



Londonderry Times

April 18, 2019 ♦ Volume 20 – Issue 16

A FREE Weekly Publication



Lil' Egg Hunter Bentley Kline was one of the hundreds of children making a mad dash onto the track field to collect Easter Eggs during the annual Egg Hunt at Londonderry High School hosted by the Class of 2020. See more photos on page 10. *Photo by Chris Paul*

Town Council Stands By Smith's Legal Notice Decision

IDAN VINITSKY
LONDONDERRY TIMES

During Monday night's, April 15, Londonderry Town Council meeting at Town Hall things got a little tense when citizens asked what the decision process was to pull the legal notices from this newspaper, the Londonderry Times, and move them to the Derry News, making it that paper of record for Londonderry.

This decision was protested by the publisher of this newspaper, Debra Paul and some supporting residents of Londonderry during public comment.

Ms. Paul request for

the subject to be part of the Town Council meeting agenda, in order to create a full discussion on the matter, but was denied last week, so she took the matter up during the Public Comments section of the meeting.

She addressed the council members and the audience. Ms. Paul first provided a brief history of the Londonderry Times: "When I moved here about 24 years ago, there were no papers covering what went on in Londonderry, so it was very hard to find out what was going on in the town. I decided to create a monthly paper, letting people know where to go

and what to do around the town. Our mission at the paper was to educate, engage and inform the community."

Ms. Paul said the paper started publishing a weekly issue after about four years, then the publication expanded to three papers (the Nutfield News and the Tri-Town Times). Shortly after that, to the request of the Londonderry Times, Londonderry's then Town Manager set up a Request for Proposal (RFP) and the Londonderry Times won the bid and received the rights to publish the town's legal notices. Since then, the newspa-

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Conservation Cracking Down On Illegal ATV Use In Musquash

MIKE BYERLY
LONDONDERRY TIMES

After getting reports from the public and seeing first-hand the damage being done to several of the Musquash trails by ATVs and other motorized vehicles, the Conservation Commission is stepping up efforts to address issue.

In addition to trail damage, the Commission is also worried about safety issues with motorized vehicles endangering pedestrians and mountain bikers and disturbance of animal habitats including some where endangered species reside

The approach is two-pronged, one focused on education and prevention

and the other on increased enforcement of existing state and local laws governing where ATVs and other motorized recreational vehicles are allowed.

At the state level, the use of Off-Highway Recreational Vehicles (OHRVs) is only allowed on private lands with express written permission by the landowner. Some people think that it is permissible to ride OHRVs in the power line right of ways; however, the majority of land on which the utility companies operate are private property.

The companies obtain easements for their purposes only. Written landowner permission from

each individual landowner must be obtained if the trail is not specifically designated for OHRV use before you can operate a machine. The powerlines in Londonderry are not designated for OHRV use.

Locally, a town ordinance prohibits the use of any motorized vehicles in any conservation area, including the Musquash. While the Commission

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Planning Board Approves Design for Ford of Londonderry Service Center

IDAN VINITSKY
LONDONDERRY TIMES

The Town of Londonderry Planning Board granted the conditional approval for the Ford of Londonderry Service Center's site plan at its Wednesday, April 10 meeting. The new plan seeks to redevelop the

existing automotive use, remove the existing buildings of the service center and construct a new 20,950 square feet, two-story automotive service building. The plan also includes site improvements in the site's access and parking spaces.

The Ford of Londonderry Service Center is

located on four different lots at 33 Nashua Road, near Exit 4. The total lot area is 7.5 acres and the company looks to relocate the service center to the new building. The current dealership building has the service station and two entrances.

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Moose Hill Kindergarten Students Dress Up for Career Day



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Photos by Chris Paul

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The Responsibilities Of The Heritage/Historic District Commission

MIKE BYERLY
LONDONDERRY TIMES

As part of the continuing series exploring the roles played by the various councils, boards and commissions that make up Londonderry's government, this week we introduce the Heritage/Historic District Commission. The name is slashed because it is a combination Heritage Commission and Historic District Commission.

The Historic District Commission was established by a Town Meeting vote in 1987 and became a combined Heritage/Historic District Commission in 1998 by a Town Council vote. The Commission consists of seven members and three alternate members.

According to the Commission's annual report, "The purpose of the Commission involves overseeing the preservation of historical and cultural resources, educating the public on matters of historical interest, and working with other boards, committees and commissions to assure responsible development that reflects the Town's Master Plan."

In general, the Commission provides guidance on historic structures in Londonderry. More specifically, their goals include: preserving historically significant

properties, furthering the protection of historic features such as stonewalls, protecting tree lined vistas and local designation of scenic roads, and assisting the Londonderry Historical Society with improving the functionality of the Morrison House Museum and the Grange #44 facility.

In its role as a Historic District Commission, the Commission governs five properties that are in a zoning overlay designated Historic District: Town Common; Kent Allen Forest; Morrison House Museum; Londonderry Grange #44 facility; and the property at Two Litchfield Road. Some of these are town owned; others are owned by other entities.

Any proposed changes to properties within the Historic District must be approved by the Heritage/Historic District Commission. Any uses permitted in the underlying zoning district for the property are permitted in the Historic District; however, there are a number of rules that govern how the structures and property can be modified.

To enforce the restrictions, the Commission reviews any building permits for the five properties in the Historic district. According to the overlay zoning ordinance, the Commission reviews plans to 1) erect, alter,

relocate or demolish a building or structure; 2) erect, alter, or remove any exterior visible feature of a building or structure; or 3) alter, construct or remove stone.

The Commission concerns itself with only visible changes; internal renovations are allowed without restriction. Even within the realm of visible changes, property owners are allowed to paint or and make routine repairs to the exterior of the building.

Beyond these types of changes, when determining the appropriateness of all other changes to existing structures or new construction, the Commission looks for plans that minimize changes and preserves as much of the existing structure and character as possible.

Applicants who do not get a favorable review from the Commission can appeal the decision to the Zoning Board of Adjustment.

Beyond the five historic properties, as part of the Planning Department's design review process, the Heritage/Historic District Commission is one of the town boards that make up the Design Review Committee (DRC).

As part of the DRC, the Commission reviews all plans for new development, commenting on landscaping, view sheds,

lighting, signage and architectural design for all new multi-family, commercial and industrial developments.

Like other members of the DRC, the Commission makes recommendations to the Planning Board who ultimately decide whether to impose restrictions on developers as part of a site plan or subdivision plan approval.

When reviewing plans the Commission pays particular attention to historic buildings/structures, stonewalls and other historic resources, signage, site design/land-

scaping, architectural design, lighting, and naming of streets and developments.

The Commission also implements recommendations from the Historic Properties Task Force Report (adopted by the Town Council in 2006) which includes periodically updating Londonderry's List of Historic Structures and Properties.

The Commission is currently working with the NH Division of Historic Resources, the NH Preservation Alliance and the Southern New Hampshire Planning Commission to develop and lobby

the state legislature to create enabling legislation for municipalities to adopt that would provide property tax relief as an incentive to owners of historic structures to help preserve them.

The current voting members are Krystopher Kenney (Chair), Art Rugg (Vice Chair), David Colglazier (Secretary), Sue Joudrey, Tom Bianchi and Victoria Gorveatt. Alternate members are Shehal Patel and Jason Knights. There is currently an opening for a third alternate member. Jim Butler is the Town Council liaison to the Commission.

