

Londonderry Times

October 24, 2024 ♦ Volume 26 – Issue 43

A FREE Weekly Publication



40-Years & Running The fifth grade Elementary School Cross-Country Races were held for the 40th year last week at the Londonderry High School track. Sue Johnson has been organizing the event since its inception. See story on page 16. *Photo by Chris Paul*

Town Council Briefed On Organizational Changes

ALEX MALM
LONDONDERRY TIMES

The Town Council received a briefing, regarding a shakeup in Town Hall, during a Oct. 7 Non-Public Session meeting.

According to the unsealed portion of the minutes, Town Manager, Mike Malaguti, “briefed

the Council on several operational changes following the recent departure of the Executive Assistant (EA).”

According to the minutes, Malaguti explained to the Town Council that when there is a vacancy, “there is an opportunity to evaluate the current needs of the organiza-

tion to see if resources can be reallocated.”

It was noted, during the non-public session, that the executive assistant position has been a full-time position, which offers benefits.

But according to Malaguti, “this position has had excess band-

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Town Council Hear From Public on Butler Resignation

ALEX MALM
LONDONDERRY TIMES

There was an overflow crowd attending the Londonderry Town Council Chambers during its Monday night, Oct. 21 meeting, with many community members speaking out against the way the resignation of Fire Chief Bo Butler was handled.

Butler tendered his resignation during the Monday night, Oct. 7, meeting.

The decision, Butler said, ultimately came down to his requirement to balance the budget, conflicting with what he thought was right, which was to have 13 firefighters per shift, after a warrant article passed in

March with 70 percent of the vote, called for the staffing levels.

During Public Comment, resident Tara Myles was the first to speak, saying she has been a supporter of the Town Council and the Administration, while others have not.

“But my support is not unconditional, it is not without accountability. I support you today, because I believe you seek to do the right thing, and like me you don’t always get it right,” Myles said. “But also, like me, I hope when you don’t get it right you endeavor to make it right.”

Susan Dalessandro, another resident, said

she never spoke at a Town Council meeting before, but wanted to show her support for the Fire Department.

As a resident on Mammoth Road, she said the number of sirens and emergency vehicles that go by her house have gone up “considerably.”

“If we can not support and staff our department in a level that is going to protect them what the heck are we doing as a Town,” Dalessandro said. “There is a cost to everything, there is a cost to being understaffed. Are you willing to pay that debt?”

Dan Bouchard, a for-

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Governor Pulls State Funding on Behavioral Health Hospital

ALEX MALM
LONDONDERRY TIMES

New Hampshire Governor, Chris Sununu, presented a proposal to use \$13.8 million in remaining American Rescue Plan Act Funds during the state’s legislative fiscal committee last week and wound up re-allocating funds that were intended to be used on a mental health facility in Londonderry.

Sununu explained that the funds were once allocated for a project in Londonderry, which would have created a behavioral health hospi-

tal in town.

“The source of the funding is the \$15 million ARPA grant that we had previously given. I think everyone was very excited to give to Solution Health. This was... going on what 18 months to two years ago now,” Sununu said.

The Londonderry Planning Board had previously given its approval for a site plan, with the condition that the Town Council approves a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), related to public safety and municipal resources.

“The condition of approval specifically requires that the Londonderry Town Council approve that Memorandum of Understanding,” Town Attorney, Megan Carrier, previously explained.

Sununu explained that the money “has

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Town Council Briefed On Status of Current Budget

ALEX MALM
LONDONDERRY TIMES

At the Oct. 7 Town Council meeting, Finance Director, Justin Campo, gave the Town Council an update on the Town's FY 2024 financials.

"Last year we came in under budget mainly due to the freeze aspect that we implemented," Campo said.

He explained that in terms of revenues, the town came in significantly over budget last year.

"If you remember, there were discussions

over interest rate cuts," Campo said.

He explained that despite the expectation by many that the Federal Reserve would lower interest rates in FY 24, Campo said that it didn't pan out, which meant more revenue for the town from the interest they received.

Another aspect for the higher than expected revenue in FY 24 that Campo pointed to, was motor vehicle registrations coming in higher than expected.

One question asked

was what the reasoning was for the higher revenue for motor vehicles.

Campo explained that it's a mixture of things including motor vehicle registrations and from rental cars.

He explained that with newer vehicles costing more, it means higher revenues from the registrations.

Campo noted that they usually budget more conservatively for revenues, noting that they don't have to scramble if revenues come in lower than expected.

Town Councilor, Ted Combes, noted that they got \$293,000 more than expected from revenue from the Fire Department, which was more than what the department went over budget for in terms of expenses.

He noted that in FY 24 they went over budget by \$218,000.

Town Manager, Mike Malguti, explained that you can't offset the two, when it comes to government accounting.

"Governmental accounting doesn't allow you to offset one against

the other," he said.

Campo explained that the \$218,000 overage would've been higher if they hadn't enacted a budget freeze.

"That impacted all the other departments as well," Malguti said.

He explained that in January of last year, about halfway through the fiscal year, which ends in June, the fire department was looking at being over about \$600,000.

With the extra revenue, and savings on the budget, Campo said that

they want to use the funds to help with staffing for the police department and other departments who he said "implemented a significant freeze."

Malaguti noted during the meeting that he was the one who enacted the freeze.

"It was not done lightly," Campo said about the budget freeze.

As part of the budget freeze, for example, Malaguti noted that the Police Department had to put a hold on an order of Glock pistols for its police officers.

School Board Looks to Address Items Before Budget Season

ALEX MALM
LONDONDERRY TIMES

At the most recent School Board meeting, one of the agenda items was in regards to an outlook of what will be on the table going into budget season.

"There are only a few meetings left before budget season, and the

majority of the School Board's time will be taken up by that process," Superintendent, Dan Black, wrote in a memo to the School Board. "Below is a short list of items that will come up before January that are planned to occur. We could also make more time if there are other agenda items

the School Board is interested in."

One of the pieces of business Black pointed to is "general policy clean up."

"This will continue to happen for the foreseeable future. We estimate we will have reviewed and discussed the backlog of items by March and April of

2025," Black wrote in a memo. "After that point in time, we will be able to look at a much smaller collection of policy items at a regular pace in School Board meetings."

Another item is therapy dogs, with the Therapy Dog Policy Group expected to present at an upcoming meeting.

The Communications Committee is also expected to present the updated moto to the School Board, which is something they have been working on.

The Field Study, is also something expected to be discussed during the School Board's Nov. 12 meeting.

"The Field Study will be presented at the Nov. 12th Meeting," Black wrote. "Related to some

of the outcomes from the Field Study, the Director of Buildings & Grounds wants to bring back the idea of line painter to the School Board as well."

Another issue likely to be addressed is a public hearing for the phone lines.

"The IT Department is currently submitting an RFP to update the analog phone lines we will be losing functionality in the Winter of 2026," Black wrote in a memo. "The School Board has already set aside funds to address the problem. We intend to hold a public hearing to grant the contract for the project and withdraw the funds before the new year."

Black said in terms of academics, there will be

an upcoming presentation on the Fall 2024 learning outcomes.

"The Assistant Superintendent and Curriculum Coordinators will continue their process of sharing our learning outcomes with the School Board and public at the Nov. 12 Meeting," Black said.

As usual, Black said during budget season, they will approve the Program of Studies for Londonderry High School and Londonderry Middle School, along with the 2025-2026 school calendar.

Chair, Bob Slater, also asked if they could get an update in the coming weeks about the CTE program, and the different available space they might have in the high school for it.

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Unusually High Participation Rate Seen in Townwide Survey

PAUL CONYERS
LONDONDERRY TIMES

The Londonderry Master Plan Steering Committee met on Oct. 10 to hear the final numbers for their Master Plan survey, except for a few paper copies still being recorded. There were nearly 1,400 participants in total.

“People who did it online, 1,332. Those who provided us with hard copies about 65 give or take,” said Sylvia Von Aulock, Executive Director of the Southern NH Planning Commission. “One of the questions at

the end was: ‘Are you interested in remaining involved?’ 365 people gave their contact information, that’s not including the handwritten.”

The response level exceeded expectations, as Committee members were pleased with the input. Having gone through the Master Plan process in several NH towns, Von Aulock noted that “we don’t typically get nearly 1,400 responses in a survey, this is a high response for us”

“Most people own their own homes, a few rent, a few live with family. About 83% are in sin-

gle family homes,” she said. “How long have you lived in Londonderry?” The number one pick was more than 20 years, a couple for less than a year and we have a nice spread between one and five, six and ten, and 11 to 20. We have a pretty good variety of people.”

