcement agency."



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## Have an Announcement?

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

# Letters

**Continued from page 4**  
tion on Town Articles 1 thru 16 and did not mention that there are 22 articles that will appear on the March 12th ballot. The response was that the town could not explain the intent of articles 17 through 22 so they did not print them.

We have been told multiple times by the current Town Council 'If you have questions come here and ask' the reality is those words ring hollow to many who have questions and cannot get an answer. How can you make an informed decision at the polls when the Town is not answering questions?

Glenn Douglas,  
Londonderry

## Make the Right Choice for Council

To the editor,  
As some of you will know by the time you get to my signature line, I have at times been a contentious voice in the community, something I am still seeking to make good up for today.

So when I sat down to pen a letter about who I don't believe you should vote for, I began to consider carefully what I would say. I hope my written words, read through the medium of this paper, convey the full sincerity and absence of malice in my words.

I do not believe we should re-elect Jim Butler in the March 2024 election.

Jim is a familiar face in town and a voice for the seniors he associates with, that much is for sure. But Jim is also your worst enemy if you dare to question the Town's official narrative.

You don't have to believe everything you read in the paper, or on the Londonderry Town Underground website for that matter. You can go on YouTube and pull up public comment at not one, but many meetings of our Town Council in this past year alone, and see for yourself the abusive, disrespectful and condescending manner in which Jim Butler talks down to the taxpaying residents who elected him.

We could reflect back

to the March 2023 election, where only days prior, Councilman Butler used his official position to distribute official work product of the Town of Londonderry thru a private email address, in what appeared to be an attempt to disparage select citizens conveniently prior to last year's election.

One could view June/July 2023 meetings of the Town Council, where Councilman Butler sits by as a residents attempts to participate in a licensing hearing were unlawfully denied. Butler can be heard quizzing Councilman Dunn on who gave him information on the relevant law, all because Dunn dared to speak up for resident Richard Bielinski.

If you want a real display of meanness and malice, you could travel back in time to last summer once more and watch Jim personally attack me for daring to file record requests and ask questions, in a disrespectful, slanderous diatribe that had even my political opponents apologizing to him for

the disrespectful nature of Butler's remarks.

Have you seen or heard how he speaks to former Councilwoman Deb Paul? Or State Representative Kristine Perez? A true class act.

As the Town Manager recently said in a bombastic speech where he insulted residents several times (a speech highly plagiarized) we are in a battle for the soul of this community. In times like these, when the Town is seeking to have less elected positions, less public comment, and less resident input at Town Hall...is reelecting Jim Butler really going to maintain the voice of the everyday citizen?

Go listen to Jim on one of his verbal tirades against citizens he disapproves of and ask yourself: is that REALLY your voice?

If not, vote for change at Town Hall this March.

Jonathan Esposito  
Londonderry

## Vote No on Article 2

To the editor,  
Here we are, once again discussing the topic of making our elected office of Treasurer for the Town of Londonderry, an appointed one. Why are we revisiting this topic you ask? Not because of any issues that have occurred in Town, that's for sure and certainly not because there has been any outcry from citizens. Our current

Treasurer of 14-years has attested to the fact that the office has run smoothly during her tenure.

This current push to make an elected position appointed, as with last year, is largely coming from within Town Government. As with many issues, there is what is stated on the surface, and then there is the truth that requires digging a little deeper.

On the surface, the reasons are trivial and mundane. The current treasurer feels that running for office is too "contentious" for anyone to want to participate in. This, despite the fact that untold numbers of Americans continue to run for office every year at all levels (local, State, and National.) Our Town Finance Director is concerned that an "unqualified" citizen, one well meaning but bumbling, may come in and make some inadvertent error that may hurt the Town of Londonderry, despite this never occurring anywhere in Londonderry's recorded history. Our Town Manager and Town Council Chairman have vaguely identified security issues that they feel exist with the elected position, despite the fact that the office being elected provides an additional check and balance against malfeasance.

The real reason they want to make the Treasurer Position appointed and not elected? To

make Londonderry government more "responsive" by streamlining processes in which the people and their legislative body, the Town Council, can be bypassed, and the Town Managers office can make unilateral decisions for what they believe is best for the Town. An appointed official who serves at the will of the Town Council and not the people is more likely to defer to what the Town Council, Town Manager, and Finance Director may believe is appropriate, rather than exercising the independent judgment required by this elected office. Making this position appointed compromises the fiduciary duty of fidelity to the people, and makes the position loyal only to Town Hall.

Making this position elected takes power away from the people.

Vote NO on Article 21 in the March 12, Town Election. Vote to keep our treasurer an elected position, not one appointed by town officials.

Richard Bielinski Jr.  
Londonderry

## Why Gov. Sununu?

To the editor  
Why oh why has Gov. Sununu joined the theater of the absurd?


What ever was he thinking when he decided to join the other Rep. Govs. at the Texas border?

continued on page 15

POLITICAL ADVERTISEMENT

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# Londonderry Senior Honored For Journalistic Talents



Londonderry senior, Kelly Egan

ALEX MALM  
LONDONDERRY TIMES

When Londonderry High School senior, Kelly Egan, was a sophomore, she joined the student news publication, The Lancer Spirit, because she “wanted to learn about journalism and write articles.”

During her junior year, she was promoted to the Arts and Entertainment editor, and this year she was promoted to Editor-in-Chief.

Now she will be representing NH in April, in Kansas City, after being named to represent N.H.

for the 2024 Journalism Education Association Journalist of the Year award.

“I am super honored to have been awarded this prize and I’m looking forward to going to Kansas City to represent NH,” Egan wrote in an email.

According to a press release, JEA NH State Director, Tim Cain, who is an English teacher and journalism adviser at Pinkerton Academy said Egan is “the first New Hampshire senior to represent the state in this contest.”

Egan explained she

always loved to write.

“Throughout my childhood, I have always wanted to pursue a career in writing,” Egan wrote. “When I was in elementary school, I wanted to be an author. When I was in middle school, I wanted to write movie scripts.”

When she got to Londonderry High School she was told if she loves writing, she should take a journalism class.”

It’s when she knew she wanted to go into journalism.

“Once I took the Journalism 1 class, I loved writing articles and learning about the written word,” Egan wrote. “I had a feeling that this was what I wanted to do, but once I got promoted to an editor, I knew that this was what I was meant to do. I can’t wait to pursue a career in the journalism field.”

Egan said she plans on majoring in journalism in college, and has narrowed her choice down to two New England colleges, although she hasn’t decided on what school she will be attending.

According to a press release, “Egan will now get the chance to com-

pete with the other JOY recipients from all the other states for a scholarship.”

“They’ll announce the winner and the names of four finalists at the JEA/NSPA convention in Kansas City in April,” the release read.

The release also noted that this isn’t the first time she has been honored for her journalistic talents. According to the press release, Egan represented the state during the summer at the Al Neuharth Free Spirit and Journalism Conference in Washington, D.C.

“I am so proud of Kelly,” adviser, Mary DeWinkleleer, wrote. “It’s pretty amazing she has represented NH two times in national competitions in the past year. I can’t wait to see what else she accomplishes in the field of journalism in college and beyond.”

Egan said she is looking forward to representing NH.

“To get to represent NH with an award like this is such an amazing opportunity,” she said. “It really assures that this is what I am meant to be doing.”

## State of the Town

Continued from page 1  
of his 15 minute and 35 second speech.”

She said she heard him express wants on specific warrant articles “and then went on for an attack on a community member knowing full well as he is a lawyer that she can not go after him with lawsuits.”

After passing out a handout to the Town Council, Perez explained what she thinks should be included in those types of speeches, not-

ing that it should’ve included things about the budget, economic, development, and small businesses.

She also noted that there should’ve been mention of key objectives ahead saying “water is not the only problem that we have in this town. There are other key objectives.”

Perez also stated that it’s not a public forum to “chastise and belittle people anymore than being a Town Council

member is.”

Resident, Jonathan Esposito, said he encouraged people in the community to watch that “15 minute tirade,” referring to Malaguti’s speech.

He also said that people on the Town Council should’ve raised a point of order.

Esposito said he thought Malaguti was being hypocritical since he has used his public office to “express his opinions on how citizens conduct themselves in letters to the

editor in that very same paper,” referring to comments Malaguti made about the Londonderry Times.

He also noted that the Town Clerk, Sherry Farrell, has a column in the Derry News, which he enjoys reading, but said “she certainly expresses her opinions on what’s going on in the community and signs off as the Town Clerk.”

No other Town Councilors made comments regarding Malaguti’s speech.