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Editorial

Town Manager Remains Silent Despite Citizens Requests

The Londonderry Town Council demonstrated that they will back the Town Manager's decision to publish the town's legal notices in a newspaper owned by a company in Alabama versus one owned by a towns person despite citizens outcry.

Deb Paul, owner and publisher of the Londonderry Times, was informed that she would not be put on the agenda for the Town Council meeting on Monday, April 15. Therefore, she spoke during public comment and asked to know what the decision process was for Kevin Smith, the Town Manager, in deciding to use an out-of-town newspaper for the town's legal notices.

Paul gave a brief history of the Londonderry Times, and explained that the paper's mission is to educate, inform, and engage the Londonderry community. She offered an explanation of how the town issued legal notices in the past. Initially, the notices were awarded to the Times through the RFP (Request for Proposal) process. This was done for many years, with Town Managers Dick Plant, Troy Brown, Dave Caron, and Kevin Smith.

However, last week, Smith decided to award the legal notices to the Derry News. This was done without any conversation with or an email to the Times. In a phone call to Smith,

the Londonderry Times was told that Smith had given the Derry News the Times invoice, and they agreed to reduce the price by 10%.

At the meeting, Paul cited the Londonderry Municipal Code, Chapter 6 - Purchasing Policy. Section I Purpose: "The purpose is to ensure the fair and equitable treatment of all persons who deal with the purchasing system of the town..." and also Section II Application of Policy: "This policy shall also provide direction that, whenever possible, the Town will direct its business to those vendors located in Londonderry."

After Paul's presentation, many residents addressed the Council and spoke in favor keeping the legal notices with a local company. The Council was stone faced. After John Farrell, the Chair of Town Council, closed Public Comment he stated the Town Manager has the authority to make day-to-day decisions and that Town Council doesn't get involved. He then went on to discuss social media posts that occurred after Smith's decision. Not a single question asked by townspeople as to how the decision was made was answered.

The whole interaction reminds us of a famous quote from a classic movie, "Who dares question the great and powerful Oz?"

Letters

Thank You for This Paper

To the editor,

First, thank you for your free publication of the "Londonderry Times".

I've lived in Londonderry for 31 years. I rely on your paper for my local information, happenings, voting info, police log and all of the school news that you cover.

I do not get the "Derry News", so I'd like to ask whomever sent you the news that you'll no longer be the paper of record to reverse that choice.

Who do I contact?

Best regards,
Stephanie Bottcher
Londonderry

Not Just a Paper

To the editor,

In the April 11 issue of the Londonderry Times, I read that the Londonderry Times will no longer be the paper of record for the Town of Londonderry after 20 years of dedication to the town. It went on to say that the "out of state owned" rival paper, The Derry News" who's parent company is Raycom Media, based in Montgomery, Alabama, will now be the paper of record for our town and will be receiving all of the town's legal notices.

The Editorial also stated that Town Manager Kevin Smith has claimed responsibility for this decision stating it was because the Derry News was 10% cheaper.

I don't know how much the Derry News costs but I receive the Londonderry Times in my mailbox like every other resident of Londonderry free of charge. Not everyone gets the Derry News. I don't.

Is the Derry News now going to be delivered to every mailbox in Londonderry free of charge? And

if there is some cost to the town for being the "paper of record", I think that Deb Paul, a long time resident and publisher of the Londonderry Times, should have been contacted and at least given the opportunity to match it. I'm all for saving the town money, but she was not even contacted beforehand.

And when she called and asked the town manager why they were not supporting a local business, he reportedly said, "It is only a paper".

Really? It's not. Its how I, and all Londonderry residents, get news about what's going on in Londonderry. Deb Paul states when she asked the town manager more questions about it, she was hung up on.

Is this how local business owner and residents who have supported this town for years are treated? Deb Paul has always been responsive to Londonderry residents who call her with questions. I believe more so than some of our town officials. I once wrote to the Londonderry Times and questioned why a prior year's town elections that had referendum questions which would potentially raise our property taxes, were held during a severe snow storm when the Governor and all news stations were telling people to stay off the roads unless it was an emergency. The turnout was very low but apparently people who would benefit from the referendum questions made it to the polls because all questions were approved. Deb Paul took the time to call me and direct me to who I could call regarding this decision and how the law regarding voting in town could be changed to allow a change in the local election date should this hap-

pen again. I wrote to all of our state reps for our district and only 2 responded - Doug Thomas and David Lundgren. Other than Deb Paul, Doug Thomas was the most responsive and wanted to help me in any way that he could. He went above and beyond for an ordinary citizen like me. We are lucky to have him as our state rep. Another thing that bothered me about this article is that it stated that the chair of the Town Council, John Farrell, husband of our town clerk, writes for the Derry News. Now I realize this could just be a total coincidence, but I have to question the motives of this move in light of this fact. I don't know how this change will affect our residents who receive the Londonderry Times, but I hope that it will continue to be delivered to us so we can be kept informed of all local news specific to our town of Londonderry free of charge.

Loretta "Lori" Guyett
Londonderry

Taking Liberties

To the editor,

If you drive 102 east of Mammoth Road, you have noticed the work going on since last summer on the north side of the road. Liberty Utilities has been digging a gas pipeline to service the new development called Cross Landing.

I have no problem with progress in our town, where my family has lived now for over 250 years. My ancestors have fought America's wars and served the Federal Government, as I did as an American diplomat for 33 years. Goodness knows we need a bigger tax base to support Town Hall. I do miss the old rest stop on 102, as well as the nice

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Londonderry Times

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Letters

Continued from page 4

swimming hole behind it that many of us took advantage of on hot summer afternoons.

We were told when this project first began that it would have no impact on abutting properties, or indeed on the quality of Londonderry or any of its citizens. But I am not happy that Liberty Utilities has been industriously digging on my land now for more than nine months, with no sign of soon completing their work. Initially the company just started occupying the entire field last summer, driving their trucks and equipment on land I have been trying to allow to grow back into a forest to block the view from my 215 year old

house off the busy highway. After I called the Londonderry Police last summer, the company stopped using my entire field as a staging ground for their construction up and down 102. But they continue to occupy a broad swath of the field, now going on nine months, with no end in sight.

It turns out, according to the legal office of Liberty Utilities, they have broad rights to the land, at least 30 or more feet in, when progress dictates. Nor do they offer any compensation for this usurpation of land I pay taxes for. So if you have land abutting a public road in town, be forewarned. If "progress" so dictates, you too might find utilities setting up on what you thought was

your property for long periods of time, offering no apologies or compensation. All in the interest of "progress."

Stephen M. Young
U.S. Ambassador
(retired)
Londonderry

Town of Londonderry Please Reconsider

To the editor

This is outrageous! For starters, I find the Derry News junk and just throw it out. I also felt Deb Paul running for office would be a conflict of interest. I feel very much the same way about this development. It seems very fishy to me. Even if this is the 300 anniversary of Nutfield, we are no longer related. When the Derry

News was the only game in town, I always read it, no longer is that the case. And I will not begin reading it now, so this resident will be uninformed. Town of Londonderry, please reconsider.

Jane Cooper,
Londonderry.

Draft Dodger Trump

To the editor,

President Trump continuously bashes John McCain about various McCain positions that Trump disagrees with, which is somewhat amazing since McCain has

been dead for seven months. I believe draft dodger trump (DDT) wants to be in the spotlight all the time and doesn't care if he receives negative criticism about his comments.