Many respondents were either already retired or planned to retire in Londonderry with the 45 to 64 age group representing the largest age bracket represented in the results, with 30 people under the age of 20 taking the

survey. 84% wanted Londonderry to be known as a town where they could raise a family with particular importance given to maintaining community spaces, protecting historic sites, enhancing school facilities, and developing affordable housing for first-time buyers and renters. Possible watershed contamination, I-93 expansion, and potential loss of agricultural land and farms stood as areas of high concern for residents. Preserving wooded areas and the town’s rural character was seen as “very important.”

“The out-of-control development and the speed of development is

really upsetting people,” said Committee member, Bob Robicsek, who had been in contact with several residents both in Londonderry and in surrounding towns. “It’s a theme across Southern NH. It’s a big deal, people are upset and increasingly vocal about it.”

Von Aulock added that such results were not surprising. The survey indicated that residents preferred single-family homes over cluster developments and planned unit developments, although many favored more affordable housing.

“Based on your best estimation, does Londonderry offer a suit-

able, affordable selection of housing suitable for younger residents looking to buy their first home?” No,” she said.

Members believed they would need to get “creative” with modern land use planning to create an environment that favored more rural, single-family homes while trying to make things more affordable.

“How do you find affordable homes for people trying to buy their first home?” wondered Chair, Jeff Penta.

Members hoped to see the results broken down by age group in the coming weeks to get a better view of the situation.

Council

continued from page 1

width in recent years.” “The Town Manager intends to downgrade the EA position to part-time, and place that position in support of the Town Council, Town Manager, and Human Resources Director,” the minutes from the meeting state.

According to the minutes, the savings from making the change to the position, will then be allocated to two different positions.

One of those will be a “higher-level position supporting the Town Manager, Town Council, Town Departments, and administrative functions.”

The other aspect will be “upgrading the Planning Department Land Use Assistant position to full-time.”

“This latter change is justified as the busy Planning Department is

the only land use department without a full-time assistant, and several departments have multiple assistants,” the minutes from the meeting stated.

The Planning Department has had a number of vacant positions in recent years since the promotion of now Assistant Town Manager, Kellie Caron, who was promoted from Town Planner to her current role.

That position was filled for a short period of time, before the person who took the position resigned.

The Associate Planner position, once held by Laura Gandia, was also eliminated from the department, about two

years ago.

With the change to the executive assistant position, it is expected to be budget neutral, or not have a major increase.

“The Town Manager presented budgetary projections showing this can be accomplished at a savings or a small increase, depending on health care elections and where in the salary range the higher-level administrative position incumbent is placed,” the minutes from the meeting stated.

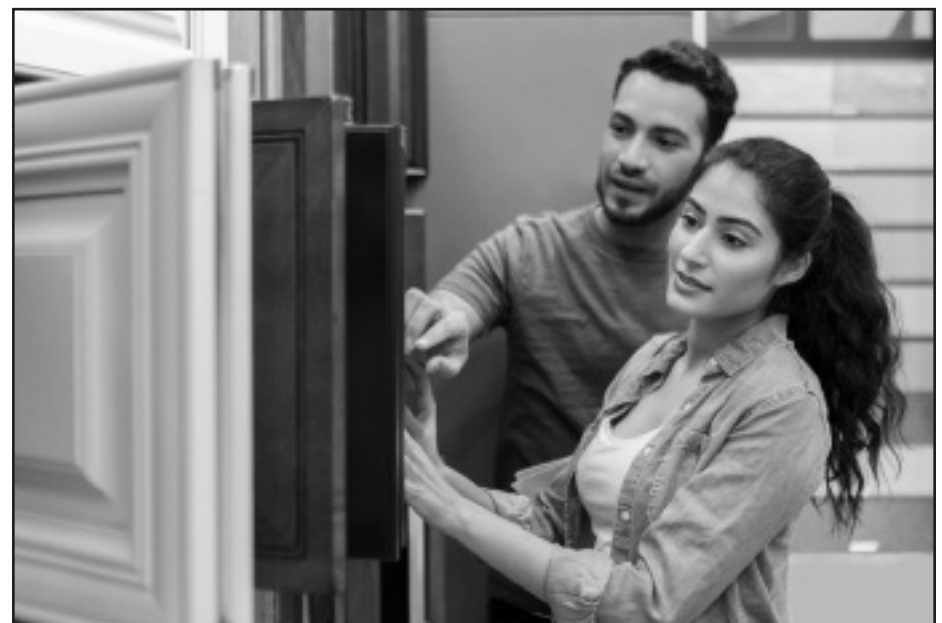
The next Londonderry Town Council meeting is slated to take place on Nov. 4 beginning at 7 p.m.

Londonderry Times

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Editorial

Happy Halloween

Can we step back from the real horrors of the world and enjoy Halloween?

Halloween is a childhood favorite, a treat for the young and a fun-filled reminder of years of trick-or-treating for those of us well past the days of going door to door for candy with a pillowcase. For many of us, regardless of age, Halloween is our holiday favorite, a day we look forward to weeks in advance. For children, there's something that can't be beat about dressing up, heading out after dark, walking up to neighbors' homes and filling a bag with free candy and other treats. The day is not about horror, but about fun.

Most of us harbor good memories of trick-or-treating amidst the fall leaves, collecting more candy than we could easily consume, and the fun of dressing up and, even for just a few hours, trying to scare ourselves a little. But never fear - the day is not about horror, it's about fun. Carving pumpkins, wearing masks, and posing as witches, superheroes, or fairytale characters, it's the stuff that makes good childhood memories. People will always caution that Halloween is too scary for kids. But what's scary is not the make-believe, it's the real-life events happening all around us.

We can expect the police to be out in force on that night, as the little ghosts and goblins, witches and

princesses are parading along local streets. It means that our usual midweek activities like shopping or heading home from a tiring day at work can put children at risk as they go about their rounds.

Everyone, please remember to drive especially carefully on Halloween paying close attention to pedestrians during the day and night. Parents' children's costumes should feature light colors or reflective tape so they can be seen in the early darkness that the season brings. Make sure young children travel in groups, under adult supervision, with everyone carrying flashlights or glow sticks. Tell children not to enter any homes they are going to or strangers' cars. Remind children not to eat any of their treats until they return home. On what we hope will be a crisp and clear fall night, keeping safety and common sense in the forefront and focusing on having fun is essential. There's something special and very New England about the sight of a lit pumpkin on the porch in the Halloween dark. Go ahead, put on a mask or a witch's hat as you prepare to answer the door when it rings.

If you want to get especially spooked, just remember what happened a few years ago, when trick-or-treating was postponed while we shoveled out from an early and damaging snowstorm.

Letters

Vote Anne Fenn

To the editor,

I am writing this letter in support of candidates running for NH State Representative in the Londonderry upcoming November Election.

I have known Anne Fenn for a long time. I have also been a resident of Londonderry since 1983. We have seen many of the same Republican State Representatives get re-elected year after year in Londonderry.

This year we have quite a few Democratic candidates for these positions who are willing to step forward and work for all of us in the NH State legislature.

Anne Fenn is one of these qualified candidates, among several others Jim Green, Paul Skudlarek, Bill Fanning, Michaela Hites and Bill Adams. Also running are Michelle Stith, from Windham, who is our floterical candidate covering our district and Kara Roy from Hudson, who is running to be our senator in the NH legislature. Just so you know I am also voting for a republican that I strongly support, Ron Dunn, who has worked very diligently, on the State, level concerning our current water contamination problems. I am putting my trust this election in these individuals.

I truly believe politicians on both sides can and should work together to bring about the changes we want to see in NH. New eyes and

ears listening and making decisions on important issues, we face as a town and a State, is a refreshing idea. I am very confident that Anne Fenn, if elected, will be a fair and responsible Representative, as will the others mentioned, and will represent all of our best interests. Anne Fenn possesses an extensive environmental and government background that will be an asset in the State House for Londonderry, particularly at this time when PFAS contamination of our drinking water has come to Londonderry. I strongly urge you to consider giving Anne Fenn and all of these very qualified Democratic candidates your vote this Nov. 5.

Martha Smith
Londonderry

Vote Republican

To the editor,

In Trump's four years as president, he produced the best economy ever by lowering income taxes putting more money into American's pockets, lowest inflation in decades, keeping us out of foreign wars, closed southern border to rapists/murderers and an agenda of putting America first.