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# Conservation OKs Townhomes, Uncomfortable with Warehouse Project

PAUL CONYERS  
LONDONDERRY TIMES

The Conservation Commission opened its Feb. 13 meeting with a presentation from John Rokeh of Rokeh Consulting with an update on the Rainy's Way Townhome project at 14 Mohawk Lane.

"We were here before you last year, we had an eight-unit development we were working on, and we got comments in the planning process," Rokeh explained. "One of the things that came up was that one of Londonderry's regulations on had to do your lot density is a lot more strict than the State of NH. Our surveyor originally calculated it using the New Hampshire regulations, so we ended up with a much-reduced project."

With a design, the

site plan shifted to a "much-reduced project" with larger buffers, wetland setbacks, and a smaller detention pond. The consultant claimed that all town comments from the original proposal had been met and everything was being reviewed one last time.

"We believe we've addressed all issues with our reduced plan, and we're looking forward to going to the Planning Board," said Rokeh.

There were several questions over how the reduced plan would impact the surrounding environment.

"The detention pond, who's going to be responsible for the annual inspection and maintenance?" asked Conservation Chair Marge Badois.

Rokeh stated that a Rainy's Way Condo As-

sociation would watch the detention pond, confirming that the reduced plan included a condominium complex owned and rented out by the developer.

Satisfied with the changes, the Conservation Commission wished Rokeh luck before the Planning Board.

Also discussed at the Feb. 13 meeting, Engineer Nick Golan addressed the board with Certified Wetland Scientist Chris Danforth from TF Moran for a conditional use permit presentation related to the High Cube Warehouse at 60 Pettengill Road.

"Have you done anything to limit the lighting affecting the adjacent Fish and Game property?" asked Badois.

"All the lighting is downcast, dark sky compliant. So, when we think of it from that perspective, yes," Golan promised. "It meets the minimum illumination requirements of both the town and just good engineering practice."

NH Fish and Game Department already confirmed what they expect from the protection and state recommendations were already included in the plans.

"This site had some aerial photographs back in 2003, this area was previously a gravel pit,"

said Danforth. "The wetlands here look pretty new; I think it's a change in hydrology."

The presence of a large wetland proved to be an issue.

"That wetland is located at the dead center of the property, avoiding it and still building on that land is just impractical," said Golan.

He reiterated that the wetlands were not "age-old millennia" wetlands and that a permit with the state was progressing on the following studies by two wildlife biologists who found no

"species of concern" were on the Pettengill Road property.

Despite these reassurances, nobody on the Conservation Commission was comfortable recommending a project that would include filling in a wetland, although approval is not required for a conditional use permit with the Planning Board.

The Conservation Commission is scheduled to meet on Tuesday, Feb. 27, at 7:30 p.m. in the Moose Hill Council Chambers.

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POLITICAL ADVERTISEMENT

# VOTE NO ON Article 2

**Please take the time to go and vote in the March 12 election.  
When you do, I ask that you vote NO on Warrant Article 2.**

The Town Treasurer is currently an elected position. By voting NO, this position will remain elected by the people and responsible to answer to the people.

If you do not vote NO, the person for this position will be recommended by the Town Manager and appointed by the Town Council effectively making the Town Treasurer beholden to those who appointed them.

I was a former elected Town Treasurer and as such have experienced pressure by town officials to leave my signature stamp and/or signed blank checks for the town to use. As an elected Town Treasurer, needless to say, this did not happen.

Please vote NO on Article 2 and safeguard this independent checks and balances on your tax dollars.



# Water Subcommittee Look for Long-Term Solutions to Water Contamination

PAUL CONYERS  
LONDONDERRY TIMES

Water issues have remained a central concern for the Londonderry Utilities Committee and its more focused water subcommittee. While the Utilities Committee did not have its first meeting of 2024 until early February, the water subcommittee was busy throughout January with a quick meeting and extensive preparation for Warrant Article 3.

"We are asking for \$13 to come from outside sources, we're asking \$8 million to come

from a grant, \$2 million is going to come from ARPA [American Rescue Plan Act] funds, and \$2-3 million is going to come from the town portion of the Warrant Article," State Rep. Liaison, Ron Dunn, explained. "We're basically only going to pay for 11.3% of the project, so it's a very important project, it's the start of phase one."

Dunn supported public funding to extend the nearby Pennichuck water main down the High Range Road to alleviate groundwater PFAS contamination.

"We have a water

supply problem in Southern NH," said Town Manager, Mike Malaguti, who noted that some contamination issues went beyond the 2016 Saint-Gobain plastic contamination. "PFAS is a big part of the problem, but it's not the only problem."

The Town Manager warned that PFAS chemicals represent an "emerging contaminant," one that went undetected for years and where the adverse health effects are still being researched.

He hopes to take advantage of what he

called a "closing opportunity" of state aid to offset some of the more expensive costs behind the expanded water system. If passed, Warrant Article 3 would be the first step of a larger extension.

With the Warrant Article and ongoing issues with groundwater, the Utilities water subcommittee met in January to solidify plans for what can be done beyond the years-long process of installing new water pipes.

"We're working on a round table, the format is sort of dynamic, and

the Town Manager suggested he wants to join us," said subcommittee chair, Jeff McGraw. "We have our part: what is PFAS, why do we care, what can you do as an individual, and the next piece we want to have Mike cover is: what is the town doing."

McGraw hoped his roundtable would be the first of several in-depth discussions towards a long-term solution, possibly with help from Concord. Subcommittee members were still working on some finer details for when, where, and how often to hold

the roundtable.

"My opinion is that water is the most important thing we need to think about in Londonderry," he said. "We want to do what we can to communicate what the issues are in the community in a very direct, very local situation."

The Londonderry Utilities Committee is scheduled to meet again at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, March 5, on the first floor of the Moose Hill Council Chambers. The Committee is also scheduled to hold leadership elections at that meeting.

## School Ballot

continued from page 1

"Accepting these funds allow us to support low income families by providing free or reduced cost breakfast and lunches," she said.

Another warrant article is for the Buildings and Grounds Capital Reserve Fund.

The warrant article states: "Shall the voters of the Londonderry School District vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$220,000 to be placed in the District Wide Buildings and Grounds Capital Reserve Fund established in March 2021 School Dis-

trict meeting for the purpose of the maintenance, construction, renovations, improvements and related professional services to all buildings, grounds, fields, substructures, and infrastructure to the overall property of the Londonderry School District? The fund shall provide the funding source for all equipment, structures, professional services, machinery, and materials, necessary to sustain efficiency, safety, of the District's buildings, grounds, and infrastructure and subsurface that meet the needs

of the School District."

The warrant article would have an estimated tax impact of \$0.02.

It was explained that the plan with the funds this year is \$130,000 for the roof overcoat at South School, \$50,000 to replace the domestic hot water system at Matthew Thornton, \$117,000 for the South School fire alarm system replacement, \$97,000 for the fire alarm panel at Matthew Thornton, and \$40,000 for playground repairs at South School.

Article 9 is for the District Technology Network Infrastructure Capital Reserve Fund.

The article reads: "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 manage-

ment of the district's network?"

The warrant would have an estimated tax impact of \$0.02.

School Board member, Kevin Gray, explained that it's not for the devices and it's only for the hardware and software needed to "support all buildings in the district."

Article 10 is for the Equipment Capital Reserve Fund which states:

"Shall the voters of the Londonderry School District vote to raise and appropriate up to the sum of \$120,000 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, 2024 fund balance available for transfer on July 1, 2024 and no amount to be raised by additional taxation?"

Since funds would be coming from the end of the year fund balance there wouldn't be any tax impact.

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# Four Candidates Running for Two School Board Seats

There will be four names on this year's school election ballot for two, three-year seats on the School Board.

We asked each candidate to answer two questions:

1: *What do you feel is the largest concern for the school district in the next three years and how will you help deal with it?*

2: *Why are you the best choice for voters?*

The following are their answers to the question:

**Amanda Butcher**  
**Incumbent**

1: The largest concern for our school district is making sure each student has the academic, behavioral, and social-emotional skills

they need to have a meaningful school experience. We can do this by providing them with what they need to be successful in the moment, with the goal of best preparing them for their adult lives. Regardless of whether our students choose to continue their formal education in a college program, pursue a trade, or focus on building life skills, they need to maximize their independence, each student should have access to the best possible education for them. Last year, our overall proficiency in Reading and Math test scores for grades 3-12 hovered right around the state average at 56% and 45%, respectively. When compared to a surrounding town, Londonderry was up to 27% lower. Our incoming first graders have test scores that are below the state average in Reading and Math when compared to the rest of the state. This is following a year in a Kindergarten program which gives them 675 hours less of education per year, when compared with the programs offered to their peers in almost every other town in the state. Part of improving means looking objectively at what we do well, but also what we can do better. Last year, I supported a comprehensive review of our special education program to ensure we can identify areas for future growth. I will continue to support the best curriculums, programs, and methods, and will advocate for our staff members to receive the resources, support, and training they need to accomplish these goals. We have some absolutely amazing support staff, teachers, and administrators, and it's also important they receive what they need to be successful.