As a former Navy enlisted and officer I am particularly perturbed with DDTs ongoing disparagement of McCain's military service. McCain was a Navy pilot who flew missions against the enemy in Vietnam, and unfortunately he was shot down and spent years in a North Vietnam prison. I believe DDT was able to dodge the draft during

the Vietnam War by receiving four draft deferments while in college and then he was deemed medically unacceptable after college because of a supposed bone spur in his heel which apparently was conjured up by DDT and his doctor. DDT skated out of military service and is no better than the draft dodgers who went to Canada during the Vietnam War.

And now as President DDT continues with his toxicity.

Donald Moskowitz
Former AG2 and LT,
U.S. Navy
Londonderry

ATVs

Continued from page 1

believes it is common sense that motorized vehicles shouldn't be in conservation areas, they will be posting signs at all entrances and at areas where powerlines border the Musquash.

On the prevention front, the Commission is working with Eversource to erect barriers at some places along their power line right of way that ATVs have been using to access the abutting Musquash. They are also planning to reach out to other power companies that have their lines bordering the Musquash.

These signs will clearly state Motorized Wheel-

ed Vehicle Prohibited with an up to \$1000 fine for violations of the ordinance. In addition, special signs will be added in wetland areas indicating that fines up to \$10,000 for violating Section 482-A:14 of the state wetlands code.

Evidence of riding in wetlands has been observed in the Musquash swamp area located behind Continental Paving.

On the enforcement front, the Commission has been in touch with New Hampshire Fish and Game. Fish and Game enforces OHRV rules and is planning to have a Conservation Officer patrol some of problem areas in the Musquash.

These officers can

hand out summons for riding in conservation areas, riding unregistered vehicles or riding without a landowner's permission. All OHRVs must be registered if operated off of the vehicle owner's property. A registration is a privilege to ride off your own property on approved trails or with written landowner permission.

The Commission also plans to have the newly hired town conservation ranger start monitoring problem areas. This officer will have the authority to enforce the town ordinance. Residents are also encouraged to report sightings of OHRVs in the Musquash to the Police Department and the Conservation Commission.

Planning

Continued from page 1

According to the plan, the majority of the development will occur on the lot that is marked a "Map 7, Lot 073 6", where the office building stands at the present. The other lots are the main auto body lot and the remaining portion of the auto body lot, which is shared with the Hannaford driveway in the next building. As part of the application, these two lots will be merged into one and a new driveway will be added.

In the new Ford Service Center, customers will pull in through Gilchrist Rd. and drive towards the service station. There, they will go through the doors and into the building, where

they will be greeted by a Ford employee. Next, a Ford technician will arrive and take the car to the north side of the building, where the repairs area will be. After the work on the car is done, it will be taken to the parking spaces outside of the building and parked there until the customer picks it up. Another addition will be on the south side of the building, where a service station for short term services will be located, as well as the handicap parking spaces.

The proposed plan did not pass unanimously, though. The Planning Board member Ms. Ann Chiampa opposed, after questioning the proposed aesthetics of the new facility. Ms. Chiampa said: "I think that you have a beautiful building and what you are doing is

adding more of a modern feel to the building, which basically does not really align with the design character that Londonderry spouses for commercial building in the past. To me, it looks too much modern."

Ms. Chiampa emphasized that the Planning Board usually looks for a more traditional design from commercial businesses that come to town. The Planning Board Chairman, Mr. Arthur Rugg, answered by saying that the Londonderry Heritage/Historic District Commission approved the proposed design, as it matches the Ford style for many year. Mr. Rugg also admitted: "It's not the colonial look of Londonderry, but it is what it is and it is an existing structure anyway"

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OBITUARY

Robert E. Ehr Gott



Robert E. Ehr Gott, 94, of Londonderry, NH, died on Monday, April 15 due to complications from a tragic fall. He died peacefully in Elliot Hospital, Manchester, NH, surrounded by his loving family.

He was born in Bethlehem, PA on July 18, 1924, a son of the late Elwood and Margaret (Marsh) Ehr Gott. Robert proudly served his country as a U.S Marine during WWII, where he met his first wife, Rose Taylor, who also served as a Marine. He graduated from Muhlenberg College in Allentown, PA with a Bachelor of Science degree. Following graduation in 1950, Robert worked for BF Goodrich. He established Bob's Tire Service in Nashua, NH in 1972. Bob owned and operated this business with his sons, Barry and Steven until the day of his accident. He loved music, dancing, and golf. He performed in community productions in Londonderry in the 1970s and 80s. He retired at age 70 from the Londonderry Recreational Softball League, having played for the Kings. Bob had a wonderful sense of humor and was a master of practical jokes. Every Tuesday he would 'hold court' with his best friends, Guy and Jim, at the Coach Stop Restaurant. He enjoyed hiking, reading, and vacationing in Maine and Cape Cod. But nothing brought him more joy than spending time with his family.

He is survived by four daughters, Karen Kendra (Michael), Barbara Thomas (Harry), Beth Galperin (Stephen), and Alison Paquette (Andrew); two sons, Barry Ehr Gott (Mary Jane), and Steven Ehr Gott (Nina); two step-sons, James Duval (Jennifer Ventress), Rick Duval; a brother, Elwood Ehr Gott; a sister, Shirley Leonard; fourteen grandchildren; many great-grandchildren, nieces and nephews. He is predeceased by his first wife, Rose Taylor Ehr Gott, his second wife Mary Ann Ford (Duval) Ehr Gott, brother Donald Ehr Gott and step-son Michael Duval.

Calling hours will be held on Tuesday, April 23, from 6 - 8 p.m. in the Peabody Funeral Homes & Crematorium, 290 Mammoth Rd., Londonderry. A private burial service will be held the following morning. A Requiem Mass will be held on Saturday, April 27 at 12:30 p.m. at St. Jude Parish, 435 Mammoth Rd., Londonderry. In lieu of flowers, the family suggests donations to Wounded Warrior Project. To send a condolence or for more information, please visit, www.peabodyfuneralhome.com.

Smith Decision

Continued from page 1

per won two more bids set by different Town Managers, including the current one, Mr. Kevin Smith.

Ms. Paul then recalled last week's events, "I was unaware that Kevin was looking to cut the cost of legals again. I found out that the Derry News had been given the legal notices. As a vendor for the town for almost 15 years, I was shocked that I did not get a call or the consideration of an email, to let me know that this decision had been made and to even put in a bid. I am concerned that residents had no clue that this move had happened and I am sure that a lot of residents may have wanted to go to a meeting."

Ms. Paul added that Mr. Smith told her that the price the Derry News was willing to receive for the legal notices was 10 percent lower than the Londonderry Times' price. Not including the ballots, the Town of Londonderry paid last year around \$7,000 for legal notices. Ms. Paul cited the town's purchasing policy: "Whenever possible, the town would direct its business to those vendors located in Londonderry." The Derry News' parent company is

Raycom Media Inc., based out of Montgomery, AL. Ms. Paul urged the Town Council to reconsider its decision regarding the legal notices and asked know why she was not given the opportunity to have a bid.

After Ms. Paul finished her comment, seven other Londonderry residents asked for their comments in favor of the Londonderry Times to be heard as well. They were granted the permission to address the Town Council, but Chairman John Farrell ordered them to avoid asking the council questions, as this was the Public Comment section and the subject was not on the meeting agenda.

After closing the Public Comment section, Farrell, "One of the interesting things about the United States government is that the founders founded us as The Great Experiment, so our model as a community founders is to build a great community together. We have an extremely good staff that works here at the town hall and great leadership from our Town Manager. He is our Chief Administrative Officer. The way our government is set up is that the Town Council operates as a Board of

Directors. We hire a Town Manager and give him the authority to run the day-to-day operations. He makes the decision day-to-day."