Kamala Harris states she would change nothing of the Biden presidency. When asked what her policies would be as president, we got incomprehensible salads word, avoidance of answering questions and blaming Trump for every failure of the Biden-Harris

administration. Harris sat in on every decision, policy of the Biden administration, Harris owns the current state of America. If Harris wants to do all the things she says she'll do if elected, why didn't she do so during her vice presidency? Since Harris won't or can't articulate her policies, how can one vote for an unknown future that harbors a socialist agenda, weakening of America's economy, being taken advantage of by our enemies and an America governed by an elitist few. Harris is inept and incapable of governing a country of 336 million and a governmental bureaucracy.

To vote for Harris because just of a dislike of Trump's personality or because she's a woman, is not only shortsighted but uninformed.

Candidate's policies should be a determinate factor? Were you better off under Trump or under Biden-Harris?

If voters ignore the political rhetoric and faults of both candidates and unbiasedly consider past performances, the decision should be clear; Trump. Trump will Make America Great Again as he did in his four years as President. While you're voting on November 5, vote a straight Republican ticket including the seven Londonderry Representative candidates; Tom Dolan, Ron Dunn, David

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

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It has been a longstanding policy of Nutfield Publishing to publish campaign letters in the newspaper and also to allow people the opportunity to voice their endorsements. As we approach the Nov. 5 General Election, we are asking that all endorsement be a maximum of 350 words. The request is to allow space for weekly news and sports articles. Nutfield Publishing will not be running endorsements letters after the Oct. 24 issue. Thank you for your understanding.



Londonderry Times

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Letters

Continued from page 4
Lundgren, Wayne MacDonald, Sherman Packard, Kristine Perez and Doug Thomas. With a narrow 6 seat lead over Democrats in the House, it's imperative NH elects Republicans to the House. Democrats have long aspired to pass a state sales tax. Londonderry Reps have helped stopped a state sales tax. Vote a straight Republican ticket Nov. 5 and keep America conservative, our Constitution alive that has served our country well for 248 years.

Bob Pitre
Londonderry

Blind to the Truth

To the editor,
Remember the story of the Emperor with no clothes? A whole country was led to believe a falsehood that took one little boy to point out the truth. That is what has happened to our country as we are led to

believe a falsehood about abortion which is painting over the truth in the name of health care and justifying the killing of the hidden treasure inside a mother's womb.

Steven Christie, M.D., J.D. states in the video tutorial for the book, *Speaking for the Unborn*, "Since 1973 there have been over 61 million abortions in the US alone. If what's being aborted is not alive or not human then it really doesn't matter. But if those abortions are living human beings, then we've killed over 61 million children." Part 3 of the video is explanations & animations of abortion procedures which is difficult to watch. Science & embryology confirm the fact that they are human beings. Planned Parenthood is trying to convince you otherwise; but, we all know the truth.

Pregnancy Centers tell the truth with compassion, dignity and re-

spect for everyone seeking support or counsel in a difficult situation. They encourage the family to look at life-giving options that will promote health & well-being in the hearts & minds of everyone involved. Women do regret abortions. Ask volunteers for Rachel's Vineyard retreats. Will you have the courage of the little boy and speak the truth about the killing of our unborn future generation?

Ken Rahilly
Londonderry

Vote Michelle Stith

To the editor,
I am asking for your support for Michelle Stith on Nov. 5 for State Representative for the 35 District serving Londonderry and Windham. Michelle will bring a sense of conservation and preservation of the environment to Concord. She is a strong supporter of protecting water rights and will work to help control the PFAS contamination.

Her service on the Zoning Board of Adjustment has shown her to be fair and objective in protecting the rights of the abutters as well as the rights of the property owners. Her service in the schools as a paraprofessional has fortified her commitment to ensure appropriate educational funding for all students. She will preserve the NH tax advantage and has said she will never support State Sales or Income tax.

Sara Lang
Londonderry

Looking for Your Vote

To the Editor,
My name is Sherm Packard, and I have proudly served Londonderry for nearly 34 years, most recently as Speaker of the NH House. During my tenure, House Republicans have achieved significant results, lowering spending, reducing taxes, and cutting regulations. These measures have strengthened our

financial future and allowed NH families to save more of their hard-earned money.

As a retired small business owner, I understand the challenges businesses face, especially in a tough economy. For 50 years, my small business provided for my family. Over the past two years, Republicans have worked diligently to reduce burdensome regulations and promote pro-business policies, attracting out-of-state businesses to NH.

Londonderry is my home, where I have lived, worked, and raised a family. I've enjoyed giving back to my community as a 31-year member of the Londonderry Lions Club. I also represent Londonderry as the vice chairman of the Rockingham County delegation overseeing the county budget.

As your representative, I fought for our district, securing a major grant for a clean water project to ensure residents have access to safe drinking water. I also procured funds for the Londonderry Robotics program, providing students with hands-on experience in design and engineering.

It has been a pleasure serving the voters of

Londonderry as a 51-year Londonderry resident and working to ensure NH remains the best place to live, work, and raise a family. I am proud that House Republicans have helped make our state tax-free by eliminating the Interest and Dividends tax, growing our rainy-day fund, enhancing community safety, committed to passing a parental bill of rights and supporting the successful Education Freedom Account program.

With your vote, I hope to continue working on lowering taxes, helping you keep more of your money, and protecting families. Thank you for your support, and I look forward to earning your vote on Tuesday, Nov. 5.

Sherm Packard
Londonderry

Save America (Again)

To the editor,
Once again, we are being called upon to save our precious Democratic Republic, much the same as you did in 2020. This time it is even more special! You not only have the opportunity to save America by Voting for Kamala Harris, but you will also vote to make sure the

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Town Debates Buying Junkyard for Land Conservation

PAUL CONYERS
LONDONDERRY TIMES

The first October meeting of the Londonderry Conservation Commission saw its members discuss a possible land acquisition deal from Murray's Auto Recycling at 55 Hall Road, whose owner is considering selling his junkyard, possibly to the Commission.

"This is like no other project that we've ever tackled. Rather than conserving habitat, we're trying to eliminate a threat to it," said Alternate, Mike Speltz. "The assessor says \$676,000, but that includes build-

ings which are not much to brag about."

The business was being marketed at \$1.4 million owing to its possible income potential. Speltz indicated that the owner was having trouble selling it at the desired price. The NH Department of Environmental Services had been working with the owner for some time to mitigate chemical contaminants on the property with soil removal and the addition of a heavy concrete pole barn.

"Environmentally, they have done a lot, but it's still a yard full of junked cars sitting in

the middle of our largest wetland," said Speltz. "The idea is, the owner would be willing to clean it off: take everything out of the property, all of the stock and then we'd leave the pole barn, which could actually end up being a recreational amenity if we throw some picnic tables under there. We would just be the owner of the property; the town would own it and the Conservation Commission would manage it."

The hope is that removing the junkyard would remove any fur-

ther threat to the surrounding wetlands and streams. Much of the yard is subject to flooding, the land in question is around six acres.

Town Council Liaison, Ron Dunn, is worried about possible contamination left over from the site.

"How much liability are we taking if say, a year from now, they discovered more contaminants there, would we have to pay to clean that up?" he asked. "We're looking at the state to see if there are any waivers or anything if we purchase the property."

Commissioner, Deb Lievens, suggested asking the Southern NH Planning Commission for advice as the organization has experience working with Brownfield sites.

It was unclear how much the town would offer the owner for the land. Nobody was entirely sure how flexible the owner would be on price.

"Unfortunately, the timing of this is not good," admitted Speltz. "The grant cycle starts in April with the preproposal, proposals go in August, you get an answer in November,

that's a year from now. I think he wants to move more quickly than a year."

The cost would likely match or even exceed the Conservation Commission's Open Space Fund, raising the possibility of covering at least part of the cost with a bond. All members agreed it would be a risk to buy the property, but wanted the junkyard removed.

The Londonderry Conservation Commission is scheduled to meet again on Tuesday, Nov. 12, at 7:30 p.m. in the Moose Hill Council Chambers.

Senior Resources Committee Examine Ways to Improve Future Expos

PAUL CONYERS
LONDONDERRY TIMES

The Londonderry Senior Resources Committee met on Oct. 15 to discuss an after-action review of their recent Senior Informational Expo. Chair,

Jim Green, announced that turnout for the event was "about the same" as last year.