2: I started my career in education supporting children with special needs as a paraprofessional. As I started to see my students progress, I knew that helping them succeed is what I was meant to do. I returned to school and received a master's degree in education, focusing on leadership, teaching, and educational transformation, in addition to earning a graduate certificate in Applied Behavior Analysis. In my career, I have worked with students with developmental and intellectual disabilities, as well as emotional-behavioral disorders. Most recently, I oversee a team of professionals and collaborate with school teams to build systems and implement interventions to effect positive change in both general and special education. I have close to 17 years of experience working with staff members and students, most of which has been spent in public schools across NH. Working as a paraprofessional, consultant, and now an administrator gives me a unique perspective that benefits me in my role as a member of the Londonderry School Board.

As a community, I believe our greatest asset is our different perspectives and willingness to work together. Simply put, I'm someone who believes that people who think differently can find common ground and work together. I am a team player who is open-minded and collaborative. Week after week I sit next to four other individuals with different backgrounds and opinions who care deeply about our town. We don't always agree, but every one of us is dedicated to listening, researching the best paths forward, asking questions, seeking out feedback, making responsible and thoughtful decisions.

continued on page 11

POLITICAL ADVERTISEMENT

# VOTE NO on Article 21

Article 21 seeks to eliminate the town manager from his position. Language contained in Article 21 is statutory from RSA 37:15 and is read in conjunction with RSA 49-D. A NO vote is in support of removing the current town manager from his position.

Please Vote on March 12.  
When you do, I ask that you vote NO on Warrant Article 21.



Candidates

Continued from page 8

ful financial decisions, and providing what we feel is the best and safest experience for every Londonderry student. I would be honored to remain a member of this team.

Sara Loughlin  
Incumbent

1: The primary focus for our district in the upcoming years revolves around two key issues: the implementation of full-day Kindergarten and addressing current building requirements, particularly regarding the Moose Hill expansion. Two articles on the ballot this March will specifically address these concerns. If approved by the community, these articles will pave the way for evaluating the current

needs of our district office and determining subsequent steps in our master plan. However, if these articles are not passed, we will need to reassess our approach to accommodating the growing number of needs, particularly in addressing the overcrowding issues at Moose Hill, which primarily affects our youngest learners.

Regarding full-day Kindergarten, it's essential to note that our community currently stands as one of the few in the state without this offering. Implementing full-day Kindergarten would provide our 5-year-old learners with an additional 103 school days annually, significantly enhancing their foundational education. This extended time frame allows us to better nurture and develop our

students, laying a stronger groundwork for their future academic success.

The decisions made in March will greatly impact our district's trajectory over the next few years. It is my intention to disseminate pertinent information to the community, ensuring everyone is well-informed about the facts surrounding Kindergarten options, current building needs, and future infrastructure requirements. Empowering our community with comprehensive information will enable them to make informed decisions that best serve the needs of our students and the broader community.

2: It has been a fulfilling experience serving our town on the School Board for the past three

years, and I am eager to continue for another term. While we've achieved remarkable progress during this time, there remains much to be done. As a candidate for re-election, I am confident that my dedication to education and collaborative approach make me the ideal choice. With nearly two decades of experience in public education as both a school administrator and teacher, I have worked closely with teachers, students, and parents from diverse backgrounds. I am deeply committed to ensuring equity for all learners and actively support extracurricular activities that allow our children to thrive and express themselves. I am determined to advocate tirelessly for the best interests of our students, teachers, and

community. Additionally, I firmly believe in the power of collaboration and teamwork, and I am committed to working closely with fellow board members, administrators, teachers, parents, and community members to develop effective solutions and make informed decisions that benefit our schools and community.

Alan Roy

1: Public school enrollment has been on a steady decline for the past 20 years with no sign of it turning around. And what online schooling has shown parents during COVID has proven that students aren't getting the education they should. Stop trying to build unnecessary larger schools in hopes of attracting families to Londonderry and focus on better educa-

tion to attract families to Londonderry.

2. Why are you the best choice for voters?

My wife and I were foster parents for 9 years with a specialized foster program dealing with children and teens coming from difficult situations. We had to have an understanding of the children's individual needs in order to deal with their families, schools, social situations and in some cases moving them onto productive lives.

I want what's best for the children because they will be in our positions some day. And what's best for the taxpayers because without that balance whether you know it or not, your home situation does affect your children. Statistics show that chil-

continued on page 14



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Sunday	CLOSED



POLITICAL ADVERTISEMENT

# Tired of the Same Old Same Old?

## Do You Want a Change in Town?

### *On March 12 Vote:*

Town Council  
**Shawn Faber**

Budget Committee  
**Jason Goldman**  
**Wendy Marini**

Town Clerk  
**Amanda Longo**

Trustees of the Trust Fund  
**Brian Patrick Crowley**

Budget Committee  
**Dave Plaza**

Cemetery Trustees  
**Amy Landry Wheeler**

Supervisor of the Checklist  
**Maureen Hardy**

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**Moira Ryan**

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## Schools Collect Donations to Feed Hungry and for Fun



The three Londonderry elementary schools and Moose Hill School participated in an All-School Activity to support social emotional learning. The four schools combined to collect over 2,000 cereal boxes and each school set up a giant domino cascade through the halls. North School had the highest total collected with about 850 boxes. The cereal boxes were donated to food pantries and other organizations. To see the cereal box dominos cascade through the schools go to the Londonderry Times Facebook page for videos of North, South and Matthew Thornton. More photo of the activities on next page.



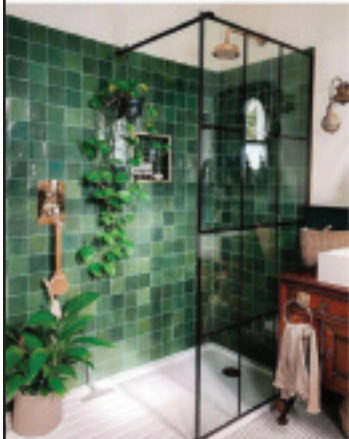


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Candidates  
Continued from page 11

gling households have difficulty concentrating in school and getting better grades.

**Ken Samoisette**  
1: There are many concerns for every U.S. public school, Londonderry overall is great.

We thought so when we moved here in 2004 when my daughter was 1.

2004 seems like a different world now. I could watch PBS with my children and not see Seasm Street illegally push MRNA gene therapy as a vaccine as safe and effective. I could watch Blues Clues and not see

LGB ideology pushed and pedo-story time promoted to my child under five years old. Shameful times!

A schools job is to educate with logic not ideology. Seemingly innocuous SEL and STEM is not designed to educate but rather shift a child's core beliefs, attitudes, values, and

behavior. SEL and or CASEL is indoctrination of radical left ideology that over time shifts a child's overall attitudes and beliefs.

A review of SEL by the Epoch Times revealed highly controversial teachings of sexuality and sex, race and racism, gender and class, economic liberty, family and marriage. Just ask your kids if they aspire for marriage or a nuclear family and see if they aspire to your beliefs or those of our generations before. An obliteration of traditional sexual morality and biological sex in the minds of children is taking place.

There are many studies that prove this, and if you have an appreciation of how mandatory public schools were created you'll better understand the communist agenda that was designed to erode Christianity and morality. Public education on the federal level is a billions of dollars industry. It is untouchable; many have tried and failed. The only chance we have is locally to protect what we believe in and what sets America apart from every other country in the world. I see on the School Board a lot of spending and reaching out to federal agencies. Reaching out to the devil for the sake of dollars is widely accepted and unquestioned. I will question if I am elected to the school board. I will ask why and not be afraid to be the only "no" vote on anything.

I will end with a quote from Mark Twain that everyone should know:

"In the beginning of a change the patriot is a scarce man, and brave, and hated and scorned. When his cause succeeds, the timid join him, for then it costs nothing to be a patriot." - Notebook, 1904


INFORMATIONAL AD

Please Vote in this Year's Local Elections!