Farrell then announced that the council received a confidential memo from Mr. Smith, where he explained his process that led him to this decision. Farrell refused to share the content of that memo with the public and added that the memo was reviewed by the town's attorney and meets all the legal and policy criteria. "Regarding the last 72 hours on social media," Farrell said, "Bullying has become a real problem in our schools and what was witnessed over the weekend in the comments, by adults, is that we are creating a mob mentality around something and that scares people. Some people in this community required police to set a patrol in their neighborhood, because children were scared. That's not right and shouldn't happen. The Town Manager made a decision, to move in another direction. He has that authority. He grew up in this community and truly loves it and loves what he does for the citizens."

Farrell addressed the claim in last week's Edito-

rial, that Mr. Smith abruptly ended their phone conversation when she asked for more details on the matter.

Farrell mentioned that Assistant Town Manager Lisa Drabik, who advises the town on legal matters, was also on the line.

Later in the meeting, Ms. Paul said she was not told that Ms. Drabik was listening to the conversation and wondered if that was legal.

Farrell claimed that after several silent moments, Smith ended the call, telling Ms. Paul to call back should she have further questions, but did not hang up the phone.

Mr. Farrell announced that the Town Council will move on in regard to this subject, as the town manager made his decision.

Paul then said she was called "a liar" by the Town Council and asked for her freedom of speech and the right to defend herself, claiming she also suffered from online bullying, "from people in this room."

Mr. Farrell called for order and Ms. Paul, along with several other people in attendance, left the room, protesting on their way out and saying: "When people of Londonderry don't get the paper a couple of weeks of the year, I want it on all of your heads to know that that's the financial reason that you caused me. You're putting a small business out of business because you don't care about Londonderry businesses." A police officer who was in presence followed the people who left to the hall.

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Conservation Matters: Rethinking the Your Homes Lawn

DEB LIEVENS
LONDONDERRY TIMES

If you read the newspaper or check the Internet these days, you often come across commentaries about declining biodiversity, especially of the non-charismatic species. There is colony

collapse in bees, an overall decline in our food pollinators, and concern for insects in general.

These can lead to concerns all the way up the food chain. The challenges of maintaining biodiversity seem too big to find a way to make a dif-

ference. But the good news is that there is something we can do, and it is literally in our backyards.

Lawns were first promoted back in the 1840s when Andrew Jackson Downing published the "Treatise on the Theory

and Practice of Landscape Gardening". They spread with the work of Frederick Law Olmstead who designed many public spaces such as the "emerald necklace" in Boston.

Lawns vs Biodiversity

Lawns became popular in our public places and with post-World War II development, they began appearing in our neighborhoods all across the country. Maintenance became easier and easier. Now the lawn care industry offers to do much of the work for us. Having a green lawn began to mean community spirit. But no one ever thought of the consequences.

The problem is that the lawn, at its most basic, is a monoculture (the growth of a single plant or organism). It usually consists of non-native grasses that are not adapted to our climate or our acid soils and so need more water and fertilizer to grow.

It does support grubs which must be killed to maintain the lawn. So, pesticides need to be applied to keep the grass green. The lawn as such is artificial and does not encourage biodiversity. Furthermore, lawns frag-

ment our natural local ecosystems lowering their beneficial values.

Douglas W. Tallamy in Bringing Nature Home writes about "ecosystem services"—benefits to humans from healthy functioning ecosystems—and how plants and animals keep us alive. Our built landscapes do not accomplish this function.

Healthier Lawn Strategies

So, what we can do? Maybe it's time to rethink your lawn. We are fortunate in this area to have large lots. You can reduce your amount of lawn and still have plenty of play space. Decide where you wouldn't miss lawn. Small steps are encouraged. Allow edges to grow wider. Mow high—between 3 and 4 inches.

If your grass is taller, it will have deeper roots and not need as much water. Where you don't want grass, you can plant mat-forming perennial ground covers. When you opt to add plants, plant natives. Non-native orna-

mental plants did not co-evolve with our insect populations and therefore they do not support our native insects. Go for variety: trees, shrubs and herbs.

Tallamy also talks about "super plants" which provide food for the largest number of insects, which in turn feed a wide range of wildlife. Oaks, white pines, and blueberries (all iconic New England plants) are such species. Support them in your yards. While you are at it, remove as many invasive plants as possible.

All of this leads to a much more interesting back yard.

Resources: New England Wild Flower Society (newenglandwild.org) has a plant search for best plants for your area.

NH Department of Agriculture (agriculture.nh.gov) has information about invasives and how to remove them. Finally, the Xerces Society (xerces.org) can tell you all you need to know about our pollinators.



Essay Winner

Londonderry High School sophomore Hannah Demarais was the lone contestant to enter the Rotary Club's Four-Way Test Essay and Speech contest last month. She wrote her speech and read it to members of the Derry Village Rotary, Derry Rotary and the Londonderry Rotary last month at the Derry Town Council Chambers at the Derry Municipal Building. The essay needed to encapsulate the Rotary's four point test: Is it the truth? Is it fair to all concerned? Will it build good will and better friendships? Will it be beneficial to all concerned? Her essay focus on fitting in at the Middle School. Above, Demarais was handed the three checks totaling \$1,000 from the three Rotary Clubs by Derry Village member Alice Makino and was invited to the New Hampshire district contest last weekend. *Photo by Chris Paul*

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Londonderry Arts Council Announce Artist of the Month

IDAN VINITSKY
LONDONDERRY TIMES

Never in her life has Marie Coons attended what you will call a "formal art class" and yet, this upcoming June, she will be the Londonderry Arts Council Artist of the Month and her work will be presented at the Leach Library.

The Arts Council sponsors a monthly rotating exhibition at the library, with 12 different artists who are selected before every calendar year. Each artist is allowed to display

up to nine works in total located in the reception area, as well as the four reading nook areas. Every work of art is labeled with information to provide the viewers the option to contact the artist for more information.

Since she retired, Ms. Coons has been visiting the library every month, enjoying those works by local artists. She says that she also read in the local media all the articles about the program, until finally, she decided she wanted to participate in

the program, not as a spectator anymore, but as the artist.

After reading the 2018 Town Report and learning more about the Artist of the Month program, Ms. Coons approached the Londonderry Arts Council Chair and offered to be one of this year's 12 artists. She quickly received a positive response.

She moved to Londonderry from Rhode Island 22 years ago and worked for over a decade at the Public Health Lab for the State of New Hampshire,

until recently retiring. She graduated from the State University of New York at Buffalo many years ago with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Medical Lab Technologies. She traveled with her husband to many different places, thanks to his work, until eventually finding a home in Londonderry.

She has never forgotten Greenhurst, New York, where as a child she used to see an old barn next to her house. She started painting it and kept doing so even after that land

was bought and the barn became a nursing home. She also loved flowers, so she painted them as well: "Only what I felt like and what I wanted", she explains that she never took a formal art class.

For over 40 years, she has been creating greeting cards, sending them mainly to friends and family. But then she bought a scanner, and at first she was not very sure about it and preferred her authentic works. However, once she learned and was comfortable with how to scan her work into

the computer, a business grew. More people got to see her talent and the greeting cards were no longer only for Ms. Coons family and friends.