"We were competing with Derryfest, it was the same weekend," he said. "It was raining this year, but we had more

vendors and I think the space was better than before."

With criticism like a tripping concern on the floor of their new venue, members wanted to know how they might improve things in 2025. They considered moving it to a larger venue to alleviate that hazard at future events, although there was some recognition that any indoor venue with floor covering and booths was going to come with an unavoidable risk.

"As long as we are going to be holding these events in a gymnasium, there's going to be

mat covering," warned Police representative, Tim O'Donoghue.

Members pledged to focus on taping down the matting to minimize tripping at all future Expos. With space and accessibility a concern, the discussion shifted to using the Londonderry High School cafeteria as a possible venue for 2025. While it was at the High School during the first Expo in 2022, the Senior Resources Committee opted to hold their largest event at Londonderry Middle School for 2023 and 2024. Parking was an issue when the Committee used the High

School.

"The trouble when we used it was a sporting event, so they were blocking the front parking spaces. We'll have to coordinate with sporting events," said Senior Affairs Director, Ilona Arndt.

"I have a feeling the corridors are wider in the High School than the Middle School," added Green. "But scheduling would be a problem."

Many thought vendors would have an easier time setting up and taking down booths at Londonderry Middle School. The number of vendors was also a factor, with concerns that anything over 70 would be better suited for the larger High School gym.

Consideration was also given to shorten the next Expo from four hours to three.

Members also pledged to focus more on attendee outreach before and during Old Home Day.

"We can do a better job of introducing what the Expo is with our initial outreach," said Green. "This is our annual Expo, we've gone from 40 vendors to 70 vendors, and we have approximately 300 people who show up at the event."

With another year before their next Expo, the Committee pledged to consider their options over the next few months, along with improving outreach before the event.

Despite the feedback, members agreed the Expo was another success overall.

Everyone looked forward to organizing their fourth Expo next fall.

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Matthew Thornton PTA Host Annual Fall Festival



Students, families and friends attending the fourth annual Fall Festival at Matthew Thornton Elementary School had plenty of activities to take part in last Thursday evening. The event started with the annual “Candy Crush” race around the school and continued with a farm animal petting area, games, races, a corn maze, dancing and dinner.

Photos by Chris Paul

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South School PTA, Voulteers and Staff Clear Out Garden



Members of the staff at South Elementary, students, PTA members, Beautify Londonderry volunteers and folks from the Londonderry GREEN Team gathered behind the school to continue their work to clear out the overgrown gardens recently. Weeds, grass and large bushes were cleaned out and the ground was leveled for future projects being planned for the area.

Photos by Chris Paul



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Planning Board Discuss Proposed Short Term Rental Ordinance

ALEX MALM
LONDONDERRY TIMES

At the most recent Planning Board meeting, the Board held a non-binding review and comment period regarding a proposed Short-Term Rental Ordinance that was to be looked at by the Town Council in its upcoming meeting.

It was explained previously by Town Manager, Mike Malaguti, that it would essentially be a registration ordinance requiring property owners looking to rent their

homes for 30 days or less to register it with the town, with the idea being that if there is an emergency the town or the police know how to get a hold of the owner, or the person locally responsible.

"It puts them on notice that we need to know who to call," Malaguti said.

One question raised about the proposed ordinance was about why it would be implemented after 180 days.

Malaguti said he got comments from the Town

Council that there needs to be education and public awareness involved, saying that they could make it a shorter or longer period for when it's implemented.

Planning Board Chair, Jake Butler, explained that he previously lived next to a five bedroom house that had all of the rooms rented out to different people.

"It was a disaster," Butler said, explaining that it was nightly rentals.

Butler also argued those types of rentals

should be considered hotels. He also noted that he has no problem with people renting out their home to one person or family.

"That's a commercial operation, that's a hotel," Butler said.

Planning Board member, Tony DeFrancesco, explained that when someone bought a single family home, the expectation wasn't that they would live next door to a rental unless it was a full-time rental.

He explained that the 12 month rental person

has a different mindset, saying that they need it as a place to live long term, and don't want to get kicked out.

DeFrancesco noted that the ordinance, if approved, wouldn't have an impact on long term rentals.

Malaguti said they received legal advice on the proposed ordinance, and it was determined that it was perfectly legal.

Another question raised was whether or not they would be able to deny a permit at all,

and what would need to happen in order for that to take place.

"Not as drafted," Malaguti said about the current proposal, saying that they would need to expand the ordinance in order to be able to do so.

At the Town Council meeting on Monday night, the four members attending the meeting voted to hold off on making a decision, and tabled it to a future date.

The next Planning Board meeting is set for Nov. 6 at 7 p.m.

Butler

Continued from page 1
mer Londonderry Police Officer and current resident in town, pointed out that they have a bottom line budget.

"You got a bottom line budget. People in Town supported 13 firefighters," Bouchard said. "Last meeting you saw all the firefighters in support of their chief who resigned."

He also argued that they shouldn't have lost Butler in the first place.

"We should never have lost Chief Butler, the rest of the Council should've been aware of what was going on," Bouchard said.

Londonderry Police Chief Kim Bernard offered an explanation that the budgetary responsibility is the sole responsibility of the department head "plain and simple."

"I blow my budget tomorrow I'm gone, that's the facts, it's the way it goes, it's the law," Bernard said.

It was also explained by Bernard, that they had to be creative when the six-month budget freeze was in effect last year.

"I had to cancel training, I had to stop a shipment of guns that we

were trying to replace, I stopped hiring processes for four cops that we had in background at the time," Bernard said, noting a number of things they had to do.

Former Town Councilor and the father of Bo Butler, Jim Butler, did not mince words when he spoke during the meeting.

"I want people to realize March is voting and if you don't like them get them out," Butler said.

Butler also added, "Chief Butler didn't always follow the rules when it came to 'what do you want me to say, what do you want me to hear' the Town Manager he's the one who's supposedly operating in the Town he wants to bring development in and you know something our fire chief spoke the truth about the hospital that wanted to go up at the airport, and you know something he didn't like it, and there's the politics."

"There's a management problem in this Town and it needs to be fixed, and it stinks from the head down," Butler said.

Brian Young, Vice President of Local 3160, the Londonderry Fire Department union said

they would continue to be professional.

"Regardless of what is going on here we will continue to respond to every emergency and every call for service with the utmost professionalism," Young said.

Young also argued there are some solutions to the budget situation they could look at by allocating savings from other areas.

"There's some solutions, not just a problem, but some solutions to this problem," Young said.

Town Council Vice Chair, Ted Combes, said they need to address funding during the budget season.

"We need to go through the next two months to develop how can we develop the right path forward so we can hopefully fix not just today but the next 10-, 20-, 30-years so we don't keep coming into this financial issue that we are at right now not just for the fire department but for all the departments across the board," Combes said.

At the end of public comment, a request was shouted from the audience, asking if they can have Bo Butler back as their chief.

"Not here to discuss

that tonight," Town Council Chair Chad Franz responded.

Franz also asked that people come to their budget hearings to help determine the needs of

the residents.

"Regardless of how we feel, November 2 is when we start our process, and I ask you to come and help us collaborate so we can follow

that process," Franz said.

No decision was made on the whether Bo Butler would be back at fire Chief.

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Planning Board Approves Site Plan Amendment For 6 Buttrick Road

ALEX MALM
LONDONDERRY TIMES

At the most recent Planning Board one of the agenda items was a public hearing on an application for formal review of a site plan amendment for an addition of a mobile PET scan trailer within the existing medical office building site.

The property discussed was 6 Buttrick Road, with the applicant being Cardiovascular Special-

ist of New England.

Nicole Duquette, an engineer from Greenman-Pedersen, was representing the applicant said the property was approved for a three story medical office in 1999.

She explained that the top two stories of the building have been used for medical office use and the bottom floor has been used for storage.

"It will still continue to be that today," Duquette said.

It was explained by Duquette that they were looking to bring a mobile pet scan trailer to the property. With that it would be taking up six parking spaces she said.

"We are short three parking spaces," Duquette said about being short parking spaces as part of the regulations if they took away six.

Asked if the trailer is permanent Duquette said "it can be moved," but noted that it would be permanent as long as they are the tenants there.

The trailer would be a total of 520 square feet or "it's not a large unit," Duquette said.

She noted that it would be one scanner room and a waiting room. She said that there would be one person in the waiting room, one staff member and one person in the scanning room, Duquette explained.