Tuesday • March 12

Town and School District Elections will take place from 6 a.m. to 8 p.m. at the Londonderry High School Gym. Many of the articles will have a direct effect on your taxes.

Londonderry Times



**ABSENTEE  
OFFICIAL BALLOT**

**ANNUAL SCHOOL DISTRICT ELECTION**

**LONDONDERRY, NEW HAMPSHIRE**

**MARCH 12, 2024**

BALLOT 1 OF 2

*Kym L. Sturtevant*  
SCHOOL DISTRICT CLERK

**INSTRUCTIONS TO VOTERS**

A. TO VOTE, completely fill in the OVAL to the RIGHT of your choice(s) like this: ☐

B. Follow directions as to the number of candidates to be marked for each office.

C. To vote for a person whose name is not printed on the ballot, write the candidate's name on the line provided and completely fill in the OVAL.

FOR SCHOOL BOARD	
Three (3) years	Vote for not more than TWO
SARA LOUGHLIN	<input type="radio"/>
ALAN ROY	<input type="radio"/>
KEN SAMOISSETTE	<input type="radio"/>
AMANDA BUTCHER	<input type="radio"/>
(Write-in) <input type="radio"/>	
(Write-in) <input type="radio"/>	

**ARTICLES**

**Article 2 - Special Article - Moose Hill Addition & Renovation**

Shall the Londonderry School District raise and appropriate the sum of **\$23,100,000** for the design and construction of additions and renovations to the Moose Hill School; and to authorize the issuance of **\$23,100,000** of bonds or notes under and in compliance with the Municipal Finance Act, RSA 33:1 et. seq., as amended; to authorize the school board to apply for, obtain and accept Federal, State or other aid, if any, which may be available for said project and to comply with all laws applicable to said project; to authorize the school board to issue, negotiate, sell and deliver said bonds and notes and to determine the rate of interest thereon and the maturity and other terms thereof; and to raise and appropriate the additional sum of **\$575,000** for the first year's payment thereon; and to authorize the school board to take any other action necessary or to pass any other vote relevant thereto? (3/5 ballot vote required)

Fiscal Year	Estimated Cost	Estimated Tax Impact
FY2024-2025	\$ 675,000	\$0.09*
FY2025-2026	\$1,813,687	\$0.28*
FY2026-2027	\$1,713,944	\$0.27*

\*Estimated tax impact based on 20-year bond with 4.25% interest rate and 2023 assessment

	Yes	No	Abstained
Voted by the School Board:	5	0	0
Voted by the Budget Committee:	5	1	0

TURN BALLOT OVER AND CONTINUE VOTING

**ARTICLES CONTINUED**

**Article 3 - Special Article - Moose Hill Addition & Renovation**

If Article 2 passes, shall the Londonderry School District raise and appropriate the sum of **\$11,100,000** for the design and construction of additions and renovations to the Moose Hill School for additional classrooms and additional programming to accommodate a full day kindergarten program; and to authorize the issuance of **\$11,100,000** of bonds or notes under and in compliance with the Municipal Finance Act, RSA 33:1 et. seq., as amended; to authorize the school board to apply for, obtain and accept Federal, State or other aid, if any, which may be available for said project and to comply with all laws applicable to said project; to authorize the school board to issue, negotiate, sell and deliver said bonds and notes and to determine the rate of interest thereon and the maturity and other terms thereof; and to raise and appropriate the additional sum of **\$275,000** for the first year's payment thereon; and to authorize the school board to take any other action necessary or to pass any other vote relevant thereto? This Article 3 is conditioned on Article 2 passing and it will be null and void if Article 2 is not adopted by a 3/5 majority vote. (3/5 ballot vote required)

Fiscal Year	Estimated Cost	Estimated Tax Impact
FY2024-2025	\$275,000	\$0.04*
FY2025-2026	\$873,038	\$0.14*
FY2026-2027	\$821,356	\$0.13*

\*Estimated tax impact based on 20-year bond with 4.25% interest rate and 2023 assessment

	Yes	No	Abstained
Voted by the School Board:	4	1	0
Voted by the Budget Committee:	4	3	0

**Article 4 - General Fund - Operating Budget**

Shall the voters of the Londonderry School District vote to raise and appropriate an operating budget for the fiscal year 2024-2025, not including appropriations by special warrant articles, or separate warrant articles, one of the following amounts for the purposes set forth in the budget posted with the warrant?

Vote for only one:

A. **\$88,351,411** (School Board Budget as amended) (Estimated Tax Impact \$10.31)

	Yes	No	Abstained
Voted by the School Board:	5	0	0
Voted by the Budget Committee:	7	0	0

OR

B. **\$80,413,544** (Default Budget) (Estimated Tax Impact \$10.32)

NOTE: Warrant Article 4 (Operating Budget) does not include appropriations proposed under any other article in this warrant.

B. ☐

**Article 5 - Londonderry Support Staff (AFSCME Local 1801) Bargaining Agreement**

Shall the voters of the Londonderry School District vote to approve the cost items included in the collective bargaining agreement reached between the Londonderry School District and the Londonderry Support Staff (AFSCME Council 93/Local 1801), and further to raise and appropriate the sum of **\$796,458** for the 2024-2025 fiscal year, such sum representing the additional cost items attributable to the increase in salaries and benefits over those paid, at current staffing levels, in the prior fiscal year, with **\$250,000** of that sum to come from the June 30, 2024 fund balance available for transfer on July 1, 2024 and the balance to be raised from taxation? The agreement calls for the following increases in salaries and benefits at current staffing levels over those paid in the prior fiscal year:

Fiscal Year	Estimated Cost	Additional Estimated Tax Impact
FY2024-2025	\$548,458	\$0.09
FY2025-2026	\$509,134	\$0.08
FY2026-2027	\$379,247	\$0.06

	Yes	No	Abstained
Voted by the School Board:	5	0	0
Voted by the Budget Committee:	7	0	0

GO TO NEXT BALLOT AND CONTINUE VOTING



Letters

Continued from page 6

der. I had thought he was a smart man, but apparently he doesn't know why the civil war was fought and the amendments that followed to the constitution.

They established that the Federal Gov't. has precedence over the states. What a disappointment to see that he is no different from the Rep. who seems hell bent on destroying democracy. What a shame.

No profile in courage here. And now in today's State of the State address, he says he will go the legislature and ask

for more National Guardsmen to go to the border and it is legal. That he said so fast, you could almost have missed it. These are to replace the 200 who have come back. Think he is bucking to go to Washington?

Jane Cooper  
Londonderry

The Role of the Planning Board

To the editor,  
As a member of the Londonderry Planning Board, I find myself in a unique position that blends visionary community planning with the responsibility of making quasi-judicial decisions.

Our role under NH's SB2 (Senate Bill 2)/Town Charter budgetary town meeting governance structure is not just administrative but deeply rooted in fairness, impartiality, and the legal framework that guides our actions.

The Planning Board's duty to develop and oversee the implementation of the town's master plan is well-known. This plan, a blueprint for the future, addresses land use, housing, economic development, and more. However, less discussed but equally crucial is our quasi-judicial function. This aspect of our role requires us to hear and decide on applications

for site plan reviews, special exceptions, and variances in a manner akin to a court of law. These decisions must be based solely on the evidence presented during public hearings and under local ordinances and state laws.

Our quasi-judicial capacity mandates an unbiased approach. Personal opinions, politics, or external pressures cannot influence decisions. Instead, they must be grounded in the criteria outlined in our regulations, ensuring that every applicant receives fair and equal treatment. This judicial-like responsibility underscores the importance of transpar-


ency, due process, and objectivity in our proceedings. It is a process that requires meticulous attention to detail, a deep understanding of the law, and an unwavering commitment to justice.

In Londonderry, as in other SB2 towns, our decisions, especially those made in our quasi-judicial capacity, are subject to appeal to the state courts. This layer of accountability ensures that our actions are fair, impartial, and legally sound. It is a reminder of the gravity of our responsibilities and the impact of our decisions on the community and individuals alike.

The balance between being visionaries for Londonderry's future and arbiters of its present development challenges is delicate. We are tasked with ensuring that growth and development align with the community's long-term goals while respecting the rights of individual property owners and stakeholders. This dual role is a cornerstone of effective local governance, enabling us to guide Londonderry towards a sustainable and prosperous future.

Our work is complex and often challenging but also deeply rewarding. As Planning Board

Continued on page 20



ABSENTEE

OFFICIAL BALLOT

ANNUAL SCHOOL DISTRICT ELECTION

LONDONDERRY, NEW HAMPSHIRE

MARCH 12, 2024

Kyrri L. Sturtevant

SCHOOL DISTRICT CLERK

BALLOT 2 OF 2

ARTICLES CONTINUED

Article 6 - Authorization for Special Meeting on Cost Items

Shall the Londonderry School District, if Article 5 is defeated, authorize the governing body to call one special meeting at its option to address Article 5 cost items only?