At her Artist of the Month exhibition, Ms. Coons' presentation will be of drawing and painting techniques with a variety of mediums. She is very excited about the opportunity: "I really want to meet people and to be able to tell them about these works and how they were created, and show off my work".

High School Supports the Military on Purple-Up Week

IDAN VINITSKY
LONDONDERRY TIMES

On Friday, April 12 Londonderry High School students and staff members were asked to wear a purple ribbon and show their support for military families, as the Purple-Up week at the school came to its grand finale. Throughout the week, starting Monday, April 8, the Blue Star Lancers group sold purple ribbons at the school, asking in return for a spare change donation, with all profits going to support the group's year round activities.

The Blue Star Lancers group has two main focuses:

- In the fall semester, the group prepares and

sends "care packages" to soldiers who attended LHS and are now serving in the military and they also prepare gift baskets for the annual LHS Veterans' Breakfast in November.

- In the spring semester, the group's focus is in the preparation of the Blue Star Bundles, to honor the seniors who will begin either military service or attend a military academy after their graduation.

Every year, at the April's spring pep rally, those bundles are presented and the entire month is the Purple-Up month. In 1986, April was established, by the then Secretary of State Casper Weinberger, as the month of the

military child. The idea was to recognize youth who have a family member (parent, sibling or step-parent) serving in the military. Purple was chosen as the month's color as it is a blend of the Army's green with the Marines' red and the blue of the Coast Guard, Air Force and Navy.

The Blue Star movement that began during

World War I inspired the Blue Star Lancers group's name. During that time mothers of sons serving in the military hung blue star flags in their windows, so they could find and support each other through those hard days.

Students also had the chance to buy a \$15 cap and support Operation Hat Trick, an organization dedi-

cated to helping veterans suffering from visible and invisible wounds of war. The organization's founder, Dot Sheehan, was inspired by the rich hockey tradition at her alma mater, the University of New Hampshire, and launched Operation Hat Trick in 2008. Today, the organization had already been embraced by 350 colleges, as well as 165

high school and many professional sports teams.

The LHS Athletic Leadership Council was in charge of the caps sale and a few of the school's teams purchased the caps for the entire team to wear in one of their upcoming games. All proceeds from the sold caps go to support local military servicemen and women.

Town Council Approves Equipment for Fire Department

IDAN VINITSKY
LONDONDERRY TIMES

The Londonderry Town Council approved two purchase for the town's Fire Department during its meeting on Monday, April 15.

Londonderry Fire Department Chief Darren O'Brien presented the case for Order #2019-09, an order relative to the distribution of Fire Equipment Capital Reserve Funds.

O'Brien told Town Council members that the Fire Department wished to purchase 10 sets of firefighter protective cloth-

ing for its crew.

He added that every 2-3 years, the Londonderry Fire Department establishes a year-study committee and brings in different manufactures of protective clothing. The Fire Department crew then tries out several items and test them, before a decision is made and the best suits are selected.

This year, the bid to provide the local Fire Department with protective clothing was won by Bergeron Protective Clothing, a long running New Hampshire company, bas-

ed in Epsom. The Town Council approved the use of \$29,283.21 from the Capital Reserve Funds for Fire Equipment and the clothing will now be purchased.

Next, Mr. Steve Cotton presented the case for order #2019-10, an order relative to the expenditure of maintenance trust fund. Mr. Cotton told the Town Council that as part of the Fire Department renovation project, there is a need for an upgraded electrical system, something that was not part of the original renovation plan.

Mr. Cotton asked for

the Town Council's approval to spend \$9,394.99 to cover this expense and upgrade the existing oil and fuel systems in the facility. This request was also approved by the Town Council.

Also during the meeting, The Council interviewed Mr. Peter Commerford for an Alternate Position at the Southern New Hampshire Planning Committee, but no questions were asked by any council members and Commerford's appointment was approved unanimously.

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Mexican Artist Demonstrates Ancient Weaving Techniques

Mexican Artist Porfirio Gutierrez, a Zapotec weaver from the village of Teotitlan del Oaxaca visited with students in the three Londonderry Elementary Schools to share with them his ancient weaving techniques. He explained how all natural dyes were made and how they are transferred to the fabric being used. Gutierrez was accompanied by Pat Picciano to help translate and explain the history to students. The event was part of the Margaritas Education Outreach Program. They are pictured at North Elementary School. *Photos by Chris Paul*



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The annual Easter Egg Hunt hosted by the Class of 2020 at Londonderry High School was once again well attended with lots of activities for kids to do as well as a chance to meet the Easter Bunny. The activities were held in the school's Gym until it was time for the massive egg hunt on the track field.
Photos by Chris Paul

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LONDONDERRY SPORTS

Lancer Varsity Baseball Team Off to a Great Start

IDAN VINITSKY
LONDONDERRY TIMES

Last season, Londonderry High School's Varsity Baseball team needed eight games to get to three wins. This year on the other hand, it

is three for three for the Lancers after a great first week of baseball for the team.

Londonderry's season began on Wednesday, April 10, with a decisive 14-3 road win at Manches-

ter Central. The home team scored the first three runs of the game, all of them in the bottom of the first inning, but from there on, it was all Londonderry, who scored once in the top of the third, then six more runs in the fourth and seven in the fifth inning. The game was stopped after five and a half inning thanks to the 10 run mercy rule.

The Lancers had seven hits, to only one by Central. Brandon Fish, Reece Manor, Nick Cote and Luke Marsh had two RBIs each, with Cote hitting for a homerun. Nolan Lincoln pitched for the entire five innings, striking out four batters.

Then on Friday, April 12, the Lancers were the ones who started strong and with three runs in the first and two in the second. This led a quick 5-0 lead over Dover High School in the Lancer's home opener.

The visitors scored twice in the top of the third, but could not get any closer than that. Londonderry finished with six hits, three by Cote, who had one RBI. Fish, Manor and Zack Luongo

added another RBI each.

Owen MacDonnell, in his first Varsity game as a pitcher, got seven strikeouts and only one earned run in five quality innings. Luke Marsh closed the game with two innings and three strikeouts.

Coach Brent Demas was happy with his team after that game, "We put some really good swings on the ball. We had some guys who struggled and we won't score in every inning, but as long as we have one more run than the other team, we are doing OK. Our pitching is very impressive so far. Owen threw the ball very well. He should from early on how dominant he is going to be. I am pleased."

The next day, Saturday, April 13, Londonder-

ry improved its record to 3-0 after a long 12-inning 10-9 home win over Winnacunnet. The Lancers saw its 1-0 lead from the third inning disappear, as the visiting team scored six times in the fourth. Londonderry did not give up, plating four runs in the bottom of that inning, and three in the next to regain the lead 8-6. Two more runs in the sixth-inning by Winnacunnet sent the game to extra innings.

There, in the 11th inning, Winnacunnet scored, but the Lancers had an answer and in the next inning scored again, to get the walk-off win thanks to a single by MacDonnell, who brought Luongo home.

Londonderry finished

that extremely long game with 20 hits, including four by MacDonnell and three more by Manor, Luongo and Chris Tutt, who scored three runs. Fish and Manor had three RBIs each and pitched for the majority of the game: Fish started and stayed for 3 2/3 innings, allowing six runs and getting seven strikeouts. Manor pitched for six innings and got five strikeouts next to a single earned run.

The Lancers away game at Exeter got rained out on Monday (Apr. 15) and moved to Tuesday and the team also played at Timberlane on Wednesday (Apr. 17), after the Londonderry Times went to print. The next game is on Monday (Apr. 22, noon) at home against Bedford.