Duquette also explained that without the storage element being

included in the calculations, the proposal would actually meet the regulations.

"It would meet (the regulations) if we did not include the storage parking spaces," Duquette said.

Director Of Engineering & Environmental Services John Trottier said that the regulations give them some flexibility for parking.

"I'm good with it," he said about the parking spaces.

Town Manager Mike Malaguti said that they

were going to try to handle it administratively but said it's the Planning Board that has discretion over the parking flexibility.

Planning Board member Lynn Wiles said parking "was horrible" when the Derry Medical Center was there but said with the first floor not being used it may mitigate the problem.

It was pointed out during the meeting that they have a number of employees but have two different offices. At most they would have 25 staff

and physicians there at one time.

Planning Board member Tony DeFrancesco said that the type of trailers they are proposing have been used for more than a decade in different places in parking lots. "This is not a new innovation," he said.

The Planning Board unanimously approved the site plan amendment without requiring any waivers.

"I don't think there is a waiver we need to act on," Planning Board Chair Jake Butler said.

OBITUARY

Jayne Ann Galley Reilley



Jayne Ann Galley Reilley, 84, of Londonderry, NH, passed away Wednesday Oct. 16, 2024, in the Courville at Manchester. Jayne was born Sept. 15, 1940 in Windsor, England during the Battle of Briton. During the war her mother would shelter her in the London subway during the bombing attacks. She attended nursing school at Hammersmith Hospital in London getting a degree in nursing and midwifery.

She worked as a midwife in London riding a scooter around her district much like the TV show "Call the Midwife". But, she always wanted to see the world. She took a job with the World Health Organization and traveled to the Zambian town of Broken Hill where she worked as a midwife for a number of years. In all she delivered over 2000 babies. During her time there she traveled around southern Africa visiting Kenya, Tanzania, Rhodesia, South Africa, and Lesotho.

Next she accepted a job as head of nursing at the Oil Industry Clinic in Tripoli, Libya. There she met her future husband Peter Reilley who was there to install a power plant for Westinghouse Electric. After leaving Libya in 1976 she came to America and became a US citizen.

She worked at Mass General Hospital on the organ transplant unit. After a number of years working as a nurse on the floor she moved into an administration job managing transplant cases. She retired from Mass General after 28 years of service. In retirement she volunteered at Habitat for Humanity.

She leaves her loving husband and companion of almost 50 years, Peter Reilley, and daughter Alexandra Reilley-Palmer.

Following cremation, memorial calling hours will be held on Thursday, Oct. 24, from 6 – 7:30 p.m., with a period of sharing to begin at 7:30 p.m., in the Peabody Funeral Homes and Crematorium, 290 Mammoth Rd., Londonderry. A Graveside service will be held by the family on Friday, Oct. 25, at 10 a.m., in the Pillsbury Cemetery, Hovey Rd., Londonderry, NH. To send a condolence please visit www.peabodyfuneralhome.com.

Mental Health

Continued from page 1
In September, the Town Council rejected a proposed MOU, which would've provided the town with \$5 million in funding to help with the municipal strains from the facility, mainly being public safety. Town Councilor, John Farrell, and Vice Chair, Ted Combes, voted in support of the MOU, while Town Council Chair, Chad Franz, along with councilors, Ron Dunn and Shawn Faber, voted to reject the proposal, mainly over the

concern, that the \$5 million may not be enough funding to help with public safety.

"I don't mind saying I think it was a completely foolish decision by the Town of Londonderry, it took us all by surprise, but be that as it may, we have \$15 million returned to us," Sununu said.

As of now, Solution Health's plan to build the mental health facility near Manchester Regional Airport, in Londonderry, will not be happening.



TOWN OF LONDONDERRY PLANNING BOARD

The Londonderry Planning Board will hold a public meeting on Wednesday, Nov. 6, 2024, at 7 P.M. in Moose Hill Council Chambers, Londonderry Town Hall, 268B Mammoth Road, Londonderry, NH to consider the following:

Public hearing on an application for formal review of a subdivision plan for a proposed 17 lot subdivision consisting of sixteen (16) conventional lots and one (1) conservation lot, 116 South Road into (Map 4 Lot 57, Zoned AR-1), Brook Hollow Corp. (Owner & Applicant)

Public hearing on an application for formal review of a subdivision plan, one lot with frontage along Wiley Hill Rd and the terminus of Mont Vernon Drive into seven residential lots. 8 Wiley Hill Road (Tax Map 5 Lot 28) zoned AR-1. Belize Real Estate Holding, LLC (owner & applicant).

Public hearing on a waiver request from Site Plan Regulation 6.01(a) assurance for completion and maintenance of improvements, for a conditionally approved 12,000 square foot medical building and a 3,000 square foot bank and associated site improvements in the Mixed-Use Commercial (MUC) zoning district and Conservation Overlay District. 175 Rockingham Road, (Tax Map 15, Lot 60-2), Jean Gagnon (owner), Bill Greiner (applicant).

Public hearing on an application for formal review of a lot line adjustment to adjust the lot line between two parcels. 28 Jefferson Road (Map 10, Lot 76) Londonderry, (Map 29, Lot 11-2) Derry, and 35 Hillside Avenue (Map 10, Lot 78-5) Londonderry, (Map 29, Lot 300) Derry. Zoned AR-1 (Agricultural Residential). Donald Fl, Jr. & Debora Munro (Owners) and Strategic Contracting Co., LLC (Applicant).

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Conservation Member, Deb Lievens, Wins SNHPC Award

PAUL CONYERS
LONDONDERRY TIMES

The Conservation Commission met on Oct. 8 to briefly discuss Commissioner, Deb Lievens, Closson Award at a recent Southern NH Planning Commission meeting. The award was related to her years of work with the SNHPC and Londonderry's Conservation Commission.

"They give out one to a volunteer and one to a professional," explained Lievens. "I was stunned, I was totally surprised."

Other Commissioners congratulated her for the award. According to their website, the SNHPC gives the Closson Award to those who make "significant contributions to sound community and regional planning and helped foster inter-municipal cooperation and collabora-

tion."

The SNHPC meeting also included a presentation covering climate change and agriculture across the state.

"We learned interesting things about the impact of climate on agriculture," said Conservation Chair, Marge Badois. "You'd think that if we're having a warming climate everything would be good for agricultural, but what happens is things start growing earlier, we get banged with a big storm, and that's what kills everything."

A major focus included was to help farmers mitigate and plan for expected bouts of unpredictable weather over the next decade.

Members also discussed seed collection strategies for their parking project at Musquash designed to give hikers

better access to the park. As work is expected to disrupt local plant life, the Commission had been asked to collect rare seeds in the area for replanting as part of the initial permitting process.

"We did not find very many of them in the areas where we wanted to collect seeds," said Lievens. "We still haven't even started construction; we don't know when we're going to be able to put the seeds in."

Despite requesting the initial seed collection, the NH Heritage Bureau conceded that the impact of construction on surrounding plant life would likely be "minor." Badois was confident construction would be able to move forward in the near future.

Alternate, Mike

Speltz, announced he had what he needed from NH Fish and Game to apply for a permit with the Department of Environmental Services regarding the Scobie Pond Boat Launch.

"I just need to get everything printed out," said Speltz. "Maybe we can just take it to Town Hall and have them send it."

Despite design and permitting preparations, the Boat Launch is not

currently funded, although the hope was that would change within the next few months, allowing the town to have it installed by next spring.

The 2024 annual meeting and conference of the NH Association of Conservation Commissions meeting will happen on Nov. 2 at Pembroke Academy.

"They have not opened up registration on their website yet, but

keep an eye out for that," said Badois.

Commissioners noted they had not gotten their expected postcard invitation for the event and raised the possibility of updating their NHACC mailing information.

The Londonderry Conservation Commission is scheduled to meet again on Tuesday, Oct. 22 at 7:30 p.m. in the Moose Hill Council Chambers.

Household Hazardous Waste Day Being Held on Nov. 23

Londonderry's Fall collection of Household Hazardous Waste will take place on Saturday, Nov. 23 from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

The collection will be conducted in the park-

ing lot at Nelson Fields (LAFA) off Sargent Street, behind the Central Fire Station.

Most waste from the yard, garage the house and workbench will be taken.