(Estimated Tax Impact \$0.00)

YES ☐

NO ☐

Yes No Abstained

Voted by the School Board: 5 0 0

Voted by the Budget Committee: 7 0 0

Article 7 - School Lunch Program and Federal Fund Projects

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; further to raise and appropriate such funds in a special revenue fund as follows: school lunch program, \$2,041,800, and federal projects, \$1,831,000, for a total appropriation of \$3,672,800 such funds to be self-supporting through local, state or federal revenue sources?

(Estimated Tax Impact \$0.00)

YES ☐

NO ☐

Yes No Abstained

Voted by the School Board: 5 0 0

Voted by the Budget Committee: 7 0 0

Article 8 - Special Article - Buildings and Grounds Capital Reserve Fund

Shall the voters of the Londonderry School District vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$220,000 to be placed in the District Wide Buildings and Grounds Capital Reserve Fund established in March 2021 School District meeting for the purpose of the maintenance, construction, renovations, improvements and related professional services to all buildings, grounds, fields, substructures, and infrastructure to the overall property of the Londonderry School District? The fund shall provide the funding source for all equipment, structures, professional services, machinery, and materials necessary to sustain efficiency, safety, of the District's buildings, grounds, and infrastructure and outsource that meet the needs of the School District.

(Estimated Tax Impact \$0.02)

YES ☐

NO ☐

Yes No Abstained

Voted by the School Board: 5 0 0

Voted by the Budget Committee: 7 0 0

Article 9 - Special Article - District Technology Network Infrastructure Capital Reserve Fund

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?

(Estimated Tax Impact \$0.02)

YES ☐

NO ☐

Yes No Abstained

Voted by the School Board: 5 0 0

Voted by the Budget Committee: 7 0 0

TURN BALLOT OVER AND CONTINUE VOTING

ARTICLES CONTINUED

Article 10 - Special Article - Equipment Capital Reserve Fund

Shall the voters of the Londonderry School District vote to raise and appropriate up to the sum of \$120,000 to be placed in the School District Equipment Capital Reserve Fund established in 2013 for the purpose of funding the acquisition of minor on-going 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, 2024 fund balance available for transfer on July 1, 2024 and no amount to be raised by additional taxation?

(Estimated Tax Impact \$0.00)

YES ☐

NO ☐

Yes No Abstained

Voted by the School Board: 5 0 0

Voted by the Budget Committee: 7 0 0

Article 11 - Citizens Petition Warrant Article (as amended)

Shall the district express its support of the current method of presenting the operating budget to voters?

(Estimated Tax Impact \$0.00)

YES ☐

NO ☐

YOU HAVE NOW COMPLETED VOTING THIS BALLOT

# LONDONDERRY SPORTS

## Lancer Boys' Basketball Head Into Playoffs with Win

CHRIS PAUL  
LONDONDERRY TIMES

The Londonderry High School Boys' Basketball squad is headed into the playoffs after defeating Manchester Memorial with an exciting 65-60 senior night finish.

The victory over the Crusaders squashed that team's chances for a playoff berth and showcased the talents of senior forward, Ryan Williams, who scored 33-points in the game, in part, due to his seven successful three-point attempts in the game.

The game certainly had its ups and downs for the home team, seeing a lead slip away in the first quarter and throughout the second period, but the Lancers stepped things up coming out of the halftime break and never looked back.



Senior Conor Williams scored 33-points against Manchester Memorial during his final game at LHS on Friday night. Photo by Chris Paul

Londonderry trailed to 21-29 by the half, but 13-16 after one and fell in the third quarter, LHS

knocked Manchester on their heels, outscoring them 27-6 to take a 48-35 lead heading into the final quarter. The period was ignited five three-pointers drained by Williams and junior Mason Paquette.

Despite a push by the Crusaders in the final period, the Lancers finished with a five-point cushion.

Technical fouls were called on both sides throughout this very physical game, for unnecessary chatter under the hoop, with Manchester being called on two and Londonderry receiving one.

All-in-all, it was a solid win for the team to finish the regular season at 9-9 and locked in a spot as the 11th seed in the DI playoffs.

Williams led the team in scoring with his biggest night of the season, scoring 33-points, with seven three's, eight successful foul shots and two baskets.

Paquette followed in the scoring with 16-points, three of which came by way of three-pointers. Ty Miles, Kiet Totten, and Crosby Nolan each scored four-points.

Before the senior



Mason Paquette tallied 16-points in both of the final regular season games last week.

night win, the Lancers suffered a close 67-71 loss to Manchester Central in the Queen City on Tuesday, Feb. 20.

This gave the Little Green their seventh win of the season and the final spot in the DI playoffs.

Miles finished with 21-points in the loss, to lead his team in scoring.

Paquette put up 16-points with one, three-

pointer and Williams tallied 13-points, including three, threes.

The team's first playoff game will be against the Windham High School Jaguars (#6), in Windham on Wednesday night at 6 p.m.

Windham finished the regular season at 12-6, but was beaten by the Lancers 68-64 on Feb. 13 at home.

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# Lancers Hockey Squad Lands in #2 Spot for Playoffs



From left, LHS seniors Mike Maloney, Matt Boyon and Jayden Hamilton prepare for the upcoming Division I Playoff as the Number Two seed.

CHRIS PAUL  
LONDONDERRY TIMES

The Londonderry High School Ice Hockey team ran into some good fortune last week, winning both of their final regular season games and having the Concord Crimson Tide drop out of the top two with a pair of losses.

By virtue of that good fortune, the Lancers grabbed the number two seed in the Division I playoffs, allowing them a first round bye to await the winner of the game between Pinkerton Academy and Manchester Central-West-Memorial.

The quarter-final game for the Lancers will be on their home ice, at the Tri-Town

Arena in Hooksett on Saturday, March 2, starting at 4 p.m.

Londonderry has defeated both of the team's they are scheduled to face in their first game of the playoffs, beating PA twice, 8-2 and 5-4, and just coming off a 3-1 win over the Manchester squad on Saturday.

In the victory over the combined three-school Manchester team, Londonderry scored three to help secure their spot in the playoffs.

Senior forwards, Jayden Hamilton and Owen Carey, along with junior forward, Brett McKinnon, all had goals in the victory at JFK Stadium in Manchester.

Three night earlier, the team had a 9-1 slamming of the Nashua South-Pelham squad, who have only managed to get three wins this season. It was also the team's senior night game, giving the fans a chance to honor the team's eight seniors.

Carey, Hamilton, Jack Nadeau, James Kircaldie, Mike Maloney, Brandon Morin, Matthew Boyon, and Alec St. Hilaire will all be lost to graduation at the end of the playoffs.

The Lancers finished

the season in second place in the division standings with a very impressive 15-3 record, just behind the top team, Windham High School, that also finished at 15-3.

The only meeting Londonderry had with the Jaguars was a 4-1 defeat, in part, due to some very strong Windham goaltenders, Ben Breen and Roberto Robles, who have had six shutout victories and six games where they have allowed just one goal.

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## TOWN OF LONDONDERRY NOTICE OF TOWN ELECTION

Notice is hereby given that the Official Ballot Session of the Town of Londonderry's Budgetary Town Meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 12, 2024 at the Londonderry High School Gymnasium, the polls to be open at six o'clock in the morning and to close not earlier than eight o'clock in the evening

A sample ballot is posted at Londonderry Town Hall, and may be accessed on the home page of the Town's website, the Voting and Elections section, and the Town Clerk's section of the Town's website.



# Londonderry Girls' Basketball Take Number Three Seed

CHRIS PAUL  
LONDONDERRY TIMES

The Londonderry High School Girls' Basketball team

got two wins in the final week of the regular season and will head into the first round of the Division I playoffs as the

number three seed, facing Nashua South (#13) at home on Tuesday, Feb. 27.

The two final wins of the season gave the Lady Lancers at stellar 16-2 record with their only losses coming from the two top seeds.

Bedford finished undefeated and Pinkerton Academy had just one defeat.

If things go as planned, the first significant rival Londonderry will face will be in the semi-final against the Astros.

The LHS squad started their week at home, during a senior night game, honoring the team's only senior, Megan Jones, and adding the celebration of winning their 15th game of the season.

Jones has not had much playing time this season, but contributed seven-points in the win over Manchester Central-West on Tuesday, Feb. 20.