Owen MacDonnell, in his first Varsity game as a pitcher, got seven strikeouts and only one earned run in five quality innings. Photo by Chris Paul

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Lancer Tennis Teams Begin Spring Season with Victories

IDAN VINITSKY
LONDONDERRY TIMES

In a cold and windy Wednesday afternoon, April 10, the Londonderry High School's Boys'

Varsity Tennis team opened its new season with an impressive 9-0 win over Manchester Memorial at the Skip Burbine Tennis Courts in

Londonderry. Londonderry senior Cam Ness won his opening match 8-0 and in the doubles, the same result was achieved by sophomore Tanner Fortier and freshman Camden Poitras. Senior Ben Doris and junior Ryan Cullen also added to the win totals.

Two days later, the Lancers managed another impressive win, this time on the road, with a 7-2 victory over Spaulding High School. Once more, Ness had an 8-0 win, and so did Poitras in the second singles match. The visitors jumped into a 5-0 lead in the singles, to secure their victory before the doubles, where they got two more wins.

The Lady Lancers team opened the season playing great and won their second meeting, on Wednesday, April 10, at Manchester Memorial, 8-1. Londonderry swept the singles matches, with victories from senior Rachel Cook (8-1), junior Rachel

Court (8-2), senior Sydney Martin (8-2), senior Amanda Wells (8-1), senior Emily Hatem (8-0) and senior Melanie Methot (8-0). In the doubles, Cook and Court won 8-2 and Hatem and Lauren Kim got an 8-1 win, while Martin and Wells suffered the only loss of the day, 8-1.

On Friday, April 12, despite missing some key players due to illness, the girls' team were victorious in a close 5-4 home opener over Spaulding. Londonderry got singles wins from senior Mary

Nicoli (8-4), Court (8-6), Wells (8-2) and Hatem (8-4), while Methot (8-4) and Alyssa Treanor lost (8-6). In the doubles, Spaulding got wins over Nicoli and Court (8-4) as well as over Methot and Treanor (a dramatic 9-7), while Wells and Hatem, with a good performance and an 8-0 win, secured the fifth point and Londonderry's win in the meet.

Both teams were supposed to play Alvirne on Monday, April 15, with the boys at home and girls on the road, but the rain

caused a cancellation of those planned matches. The boys are scheduled to start a three-day run with an away meeting at Winnacunnet on Wednesday, April 17, before completing the rescheduled meet against Alvirne on Thursday, April 18, and traveling to Derryfield on Friday, April 19. The girls had Winnacunnet at home on Tuesday, April 16, will face Alvirne on Thursday, April 18, at the nearby town and the next day, will host Derryfield, Fri-



Lancer senior Mary Nicoli was in the number one spot and won her match 8-4 during the team's home opener against Spaulding last week. Photo by Chris Paul



Track and Field

Rain, hail, snow and freezing temperatures caused Londonderry High School's first Outdoor Track and Field meet of the season to be called off last Tuesday, April 9. The local athletes came back on Thursday to finish some of the events, but Salem did not return and Timberlane only sent a handful of kids, so no scores were kept. The Lancers hosted another home meet this Tuesday, April 16, against Dover and Winnacunnet and are scheduled to participate in the Nashua North Invitational on Saturday, April 20. Pictures are the girls in the last heat of the 100-yard dash just before the rain started.

Photos by Chris Paul



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Tough Loss is Followed by a Great Game for Boys Lacrosse

IDAN VINITSKY
LONDONDERRY TIMES

Things were looking great for Londonderry High School's Boys' Varsity Lacrosse team in the first half of its season opener, before a bad second half proved to be very costly and caused a tough loss. Lucky for the Lancers, the very next day they had a chance to put that loss behind them, and took that chance with two hands.

Londonderry opened the spring season in Concord against the Crimson Tide on Thursday, April 11, in a game that was postponed from Tuesday. The Lancers scored five unanswered goals in the first quarter, and then

added five more in the second, to take a promising 10-3 lead into the second half. But that's when Concord came storming back, cutting their deficit to three goals (11-8), before heading into the last quarter. That's where Concord completed an unexpected comeback, scoring the winning goal with only 62 seconds on the clock and escaping with a 13-12 victory. Senior Anthony Federico led LHS with four goals, Cole Keegan and Hunter Smith scored twice each and Derek Felix, Zach Fawcett, Derek Mower and Thomas Fougere also found the net.

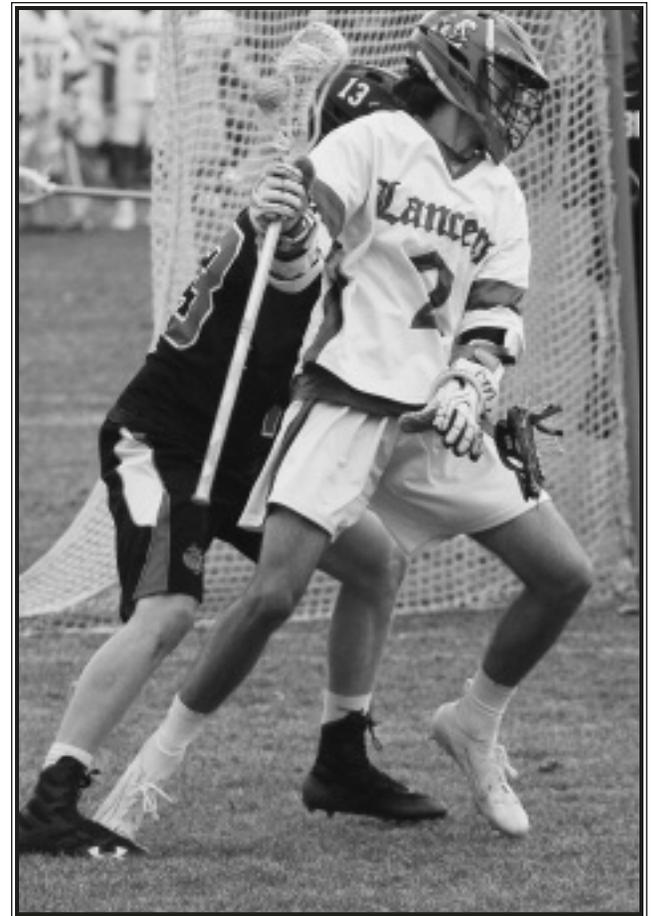
The home game on Friday, April 12, went

much better for the Lancers, where Londonderry got a 15-6 home win over Bedford. Five goals in four minutes between the end of the first quarter (4-1) and the beginning of the second, put the Lancers in a good position, but a buzzer beater Bedford goal made it only 9-4 at the half. Unlike the day before, in this game Londonderry did not allow that lead to slip away, and kept scoring, leading 13-5 with one quarter to go, and putting the final touches on the win in the last minutes. Federico once again scored four goals and Aidan Dennis and James Tommy-Fogo got two each. Keegan, Blake Melnik, Felix, Faw-

cett and Mower scored one goal each.

Coach Roger Sampson said after the win, "We had some setbacks in our first game and lost the big lead. So the message for the second game was that we really have to work like a team, and all the little problems will go away. I think we have a good offense, good shooters. After the loss, the players needed this win for their confidence."

Then on Monday, April 15, the Lancers improved their record to 2-1 with a dramatic 9-8 overtime road win against Souhegan High School. The team was scheduled for another road game at Keene on Tuesday, after the Londonderry Times went to print and they will then visit last year's DI runner ups Bishop Guertin, on Thursday, April 18 in Nashua.