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Friday	9:00AM - 6:00PM	Friday	7:00AM - 5:00PM
Saturday	9:00AM - 5:00PM	Saturday	8:00AM - 3:00PM
Sunday	10:00AM - 3:00PM	Sunday	CLOSED



CUSTOMER & COMMUNITY COMMITMENT AWARD

North School Takes One-Mile Hike for Cancer Awareness



On Friday morning, Oct. 18, North School students participated in a Dollar Day towards the school's annual Cancer Awareness Walk. The event involves each of the grades on a one-mile walk on the Rail Trail to benefit the Dana Farber Boston Marathon Challenge Team. Many students and staff members donated \$1 and wore pink and purple in support of the cause.

Photos by Chris Paul



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LONDONDERRY SPORTS

Lancers Football Trounce Titans by a Score of 61-12

CHRIS PAUL
LONDONDERRY TIMES

The Londonderry High School football squad continued to display its dominance over Division I opponents on Friday night, Oct. 18, with a 61-12 victory over the Nathua North Titans at Lancer Park.

The Lancers tallied nine touchdowns, three during blocked punts, and only gave up two, for the team's third consecutive win, putting them at 5-1 in the Division I standings and first in the Central Division.

Carso Palma was responsible for two of the blocked punts and Will Hazard got the third.

No less than eight Lancers scored touchdowns in the win, with Adrian Cruz getting in for two.

The LHS squad had two touchdowns in three of the four quarters. They scored three times in the second.

Londonderry had 343-yards of total offense, 109 passing and 234-rushing yards.

Senior quarterback, Sam Ogden, put up 73-yards in the air going 5 of 8 and also had 73-yards rushing in eight attempts.

Adrian Cruz led the Lancers in running with 89-yards, followed by Ogden. Palma tallied 35-yards in five attempts.

Palma, Colby Walden, and Cameron Ayotte led the team in tackles, each getting four. Alex Villa, Josh Wheeler, and Zach Ventura each got three tackles.

Londonderry's first TD came at 4:57 in the first, when Ogden handed off to Cruz from the one-yard line. Senior kicker, Blake Thompson, finished up with his first of seven successful extra-points.

The Titans had their only two touchdowns of the game in the first quarter.

In the second, at 8:56, Palma got his first of two punt blocks. Joshua Wheeler recovered the ball at the 38

and carried it into the endzone.

At 5:52 in the second, connected with Mason Paquette for a 26-yard touchdown.

Two minutes later, the fifth TD of the half came when QB Alexander Villa completed his pass to Jordan Ball for a 36-yard gain and a 34-12 lead at halftime.

The Lancers picked up where they left off in the third quarter, scoring in five plays during the opening drive. Ogden handed off to Cruz at the six-yard line for a 41-12 lead with Thompson's point after.

At 9:14 in the third, Palma got his second punt block and Ethan Wheeler picked it up for the 24-yard run-back. The two-point by LHS conversion failed.

In the fourth, at 8:23, Villa handed off Palma for a 20-yard touchdown run. Thompson added another point after 54-12 lead.

The final LHS touchdown came with five-minutes left Will Hazard blocked a punt and Matt Luongo recovered the ball at the 17-yard line and carried the ball to the endzone. The Thompson point-after made it 61-12.

Londonderry will host their final regular season game on Friday night, Oct. 25, when they face the Windham Jaguars (3-3). The Jags are coming off a 28-14 home loss to the Salem Blue Devils.



LHS senior Matt Luongo had an interception in the victory over the Titans. Photos by Chris Paul



LHS senior kicker Blake Thompson had seven successful point-after attempts.

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Lancers Boys' Soccer Notch Fourth Straight Victory

CHRIS PAUL
LONDONDERRY TIMES

The Londonderry High School Boys' soccer squad upped its season record to 9-2-3 with a 4-2 victory over the Central Little Green last week.

The Lancers' fourth consecutive win came on Thursday, Oct 17, when they hosted the 5-6-3 Central High School squad, scored three

unanswered goals to start the first half and allowing the Little Green just one as the team's head into the final week of Division I's regular season.

In the opening half, with 8:55 minutes off the clock, senior Zach Mantegari put LHS on the board with an assist from senior Brett McKinnon.

Mantegari scored

goal number two a minute later, this time with the assist coming from senior Tiago Keyes.

At 14:13 into the game Mantegari scored again, for the hat trick on a penalty kick.

Central got one back heading into the half-time break.

In the second half, at the 44-minute mark, senior Brett McKinnon

scored the fourth Londonderry goal.

The final point of the game went to Central on a mistake made by LHS when they scored on their own goal at minute 68:00.

Senior Lancers keeper, Noah Celio, had six saves in the game while the Central goaltender made five.

Head coach, Todd Ellis, was happy with the way his team handled Central, saying after the game, "We played well today against a tough opponent that pressed us the entire time. It was a great test to see how we would respond to such pressure. We missed some opportunities to increase our lead at times and gave up a couple tough goals, but we didn't lose our composure and were able to keep our wits."

The Lancers will fin-



Leo Sochaneck

LHS Girls' Soccer Suffer Loss

CHRIS PAUL
LONDONDERRY TIMES

The Londonderry High School Girls' soccer squad's struggles continued last week when they fell to the Manchester Central-West squad by a score of 5-3.

The loss was the only game for the Lancers last week and they now

head into the final week of the regular season at 5-7-2.

Senior mid-fielder, Reagan Anderson, was able to get one of the Londonderry goals and fellow senior Audrey Hughes added the other two Lancer goals.

Senior goaltender, Reagan Delude, finished with 10 saves.

In the team's final week of the regular season, Londonderry were scheduled to face the Nashua South High School Purple Panthers (6-6-2), on the road on Tuesday, Oct. 22.

On Friday, Oct. 25, the Lady Lancers will host the Concord High School Crimson Tide (3-9-2) at 4 p.m.

ish up the regular season this week, still currently sitting in fourth place in the Division I standings.

Londonderry will play Nashua South High

School Purple Panthers (6-4-4), at home on Tuesday, Oct. 22. On Friday, Oct. 25, the Lancers will head to the state capital to face the Crimson Tide (2-11-1) at 6:30 p.m.



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Lancers Golf Team Finish Third in State Championship

CHRIS PAUL
LONDONDERRY TIMES

The Londonderry High School varsity golf team qualified for the 2024 NHIAA Division I Golf Championship where they finished in third place.

The Lancers finished the par 72 Canterbury Woods course with a team score of +54, one stroke behind the second place team, Dover High School and 20-strokes behind the State Champions from Bedford High School

The Lancers had two golfers from the team championship qualify for the Individuals, which took place over the weekend at Beaver Meadow in Concord.

Carter Browning shot a 79, fifth best in the team championship, moving him into the Individuals. Cole Metivier also qualified with an outstanding score of 76, giving him the second best score in the tournament. He was just one stroke behind the leader from Bedford. Bedford's Taylor Miller shot a 75 at the event.

Metivier had three birdies, nine pars, five

bogies and a double bogie on his card to lead his LHS team.

Browning had three birdies, seven pars, seven bogies and a double to help qualify for the Individuals for the second straight year.

Other players contributing to the score were: Ryan Palmer shooting an 86; and Nick Bishop and Cameron Colton, who both registered scores of 87.

The LHS squad tied for first place for the most pars recorded in the tourney.

In the NHIAA Individuals Championship, Metivier tied for seventh with a two-round score of 159, shooting 76 in the first round and an 83 in the second.

He had three birdies, 12 pars and six bogies on the first day, but only had one birdie and nine pars on in his second round.

Browning, who will be furthering his education next year at Western New England University, had a 161 after two rounds and was in the top ten of scoring.

He had three birdies, 10 pars and eight bogies

in the first round and had one birdie, nine pars and nine bogies in the second round.

Head coach, Dan Grant, commented after the Individuals, saying, "A lot of great memories from this year - qualifying for the tournament is always special. The conditions were brutal - the course (Canterbury Woods) was in amazing shape but the wind and cold temps made it a difficult environment. Our kids really battled through it and posted a great team score, led by Cole Metivier. Finishing third in the State Tournament and seeing how proud they were is probably the best memory for me. We went into the tournament as a 6th seed (out of eight teams) and we knocked off both Concord and Windham - the only teams we hadn't beaten this season. Not finishing second by a stroke was tough but the fact that they beat every team in DI at some point throughout the season is pretty cool. I will miss this team."