Manchester was held to single digits for all,

but one quarter in the 52-38 LHS victory.

The Lancers led by 18-points heading into the break, 15-7 after one and 16-6 in the second for a 31-13 advantage at halftime.

In the third period, as starters came off the floor, LHS maintained a 20-point lead, let up in the fourth for the 14-point victory.

Junior guard, Mia Giampa, tallied 13-points, including three, three-pointers, while freshman Gemma Murray put up 12-points

with two, three-pointers.

Sammy Sullivan contributed 11-points and Brooke Eacrett had seven.

In the team's final game of the regular season, at Manchester Memorial High School, the Lancers kept the Crusader to 28-points and scored 46 of their own.

They led 24-17 at the half, had 11-points in each of the final periods and held Manchester to 11-total-points in the half.

Murray had a big

night, scoring 19-points, including three, three-pointers to lead her team.

Sullivan put up 10-points, Eacrett had six and junior Reagan Anderson scored four.

Provided the Lancers get by Nashua South in the first round of the playoffs, a team they beat 67-49 in the first week of the season, they will play a quarter-finals home game against the winner of the Goffstown Grizzlies (#6) and the Alvirne Broncos (#11).



Senior Megan Jones contributed seven-points in the win over Manchester Central-West on Tuesday, Feb. 20, the team's Senior Night game.  
Photo by Chris Paul



## Senior Send Off

Emily Ouellette was honored on Friday night as the only senior on the Lancers Cheerleading Squad. The team has just two possible competitions to take part in as the basketball and cheer season is coming to an end.

Photo by Chris Paul

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# David Pento Jr. Clinches Another State Title at MOCs

CHRIS PAUL  
LONDONDERRY TIMES

The Londonderry High School Wrestling team had five wrestlers qualify for the state's Meet of Champions on Saturday, Feb. 24, and one of them was able to qualify to the New England Championship.

The New Hampshire Girls State Championship was also held on Saturday with Lancer wrestler, Fira Shaffer, taking second place in the 152-pound weight class and qualifying for the very first Girls' New England Championship.

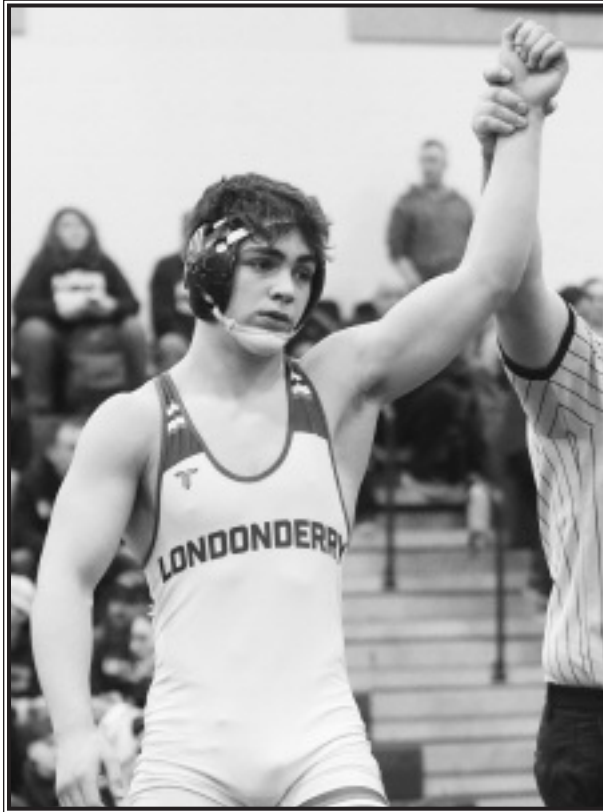
Lancers junior, David Pento Jr. notched his final three wins of New Hampshire season in the 175-pound weight class, with two pins and a major decision to finish undefeated in the granite state. His only loss this year came during a tournament in Massachusetts back in the first week of January.

Pento had three fairly effortless victories in the Division I State Championship, to qualify for the MOCs and Saturday's matches were nearly the same.

In the quarter-finals, Pento pinned Anders Arbogast of Exeter High School at 3:06 in the match.

His semi-final bout went easier, but with the same outcome, pinning Tucker Watson of Bedford High School in 1:10.

Pento's closest mat-



*David Pento Jr. will be headed back to the New England's with three straight wins at the Meet of Champions in the 175-pound weight class on Saturday. Photo by Chris Paul*

ch of the past two tournaments came in the finals of the MOCs, winning with a 9-1 major decision over Sawyer Goodwin of Spaulding High School.

Pento moved up two weight classes from last year where he won a state title and moved onto the New England's.

The victory on Saturday qualified Pento for another trip to the New England Interscholastic Wrestling Championship. This is the third year in a row he will be competing in that tournament.

This year's tournament will take place on March 1 and 2 at Providence Career and Tech-

nical Academy in Providence RI.

Shaffer will be competing in the first-ever girls' New England Championship with her second-place finish.

The four other LHS wrestlers competing in the MOCs were: Patrick O'Connor, who finished in first at the DI State Championship; Finn Millis, who placed sixth; Lucas Deleon and Manny Perez.

O'Connor finished in fourth-place at the MOCs and Millis was able to finish in sixth-place.

According to head coach, Jason Cucolo, "Pento will be competing in a very challenging weight class with many talented opponents. David is coming off a great state tournament and we look for him to continue to build on last weekend as we head into the New England championships."

About Shaffer, Cucolo added, "Fira is a freshman and is competing in the 152-pound weight class. We are so proud of her hard work all season and it showed in the state tournament as she finished second."



*Fira Shaffer qualified for the first ever Girls' New England Wrestling Championship.*

## OBITUARY

### Edward John Wasielewski, Jr.



Eternal rest was granted to Edward John Wasielewski, Jr. on Wednesday, Feb. 21, 2024, his birthday, at the age of 77.

Ed was born on Feb. 21, 1947, one of six children, to Edward J. Wasielewski, Sr. and Wanda J. (Zukowski) Wasielewski in the village of Montague City, MA. Ed graduated from Turners Falls High School in MA in 1965. At the age of 20, he bravely stood with his country, serving in the US Navy. He served over six years as an electronics technician, much of that time on the USS Constellation CVA-64 during the Vietnam War. He was Honorably Discharged with several medals pertaining to his service. After returning home, Ed married the love of his life, Mary Walker on May 3, 1975 in Syracuse, NY and had a son, Donald Edward and daughter, Mary Cecelia.

Ed was a wise and well-read man. He earned his bachelor's degree from the University of Mass. and held a long career as a welder in manufacturing. He enjoyed the study of geology and was a gifted jewelry maker. He loved sharing his jewelry with others, never asking for anything in return other than a smile. Ed was a faithful parishioner of the Catholic Church and enjoyed God's beautiful creation though hiking, camping, hunting and fishing. Although Ed was an introvert, his gentle and loving heart drew people close to him. He taught religious education to children in the 1980's and early 1990's. He was a Cub Scout Den Leader for his son. He passed on his love of nature to his children who have since passed it on to his grandchildren. Being in the woods is where he found himself closest to God. It's where he was at his most peace.

Ed and Mary moved to Branson, MO, from Hudson, NH in 2016 after living in Hudson since 1981. They enjoyed living in the area and spending time with their son, Don Wasielewski and wife Tamara also of Branson and their five grandchildren, Connor Edward, Trevor Joseph, Hunter Andrew, Walker John and Emma Jennie. Ed leaves wonderful memories to be held dear by Mary, Don, Tamara and his grandchildren. He will also be deeply missed by his siblings, Timothy Wasielewski of Willington, CT, Daniel Wasielewski of Fairfield, IA, Tammy Cone and husband John of Matthews, NC and Laura Wasielewski-Falkengren and husband Gary of Bedford, NH. He was preceded in death by his parents, his cherished daughter, Mary C. Wasielewski, beloved grandchildren, Angel and Francis and one sister, Kathleen Prentice.

The Rosary service for Ed was held on Sunday, Feb. 25, in Snapp-Bearden Funeral Home and Crematory, Branson. Visitation began at 6:30 p.m., and continued until 7:30 p.m. Funeral Mass was held at 10 a.m., Monday, Feb. 26, at Our Lady of the Lake Catholic Church in Branson led by Father Nicholas Newton. Ed was laid to rest directly following the mass in Ozarks Memorial Park Cemetery, Branson with full Military Honors by the United States Navy and Branson Veterans of America 913.