Cole Keegan battles for position near the Bedford net during the Lancer Lax teams' win last week. Photo by Chris Paul

Londonderry Softball Team Drops First Three Contests

IDAN VINITSKY
LONDONDERRY TIMES

After finishing the regular season last year with an astounding 18-1 record, and winning 17 consecutive games before heading into the playoffs, the Londonderry High School's Varsity Softball team is still searching for its first win of the 2019 season, after three games.

The Lady Lancers' season began last Thursday, April 10, with a home game against Manchester Central High School, a game that ended with the Little Green winning 12-7.

Two days later, the team traveled east to

Dover High School, and lost for the second time in a row, 5-1 and the following day, on Saturday, April 13), another road game on the seacoast ended with a 6-1 defeat at the hands of the Winnacunnet Warriors.

Londonderry's fourth game of the season, a home game against Exeter High School, was originally scheduled for Monday,

April 15, but it was postponed to rain, and moved to Tuesday, April 16 afternoon, after the Londonderry Times went to print.

The Lady Lancers were scheduled to host Timberlane Regional High School on Wednesday, April 17, and have an away game at Bedford High School on Monday, April 22.



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Lancer Girls Win One, Lose Two in First Lacrosse Week

IDAN VINITSKY
LONDONDERRY TIMES

A promising beginning, followed by two tough losses -

That was how Londonderry High School's Girls' Varsity Lacrosse team's first week went in Division I competition.

The Lady Lancers showed their potential in the season opener, handing Concord a 14-4 defeat on Tuesday, April 9. In was 9-2 after the first half in favor of the Locals, who got six goals from junior Grace Chicko and four more from junior Lauren Dougherty. Maddy Walden, Izzy Augusta, freshman Caroline Leone and Chrissy Breau each scored once.

Then, three days later, on Friday, April 12, Londonderry was handed a 16-7 loss in Bedford. The Ladyancers were never quite able to bounce back after trailing the Bulldogs 7-2 at halftime. Chicko and Sarah Duarte had two goals and one assist each, with the rest of the goals coming from Walden, Jenna Stowell and Ciara Amerena.

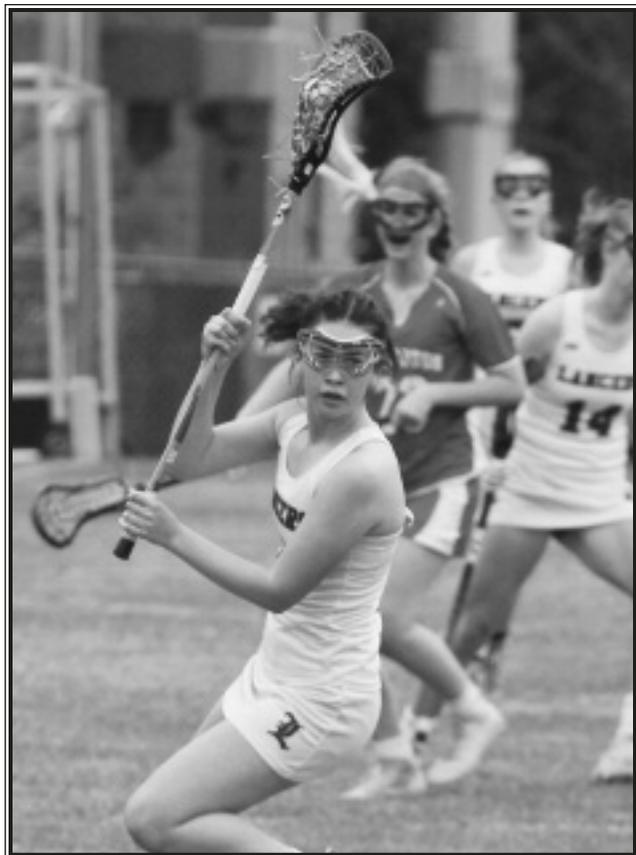
Unfortunately, it didn't get any easy at home, where Londonderry's woes continued on Monday, April 15, when rivals Pinkerton Academy controlled their road game

and turned a 12-5 halftime lead into a 19-5 win. The Lady Lancers efforts were nullified by the Astro's defense in the second half, with Londonderry not able to score, or even getting a shot on net after the break.

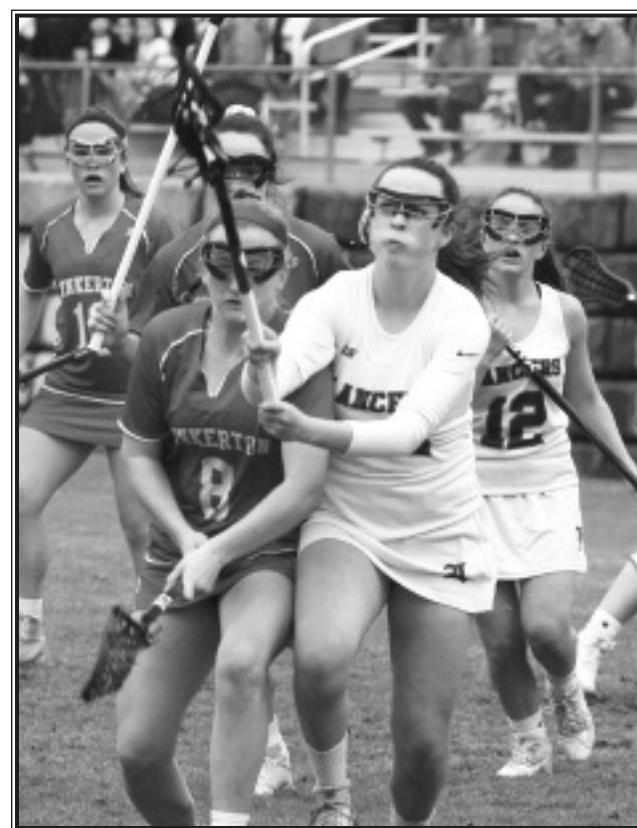
Walden and Hannah McCutcheon scored twice, and Duarte got one goal. Needless to say, coach Scott Walden was not too pleased with his team's performance, "We have been losing ground balls. We need to want the ball more. That is the biggest thing. The last two games we had unforced turnovers. People are not moving to the open spots. When we do get the ball to the offense, we are fine. Right now, the level is not where we want it to be. We are going to get there, but it will have to be soon because right now, things that we are doing on practice don't happen on the field. If we do it, we'll be fine. If we don't, it is going to be a long season."

Londonderry had a chance to get back on track with a home game against Manchester Central the next day, after the

Londonderry Times went to press, and they will host the last year's champions, Bishop Guertin, on Thursday, Apr. 18, 4 p.m.



Junior Lauren Dougherty had a four goal game against Concord, but was held scoreless against the tough Division I opponent, Pinkerton.



Sophomore Maddy Walden makes her way down the field against a very tough Pinkerton defense on Monday afternoon. Photos by Chris Paul

LHS Volleyball Team Still Looking for First Win this Season

IDAN VINITSKY
LONDONDERRY TIMES

Two games into the 2019 spring season, and the Londonderry High School's Varsity Volleyball team is

still winless, after a couple of 3-0 losses.

The Londonderry boy's first game was a road game at Goffstown high School, on Tuesday, April 9, and the

home team proved to be too strong for the Lancers. The first set ended with a 25-17 Goffstown victory and in the second, the locals opened a large lead and won 25-14. The third set was the closest of the competition, but once more, Goffstown came out on top, finishing

things up with a 25-18 win.