Top row left to right: Theo Paccione, Cole Metivier, Ryan Palmer, Nick Bishop. Seated on bench left to right: Carter Browning, Colton Cameron, Charlie Varnum, Zach Green, Coach Dan Grant. Courtesy photo

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High School Hosts 40th Annual Elementary XC Meet

CHRIS PAUL
LONDONDERRY TIMES

Londonderry High School Track and Field coach, Sue Johnson, and volunteers from her team hosted the 40th annual Elementary School Cross-Country Meet.

Boys' and girls' fifth-grade teams from Matthew Thornton, South and North Elementary schools competed on a one-mile course set up at the High School with the team from Matthew Thornton winning the girls' race and South School narrowly defeated North School for the boys.

Cheyenne Boles was the first-place winner of the girls' race, coming in at 8:57.2. North School's Gabriella Rao was second, at 9:06.8, Maeve

Wessling, of Matthew Thornton took third at 9:20.7, Kaleigh McKeown, of North was fourth at 9:41.7 and Matthew Thornton's Quinn Cunningham came in at fifth with her time of 9:43.6.

Matthew Thornton's winning score of 30-points beat South School by 14-points (44) and North had a score of 46.

In the boys' race, North School's Ethan Hartley had a time of 7:30.2 to place first. Will Porter, who came in just four seconds behind Hartley, was second at 7:34.5. South School's James Presher took third with a time of 8:04.3, followed by his teammate Jackson Doughty at 8:11.8 for fourth. Matthew Thornton's Liam Hocking had

a fifth-place time of 8:13.2.

The 40-year Cross Country racing tradition started with long-time former coach, Larry Martin, along with Johnson and Ed Daniels, who recruited students from each of the schools and helped coach them at the time.

At that time, only about 20 students participated in the races. As the event grew to over 200 students, Johnson and Daniels needed the help from the school's teachers to help coach and prepare students for the races.

The two winning team names have filled the final spot on the plaques that are awarded to the winning schools. Next year will start a brand new plaque.



Cheyanne Boles



Ethan Hartley



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Lancers Field Hockey Squad to Face Bedford in Tourney

CHRIS PAUL
LONDONDERRY TIMES

The Londonderry High School Field Hockey squad finished the regular season with a five-goal win over Nashua North and will move onto the Division I Championship as the number 11 seed with a 6-10 record.

The Lancers had three games on the road in the final week where they narrowly lost 2-1 to the Lady Bulldogs, where defeated 3-0 to the Bishop Guertin Cardinal, then beat the Titans 5-0.

In their game on Monday, Oct. 14, at Bedford High School the

Lancers only goal went to junior Sienna Schulz with the assist going to fellow junior Alison Chambers.

The Bulldogs finished the season at 11-3.

On Wednesday, Oct. 16, Londonderry traveled to Bishop Guertin where they were held scoreless to the now 11-4-1 Lady Cardinals.

In the Lancers final game of the regular season, the Lancers handed the Titans their sixteenth straight loss by scoring five unanswered goals in Nashua on Friday, Oct. 18.

Sienna Schulz led off the scoring with the assist coming from jun-

ior Lindsey McKinnon.

Londonderry had three players with unassisted goals. Sophomore Lexi Padykula, senior Ava Windish and junior Eres Delorey all contributed to the victory.

Chambers also added to the team total with an assist from senior Ava Naar.

The number 11 seeded Lancers will have a chance for another go at the Lady Bulldogs in the first round on the NHIAA Division I playoff when they travel to Bedford High School on Wednesday, Oct. 23 at 5 p.m. Bedford is the number four seed in the bracket.

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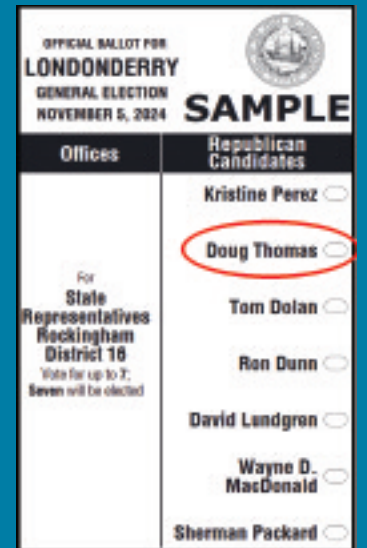
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Letters

Continued from page 5
Orange Criminal faces Justice.

Have you witnessed his severe mental decile? If so, now you know why most of those who served with him in the previous administration, they have been running around like their hair was on fire begging his Cult followers not to re-elect him. If you have watched any of his rallies (crowd sizes shrinking faster than his poll numbers) it is a spectacle to behold. From the Whining, Complaining, Poor me, (talking about Fictional characters or dead people) it would make anyone with a functioning Brain say: Wow, that person has some severe mental problems.

Some other things that may help in your

decision-making process: Lied 30,000+ times. Lied about Covid for months causing thousands of Americans to Die, continued the LIE causing up to 1/3 of all covid deaths in the US. Did a Horrible deal handing Afghanistan over to the Taliban, without any input from our Allies or Intelligence agencies. Ran up a combined historic 10 trillion in Debt, largely by his tax cuts to the Wealthy and Corporations. Tried to Rig / Steal an Election with his BIG LIE. He was the mastermind of the Jan 6th Insurrection.

We are currently living in the BEST economy of my and probably your Lifetime! Record Oil production (Energy Independence) Our GDP is now 3X all other G7 Countries. New business applications reached a record 19 Million since

Biden has been in office.

People ask: are you better off than 4 years ago? My Answer is Darn Tooting. Go back to constant Lies, 24/7 toilet tweets, Another 10 or 20 Trillion in debt for nothing, raging Un-Employment, and No I do not care how many Freezer (bodies) trucks are idle.

We are not going back!

Steve Homsey
Londonderry

Asking for Your Vote

To the editor,

Hi, I am Jim Green, and I am running for State Representative. I would like to introduce myself and ask for your vote on Nov. 5.

I have been a Londonderry resident for the past 18 years. Education: URI B.S (Insurance/Finance) and M.S.

University of New Haven (Organizational/ Industrial Psychology).

I am a Vietnam Era Veteran retired Major (2 years active/18 reserves) last 5 years as XO 455th General Hospital. I received a Meritorious Service Medal for developing superior unit performance, unique training programs and leader development.

40 years civil service culminating as the Civilian Personnel Officer at the Coast Guard Academy and finally 20 years as the Resource Manager at the USCG Research & Development Center. I received the Coast Guard's Distinguished Career Award for exemplary service, leadership, innovation, and professionalism.

A member of the Board of the Sugarplum Hill Condo, Assoc. since its start. Served as president for 8 years. Chair of the town's Senior Resource Committee and a Trustee of the Trust Fund. We are focusing on safety, housing, and transportation issues for seniors. I think education is the foundation of democracy, that it is essential for our community's success in the future.

Why vote for me? Because I want to ask the right questions. Questions like what is

the problem we are trying to solve? Who else has the same problem? What is working and what is not? Are we looking at state programs as investments and making the best long term investment decisions? What does success look like, is it measurable, are there goals and milestones that we can review to see if we are really making progress.

If we focus on problems, then we can discuss alternatives. If we look for investments rather than just costs, we can make better long-term solutions for NH. If we can learn from the successes and mistakes of others we get where we want to be, sooner and with less cost.

I have worked with others to help us succeed. For example, at the R&D Center we were changing from an in-house lab to managing the Coast Guard's entire R&D portfolio. We were able to get our supporting contracting office moved on site, established 4 major contracts to support our work and leverage our in house expertise to increase our funding from \$20 million to an additional 17 million from partnering with other agency research facilities.

So, what would I like to leave for my grand-

kids, the establishment of one or more centers of excellence in leading edge technology that would encourage the best companies to invest in NH. Feeding off the interaction between state-of-the-art ideas and innovative product development. All of the benefits of Boston, but with the beauty and lifestyle that makes our state so wonderful.

My business card has a quote from Ruth Bader Ginsburg "Fight for the things you care about, but do it in a way that will lead others to join you."

Jim Green
Londonderry

Vote Michelle Stith

To the editor,

I am writing to express my support of Michelle Stith to represent Londonderry and Windham as Rockingham 35's State Representative. Stith has demonstrated a strong commitment to public education and understands that excellent public schools are crucial to the future of our students and our communities.

Stith is dedicated to ensuring that all students receive the education that they deserve
continued on page 19



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Letters

Continued from page 18

and I am particularly impressed by her support for students in need of special education services. While her opponent has voted against efforts to expand funding for special education services that are critical for many students in our community, Michelle Stith is a fierce advocate for meeting the needs of all students. She understands that supporting special education is not only about helping individual students but about building stronger, more inclusive communities.