## OBITUARY

### Raymond J. Pelletier



Raymond J. Pelletier, 83, passed away peacefully at his home in Londonderry, NH, surrounded by loved ones on Feb. 21, 2024.

Raymond was born on Feb. 2, 1941, in Sanford, ME, to Roland and Lillian (Blanchard) Pelletier. He grew up in a loving family with his five brothers and three sisters. Raymond's love for family extended to his own, and he was a devoted husband, father, and grandfather.

Raymond is survived by his loving wife, Sylvia Pelletier, with whom he shared over six decades of marriage. Together, they built a life filled with love, laughter, and cherished memories. Besides his wife, Raymond leaves behind his sons, Steven Pelletier, and James Pelletier, and his daughters, Diane Pelletier and Michele Brann, nine grandchildren, numerous great-grandchildren, and great-great-grandchildren, all who were a source of immense joy for Raymond. He relished family gatherings, where stories were shared, and laughter echoed through the rooms.

Raymond J. Pelletier will be remembered for his unwavering love, his warm smile, and the legacy of family bonds he leaves behind. May he rest in eternal peace.

Calling hours to celebrate Raymond's life were held on Tuesday, Feb. 27, at the Peabody Funeral Homes & Crematorium. In Lieu of flowers, a memorial donation may be made to the American Cancer Society, 3 Speen St. Framingham, MA 01701. To Leave condolences please visit [peabodyfuneralhome.com](http://peabodyfuneralhome.com).

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# Letters

Continued from page 16

members, we are directly involved in shaping the community we love. We do not take this responsibility lightly. I encourage Londonderry's residents to engage with us, share your perspectives, and participate in planning. Your input is invaluable as we navigate the intricate balance of planning and decision-making that will define our town for generations.

Sincerely,  
Jeff Penta  
Planning Board  
Member  
Londonderry

## Londonderry Voters

To the editor,  
As our town election rapidly approaches, I want to bring to your

attention the need for a new voice on the Town Council. That new voice belongs to Shawn Faber.

In a recent Londonderry Times article, the two candidates running for Town Council were asked specific questions. On the first question, Shawn Faber provided concise and targeted answers as to what a Councilor can do to lower taxes. Shawn's work history, of making sound fiscal decisions to benefit both the employers and employees of various companies, can be carried over into properly running town government and reducing the tax burden. On the second question, Shawn Faber made clear that his life experiences, and proven track record of success, would make him the better choice. Shawn is dedicated to transparency, accounta-

bility, and open communication with residents. Every Londonderry citizen wants our beautiful town to have excellent schools, efficient government, top-tier Police and Fire services, and wisely spent tax dollars. And to achieve these, there must be the correct leadership.

Please join me, and your fellow Londonderry citizens, in voting for Shawn Faber for Town Council.

Sincerely,  
Brian Crowley  
Londonderry

## Tom's Poor Timing

To the editor,  
It was ironic to read Rep. Tom Dolan's letter bemoaning society's "attacks on religion" only 2 days after the Alabama Supreme Court used scripture to declare IVF

embryos children. This extraordinary new legal definition was so driven by Christian Nationalism that the Chief Justice's opinion cited a "theologically based view of the sanctity of life" that otherwise risks "incurring the wrath of a holy God."

According to Mr. Dolan, the very foundations of our country are under attack simply because people like me might not want to pledge an oath to an entity we don't believe in so we can participate in government. The next step is obviously Christians fending off lions at halftime of LHS football games.

We've somehow reached a point in this country where any attempt to accommodate the rights of non-Christians evokes screams of persecution, while forcing millions to live under

a strict religious ideology is "getting back our heritage". As we all should know, God is not mentioned once in the Constitution, but there is that pesky Separation of Church & State thing.

As a NH native, I've always been proud of our secular, live & let live approach. But Christianity is increasingly being used as a tool to force society to behave as small groups of people demand.

Jason Knights  
Londonderry

## 2024 Warrant- Article 3

To the editor,  
Ground water contamination with PFAS, arsenic, and other pollutants is a growing problem in southern NH. Many Londonderry households rely on private wells for drinking, cooking, and bathing water. Several of our neighbors are dealing with long-term water contamination problems.

Warrant Article 3 asks the citizens of Londonderry for permission to raise and appropriate

funds to extend an existing water line on High Range Road from Alexander Road south to Nashua Road (Rt. 102). This water line is envisioned as a key component of a future town wide water system, that when built out, will provide access to clean drinking water to most areas in town. The system as envisioned will also eliminate the need for private wells which often require special filtration systems, provide water during power outages, and improve fire safety with on-street fire hydrants.

The total cost for estimated High Range Road water line extension is estimated at \$25,750,000. Funding is projected to be raised through the following means:

- \$20,800,000 through state grants and private sources (81% of the project cost). These funds must be fully obligated to this project by all involved parties before breaking ground.

- \$2,950,000 through Londonderry property

Continued on page 23



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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).

## Republican Meeting

The Londonderry Republican Committee will be meeting on first Thursday, every month, at Londonderry Baptist Church, 368 Mammoth Rd., Londonderry, NH. For more information: [LondonderryGOP.org](http://LondonderryGOP.org), [facebook.com/LondonderryGOP](https://facebook.com/LondonderryGOP), or contact us at [lrc@londonderry-gop.org](mailto:lrc@londonderry-gop.org).

## Maple Weekend is Coming Up

Londonderry's Peterson Sugarhouse, 28 Peabody Row Londonderry, will be open for visitors March 16 - 17, from noon - 4 p.m., for NH Annual Maple Weekend. Their evaporators will be going, pure local NH maple syrup in all sizes as well as their home-

made maple pecans and maple candy for sale. Of course, there'll be Free Samples of delicious ice cream w/ maple syrup drizzled on top for everyone.

## Voter Information

The Supervisors of the Voter Checklist will meet to correct the checklist and register voters on: March 2, from 9 - 10 a.m. Note: March 2 is the LAST day to register BEFORE the election. Same-day registration will be available at the Polls. Polls are open 6 a.m. - 8 p.m. To register to vote, one must provide: Proof of Londonderry residency; Proof of citizenship (passport, birth certificate, naturalization papers); Proof of age; Photo ID. Applicants for registration who possess

proof of identity, age, citizenship, and domicile should bring that proof when they come to register. Qualified applicants who do not possess proof or who do not bring proof with them may register if they sign an affidavit attesting to their qualifications for identity, age, domicile and citizenship.

## Easter Egg Hunt

3rd Annual Easter Egg Hunt hosted by Beacon Church and the YMCA of Londonderry will be held on Saturday, March 23, from 11 a.m. - 1 p.m., at the Gilbert H. Hood Middle School, 5 Hood Rd., Derry. 10,000 Easter Eggs, a Petting Zoo, a Donut Truck, Crafts, Party Palace Characters...and more. This is a FREE event.



The American Legion Post 27 Auxiliary hosted an "End 68 Hours of Hunger Food Drive" in January benefiting children in the Londonderry School District. The Londonderry Women's Club (LWC) contributed food items in support of this cause. Pictured from left are, Nicole Lepine, LWC Secretary, with Danielle Peckham of the American Legion Post 27 Auxiliary. *Courtesy photo*

## 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 start-

ed with Libby and Hoopla? Need help navigating a new device? The Leach Library reference staff has you covered! We are here to provide one-on-one assistance tailored to your technology-related needs. No

appointment is necessary. Stop in any Thursday between 10 a.m. and noon. For more information or to make an appointment for another time, please call the library at (603) 432-1132.

continued on page 23

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## Londonderry Police Log

### Selections taken from the daily Londonderry Police Logs

#### Monday - Feb. 19

**5:04 a.m.** Services rendered for Suspicious Activity at Manchester Boston Regional Airport.

**10:31 a.m.** Welfare Check conducted on Hillside Avenue.

**4:25 p.m.** Motor vehicle stop at Orchard View Drive, on Nashua Road, leads to an arrest made by three officers. Louis Serrecchia, 78, of Pelham, arrested on a Warrant.  
**4:39 p.m.** Three officers serve Matthew Prine, 34, of Londonderry with a warrant on Bridle Path, at Wallace Farm Apartments and taken/referred to other agency.

#### Tuesday - Feb. 20

**12:56 a.m.** Motor vehicle stop leads to an arrest made by four officers at the 7-Eleven on Rockingham Road. James Rondeau, 41, of Derry, charged with the Violation of a Protective Order.  
**2:25 a.m.** Motor vehicle

stop leads to an arrest on southbound side of Route 93. Isabella Luongo, 21, of Fall River, MA., charged with: Driving Under the Influence - Impairment; Open Container; Driving after Revoke/Suspension; and Lane Control.