In addition to her support for public education, I also greatly appreciate Stith's pledge to maintain an open line of communication with her constituents throughout her term in office. Too often, our elected officials do not make the effort to communicate between elections.

I urge anyone who also cares about public education and transparency from public officials to vote for Michelle Stith for Rockingham 35 on Nov. 5.

Sincerely,
Katy Gehling
Londonderry

Proven Londonderry Leadership

To the editor,
Let us explain why and how our actions make us your best choice for the 2025-2026

State Legislature.

We were voted into office in November 2022. Even though we were the "new" candidates, we exceeded expectations. Residents heard our message and our pledges. You heard our commitment of complete honesty and willingness to state exactly how we stood in reference to your concerns and needs. You heard our pledge of transparency and accessibility. You heard our pledge to attend all sessions and to cosponsor meetings to keep you informed. We met these commitments and will again if you vote to send us back to Concord.

Once elected, we attended classes weekly to become effective Legislators. We were educated on procedures, protocols, ethics, speech writing and more. This outstanding experience continued throughout our 2023-2024 tenure. This experience allowed us both to file legislation that would help Londonderry. We worked with Representatives on both sides of the aisle. We established relationships with many and consistently voted for legislation that would directly impact Londonderry in positive ways. We spent the last two years voting with/for the needs and values of this State and Londonderry.

We have an outstanding voting record and have attended every session. We pledge NO income tax and NO sales

tax. We will fight for Londonderry's best interest.

If re-elected on Nov. 5, we will carry on with our work for All the residents of Londonderry. We will continue to hold meetings to update residents. We will listen to your concerns and welcome your feedback. There is much more left to be done. Please continue to put your faith in us and send us back to Concord.

Please vote for ALL the Republican Incumbent Representatives.

Respectfully,
Rep Ron Dunn
Rep Kristine Perez

Vote Lundgren

To The editor,
With election day just around the corner, and so many choices to fill the seats for state representative in Concord, I wanted to take a moment to call attention to one. He has been a Londonderry resident and businessman for as long as I can remember. Many people in town know his friendly and upbeat demeanor as a patient at his chiropractic office. You also might see him in the neighborhood walking his dog, as I do. He always offers some wit and a smile whenever I interact with him. He has a true heart for the people of Londonderry, and for the state of NH.

Dr. Dave Lundgren has a passion for solving the drug problems in our community and

gibility if they have felony drug convictions within the last 10 years, or if the individual has a violation related to acts involving children in material deemed obscene by RSA 650:2. Why this isn't already exclusionary is baffling.

If you care about taking the steps to protect our kids, and you want to see opioid dependency decline in our state, I ask you to join me in voting for Dave Lundgren so that he can continue to fight for these and other important issues in Concord for us.

Tom Croteau
Londonderry

Lies in Letters

To the editor,

Political discourse is part of the bedrock of our democracy. What is the role of government? How big or little should government be? These are a couple of the legitimate questions. What I can't abide is the lies being told by a candidate and their supporters. Some are around an actual event and others

are just pure fabrication. They aren't disinformation or misinformation; let's call them what they are, lies!

Last weeks paper had another letter with lies throughout. I won't get into each but two that stand out are that there was an inept response by FEMA to the two hurricanes. FEMA was on the ground before the storms hit. The governors of the states categorically said as much. They had no issues with the response. Regarding the border czar, the Vice President met with the governments of Mexico and South American countries. She has no authority to take unilateral actions. She is in effect an envoy reporting to the President who makes the decisions. Let's talk about who ordered the killing of the border bill instead.

Lastly, Congressman Pappas has brought millions of dollars of federal funds to the state. He has secured funds for infrastructure, water treatment projects and

continued on page 20



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Letters

Continued from page 19 veterans. He deserves to be returned to Washington.

Michael Yochim
Londonderry

Vote Thomas

To the editor,
I've known Doug Thomas for several years and he is my choice to re-elect him as one of Londonderry's state representatives. He has consistently shown how much he loves this town and has kept abreast of issues important to us. As a resident of NH since the age of nine, he knows the state and what has made it special among the other New England states.

Representative Thomas communicates with

town leadership and often inquires if there are any concerns in Concord that could affect Londonderry. He attends the town councils and works with officials to obtain information and assistance on issues such as PFAS water contamination, electricity rates, transmission projects that infringe on residents' properties, and so forth.

He uses his skills as an Air Force Retiree/Veteran to assess legislation good for the town and state. He works well with people and listens to their concerns. He is deeply concerned with the cost of electricity and as the Vice Chair of the Science, Technology and Energy Committee, has worked hard to vote down policies that would increase the cost, especially to our seniors and low-income popula-

tion. These qualities have guided him to weed out the chaff between the extreme right and left positions.

Representative Thomas is always ready to help and to listen and I trust him to keep Londonderry's best interests in mind when voting on legislation. He is steady and reserved, but firm when needed to prove a point.

He has a 100% voting attendance record in Concord and as a responsible conservative representative, he has consistently kept his word on how he intended to represent Londonderry.

For all these reasons, I am voting for Doug Thomas and know he is one to keep representing us.

Sincerely,
Mary Beth Boisvert
Londonderry



Finale The Lancers Marching Band and Color Guard will be perform their Billy Joel halftime show for the final regular season home game this Friday night, on Friday night, Oct. 25. *Photo by Chris Paul*

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AROUND TOWN

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

Trunk or Treat

On Friday, Oct. 25 from 5:30 - 8 p.m., at St. Marks parking lot, 1 South Rd, Londonderry. Scout Pack 605, and Pack 901 will host their Annual Trunk or Treat Join Scouts BSA for some fun. This is a free event open to the Community. There will be food trucks such as Cotton Candy, Kona Ice and more. Please dress up in costume and come to enjoy a

night out with the family and Community.

Trunk or Treat

A Free Event at First Baptist Church of Hudson on Thursday, Oct. 31, during Trick or Treat 6 - 8 p.m. Dress up in your favorite costume, then "trick or treat" from trunk to trunk (all decorated in fun themes- nothing scary to frighten little ones) in the church parking lot located at the corner of Central Street and

Greeley Street. Free Hot Dogs, Chips, Apple Cider, Hot Cocoa And Coffee. All ages welcome.

Tinker Time

Join Leach Library staff on Saturday, Nov. 9 and Saturday, Dec. 7 at 10 a.m. for Tinker Time. A variety of toys and games from the Library of Things will be provided for children to try. Registration is recommended and begins one week before each session.

To register, visit the library's online event calendar or call (603) 432-1127.

Greek Mythology

Join the Leach Library for an afternoon of history on Saturday, Nov. 9 at 2:30 p.m. as UNH Professor R. Scott Smith discusses Greek mythology and the powerful influence it had on the Greeks and Romans. This program will investigate the major ways that the Greeks tried to explain and interpret their own mythical past over the course of a thousand years. This program is made possible by New Hampshire Humanities. Registration begins on Saturday, Nov. 2. To register, visit the library's online event calendar or call (603) 432-1132.

Free Meals

Heaven's Kitchen Mobile Meals is providing

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

Holiday Fair/Cookie Walk

On Saturday, Nov. 2, from 9 a.m. - 3 p.m., many local craftsmen and artisans invite you to participate in a Holiday Fair and Cookie Walk at the Londonderry Senior Center, 535 Mammoth Road. Items include jewelry, homemade woodcrafts, designer lotions and soaps, photography, artwork, crocheted and knitted items, and plenty more. Over 20 baskets filled with items and gift cards will be raffled. Winners will be drawn at the end of the fair. This year Santa Claus will be around from 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. giving out small gifts to all the children and

accepting their wish lists. Fair proceeds go toward purchasing materials and equipment for the Senior Center. For details please call the center at 603-432-8554 and ask for Bonnie. Fair entrance is free of charge.

St Jude Craft Fair

St. Jude will hold a craft fair on Saturday, Nov. 9, from 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. The fair features handmade gifts made by our crafters, including special items for pets, as well as a cookie walk, bake sale and White Elephant rooms. Also, features are Famous Raffles, with many items, a stunning handmade quilt raffle, a Thanksgiving basket, a 50/50, gift cards raffles. Food and beverages, including lunch will be available for sale. All proceeds will benefit the Parish.

Continued on page 23

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