**4:39 a.m.** Suspicious Activity investigated at the Sleep Inn on Perkins Road

**5:27 a.m.** Warrant served and arrest made at the Sleep Inn on Perkins Road. Jacob Lawrence, 23, of Chichester, charged with three Bench Warrants.

**8:15 a.m.** Escort/Transport provided to take subject to Family/Guardian/Other from Sleep Inn on Perkins Road.

**9:38 a.m.** Criminal Mischief investigated on Akira Way.

**11:37 a.m.** Criminal Mischief investigated at the LAFA Complex on Nelson Road.

**4:28 p.m.** Motor Vehicle Complaint investigated by four officers on Wind-ing Pond Road at Orchard View Drive.

**11:33 p.m.** Assisted the Strafford County Sheriff's Department with services on County Farm Road.

#### Wednesday - Feb. 21

**2:31 a.m.** Warrant served and arrest made on Otter Way. Trisha Morin, 38, of Hudson, charged with: Conduct After an Accident; and Criminal Mischief.

**8:42 a.m.** Warrant served and arrest made at the Hillsborough County House of Corrections. Frank Hampson, 43, of Nashua, charged with: Theft by Unauthorized Taking (Two Prior Convictions); and two counts of Identity Fraud - Posing as Another.

**11:10 a.m.** Services rendered to Keep the Peace on Pinyon Place.

Continued on page 23

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## Around Town

Continued from page 21

### PJ Story Time

Families are invited to come to the Leach Library in their favorite pajamas on Thursday, Feb. 29 at 6:30 p.m. to hear bedtime stories and sing a favorite lullaby. Don't forget a cozy blanket and stuffed animal to snuggle! Registration is not required for this program.

### Books and Board Games

On Thursday, Feb. 29 from 2 - 3 p.m., teens and tweens are invited to a play an assortment of classic and new board games in the Leach Library Meeting Room. Winners will have first choice in choosing a book to keep. All par-

ticipants will receive at least one book. Registration is required and begins on Thursday, Feb. 22. To register, please visit the library's online calendar or call the library at (603) 432-1132.

### Child Find

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

### 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.

### Historical Fiction Book Discussion

Come to the Leach Library on Thursday, March 14 at 11:30 a.m. for a historical fiction book discussion at the Leach Library! We will be discussing Sarah Penner's novel, "The Lost Apothecary." You can pick up a copy of the book from the library. Registration opens on Thursday, Feb. 8 and is limited to 15 participants. To register, visit the library's online calendar or call (603) 432-1132. Copies of the book will be

available to check out at the library's main desk.

### LEEP

Londonderry Early Education Program is now accepting applications for the 2024-2025 school year! The program is provided by the Londonderry School District for three-year old preschoolers and meets from 8:25 - 10:55 a.m., either 2 or 4 days per week and the program for pre-kindergarten students meet from noon - 2:30 p.m., either 3 or 4 days per week. Tuition rates are: Preschool: \$150 per month for a 2 day per week program and \$200 a month for a 4 day per week program. Pre-kindergarten: \$180 per month for a 3 day per week program and \$200 a month for a 4 day per week pro-

gram. Applications are available online on the Moose Hill School website. We also have our LEEP Handbook available online on the Moose Hill School website if you'd like additional information on the program. For more information, contact Denise Fosmire at 437-5855 ext. 7223 or email Denise Fosmire at dfosmire@londonderry.org or Kim Speers at kspeers@londonderry.org.

### Meet Your Neighbors

The Londonderry Women's Club brings diverse women together; creating an environment that nurtures friendships while encouraging community involvement through volunteerism. If you would like more information about the Londonderry

Women's Club or are thinking about joining a group that gives back to the community, check us out on Facebook, visit our website at [www.londonderry-womensclub.org](http://www.londonderry-womensclub.org) or email [info@londonderrywomensclub.org](mailto:info@londonderrywomensclub.org).

### Free PFOA Water Test By NHDES

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

## Letters

Continued from page 20

taxes to pay a 3% maximum interest, 20 year term loan with the State of NH (11.3% of project cost). If state grants and private funding sources become unavailable, or if the warrant article fails, this loan will not be undertaken.

• \$2,000,000 through on-hand American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding (7.7% of project cost).

Warrant Article 3 specifically asks for approval to raise \$215,000 to cover the first-year interest and principal through an increase in property taxes on a low interest (3% maximum), 20 year loan for \$2,950,000

from the state of NH. If passed this article will require the Town to raise the \$215,000 from property taxes, resulting in a tax impact of \$0.034 in FY25 based on projected assessed value. The first-year property tax impact will be approximately \$17 for a home currently assessed at \$500,000. Interest

and principal payments for years 2-20 will become a part of future default budgets. The warrant requires a 60% majority vote at the polls to pass. If passed, this warrant provides Londonderry with the unique opportunity to undertake a \$25.75M infrastructure project for a taxpayer investment of

\$2.95M provided through very favorable loan terms.

To learn more about drinking water contamination in Londonderry, attend a Londonderry Utilities Committee at 7 p.m., on the first Tuesday of the month at Town Hall, or watch for committee meetings on cable channel 22, or reach out to

any of the committee members listed on the committee's website [www.londonderry.nh.gov/londonderry-utilities-committee](http://www.londonderry.nh.gov/londonderry-utilities-committee).

Submitted by  
Lynn Wiles,  
Chair, Londonderry Utilities Committee  
and Jeffrey McGraw,  
Chair, Londonderry Water Subcommittee

## Police Log

Continued from page 22

**11:11 a.m.** Motor Vehicle Accident Made on Nashua Road, at Walgreen Drug Store, leads to an arrest made by three officers. Lucas Butler, 29, of Londonderry, charged with: Driving Under the Influence - Impairment; and Driving After Revoke/Suspension.

### Thursday - Feb. 22

**9:48 a.m.** Services rendered for Neighborhood Disputes on Winding Pond Road.

**3:15 p.m.** Six officers investigate a Sudden Death on Bridle Path at the Wallace Farm apartments.

**3:23 p.m.** Suspicious Activity investigated on Charleston Avenue.

**3:52 p.m.** Motor vehicle stop leads to an arrest made by three officers

on Rockingham Road, at Londonderry Freezer Warehouse. Rushi Panchal, 43, of Hooksett, Arrested on a Warrant.

**4:39 p.m.** Five officers respond to a Medical Emergency on Josephine Drive and Transport subject to a hospital.

**5:16 p.m.** Assisted the Londonderry Fire Department with services on Josephine Drive.

**11:55 p.m.** Services rendered by three officers for Suspicious Activity on Aspen Circle.

### Friday - Feb. 23

**1:55 a.m.** Motor Vehicle stop leads to an arrest made by three officers on Nashua Road at Route 93. Renee Dalton, 41, of Windham, charged with: Driving Under the Influence - Impairment; Traffic Control Device Violation.

**11:24 a.m.** Services ren-

dered for Homeland Security at Manchester Boston Regional Airport. **11:26 a.m.** Services rendered for Suspicious Activity on Calla Road.

**11:37 a.m.** Services Rendered for Suspicious Activity on Sanborn Road, at Sanborn Crossing.

**12:36 p.m.** Larceny/Forgery/Fraud reported on Londonderry Road.

**2:28 p.m.** Security Check conducted at Londonderry Town Hall on Mammoth Road.

**7:01 p.m.** Missing Person investigated by four officers at Manchester Boston Regional Airport.

**7:15 p.m.** Five officers respond to a Domestic Disturbance on Pinyon

Place.

**10:53 p.m.** Three officers assist a citizen on Jewel Court.

### Saturday - Feb. 24

**12:25 p.m.** Services rendered for a Shooting Complaint on Elwood Road.

**3:43 p.m.** Suspicious Activity reported at the Subway on Perkins Road.

**4:17 p.m.** Five officers investigate Suspicious

Activity on Pettengill Road, at Innovation Way. **4:33 p.m.** Criminal Mischief investigated at Park & Ride - North on Symmes Drive.

**5:59 p.m.** Trespassing on Calla Road leads to an arrest made by three officers. Ryan LeBlanc, 34, of Londonderry, charged with: Criminal Trespass.

**11:38 p.m.** Three officers investigate a com-

plaint on Mountain Home Road.

### Sunday - Feb. 25

**12:26 a.m.** Warrant served and arrest made on Beaver Glen Road, Hillsborough.

**1:55 a.m.** Three officers respond to residential alarm on Justin Circle.

**9:33 a.m.** Services rendered for a Domestic Disturbance on Buckingham Drive.

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