The Lancers then hosted Mascenic for their home opener on Friday, April 12, and the visitors won the first set 25-16, before controlling the second (25-12). For the second game in a row, Londonderry's best set was the third, but

again it was not enough despite a nice comeback by the local boys.

Coach Jon Buatti said after that game: "It is still a learning curve, a lot of first year players. We are still learning our spots and responsibilities. It was a good effort, but we've got to be more aggressive and get more

swings on the ball. Energy could have been a lot better and we will work on that."

Londonderry had a road game against Keene on Wednesday, after the Londonderry Times went to print. The team will travel to play the strong Timberlane Owls on Friday, April 19.

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Town of Derry Celebrates 300th with Founders Weekend

There were MacGregors from far and wide roaming the streets of Derry over the weekend, as dozens of descendants of the Nutfield Founder, Rev. James MacGregor, were invited to town to help celebrate the 300th Anniversary of Nutfield.

The towns of Derry, Londonderry, Windham and the Derryfield part of Manchester were all considered Nutfield 300 years ago.

There will be events and activities taking place all summer long to celebrate the tricentennial anniversary, starting with Founders Weekend which happened on April 12-14.

Led by the Derry Heritage Commission and First Parish Church, Founders Weekend



Stuart Paul was stationed in front of the historic First Parish Church on Saturday morning to celebrate the 300th Anniversary of Nutfield with Founders Weekend.

includes participation by all four Nutfield towns.

The weekend-long celebration occurred exactly 300 years after Nutfield's founding by Rev. James MacGregor and sixteen Scots-Irish families from Northern Ireland.

Heritage Weekend was based at First Parish Church with its 1769 Meetinghouse, and offers a variety of family fun and history learning activities, tours, and more, free to the general public.

The Nutfield Families Reunion and Conference was based across the street at the restored Upper Village Hall.

The social highlight of the weekend was a semi-formal Nutfield Gala, hosted by the Greater Derry Arts Council and taking place Saturday evening at

the Derry Opera House.

On Sunday afternoon, there was a dedication of the MacGregor Horse Fountain recently restored by the Derry Village Rotary.

Heritage Weekend included pottery demonstrations by Nutfield Potter Mike Gibbons, flax/linen demos by Michelle Parrish, and a lacing making demo by Carolyn Wetzel. There were many informative displays, a First Potato and Early Settler Selfie Station, brief talks on many local history topics, display and discussion tables by all the area's history museums, Meetinghouse Preservation info and tours, a food service, and more.

An unveiling of the freshly-restored Steeple of the 1769 Meetinghouse at First Parish also took place.

There were also guided Cemetery Tours of the adjacent Forest Hill Cemetery – the resting place of Rev. MacGregor and the Early Settlers led by expert TJ Cullinane.

On Sunday, First Parish Church hosted two worship services, a morning service with returning past Pastors and historic touches, and an afternoon Ecumenical Worship Service with participation by numerous historic and modern houses of worship from the entire Nutfield area.

The Nutfield Gala took place Saturday evening.



Longtime First Parish Church member and historian Marilyn Ham stands in front of the newly installed bench that was dedicated to her and her husband Chet. She is with her son Peter Ham and daughter Cindy Strike. Photo by Chris Paul

Hosted by the Greater Derry Arts Council and happening in the restored Opera House in downtown Derry, the evening included appetizers with beer and wine from local establishments, music and dancing, the first public reading of a special Nutfield poem by Derry poet laureate Bob Crawford, and history and art displays throughout the whole building including the open Derry History Museum.

On Sunday, at MacGregor Park, the Derry Village Rotary Club unveiled the restored MacGregor Horse Fountain which was a downtown icon.

Jill Flanders spoke of her parents, Richard and Pauline MacGregors love for the fountain to the crowd of descendants that attended the ceremony.

Members of the Rotary placed a number of items in the base of the fountain as a time capsule.



Gymnastics

The top Junior Olympic gymnasts from across New England competed in the annual Level 8-10 Regional Championships last weekend, on April 5 to April 7. Impact Gymnastics Academy of Bow sent seven athletes to the competition and one of them, Jacob Laher of Londonderry, pictured far right, was among the qualifiers to the National Championship, which will be held in Reno, Nevada, between April 30 and May 5. Laher, who competed on Level 9, placed sixth on All-Around in the 13-14 Years Age Division and finished second on Parallel Bars and third on Rings. Courtesy photo

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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 or non-profit is receiving money for what they are publicizing, there will be a charge of \$40.00/week per paper. All Around Town/Calendar Items will be held to 100 words maximum; anything over will incur a charge of \$40.00/week for up to another 50 words. All free announcements in the Around Town/Calendar section can run a maximum of 3 weeks. Deadline for submissions is Monday at 5 p.m.

: We will run the full versions of any calendar items online free of charge at www.nutpub.net. Please send items to londonderrytimes@nutpub.net.

Creating with Pressed Flowers

The Leach Library will host "Art from the Garden - Creating with Pressed Flowers" on Thursday, May 16, at 7 p.m. Ms. Roden will offer ways to preserve flowers, leaves, and other plant material and transform them into beautiful art. She will share some of her own work as well as various flower pressing techniques, tips, and ideas. The event is free and open to the public with seating limited to the first 90 individuals. It will be held in the library's lower-level meeting room. Light refreshments will be served.

Fun & Games

On Thursday, May 9, from 3:30 - 4:30 p.m. Participants in grades 6 - 12 can take part in an enjoyable hour of fun games and activities at the Leach Library. Participants are encouraged to bring their own games to share with the group. In addition, at this special event, snacks and beverages will be served and there will be a raffle for fun door prizes. No registration is required.

Bremen Town Musicians Puppet Show

What are a donkey, a dog, a cat, and a rooster to do when they have to leave the farm? Try to become world famous musicians, of course! Join CactusHead Puppets on Monday, May 13, from 4 - 5 p.m. at the Leach Library for the hilarious tale of four farm animals who set out on the road to Bremen to pursue their dreams of fame and fortune, and come together to create beautiful music and a new home. This entertaining program is open to 90 participants of all ages, and advance registration is required. To register, stop by the Children's Room or call 432-1127 beginning at 9 a.m. on Monday, May 6.

Exchange Student Program

Greenheart Exchange has many wonderful exchange students. Would you like to enrich your family, community and school? Ask about hosting an exchange student. Want to know more? Contact Ginger Smith 603-397-2494 email grandmaginger15@gmail.com

Antiques Appraisal Day!

The Historical Society will hold Antiques Appraisal Day on Sunday, May 19, starting at 1 p.m. doors open at 12:30 p.m. Bring your antiques, collectibles & family treasures to the Londonderry Historical Society's second annual event featuring Daniel F. Reidy, appraiser/antiques dealer/auctioneer. Reidy has 30+ years experience and is the owner of Discerning Eye, an estate appraisal and disposition planning business. The Morrison House Museum, 140 Pillsbury Rd, Londonderry. See more at www.facebook.com/TownOfLondonderryNHHistoricalSociety

Hop into It!

Join us on Tuesday, May 28, from 4 - 5 p.m. for a program full of high energy fun at the Leach Library. During this program, participants will hear stories of the many different animals that hop. From leaping frogs and hopping bunnies to bouncing kangaroos and jumping fleas, participants will enjoy these exciting tales. We will also learn some fun animal facts and will end our program with a race to see which animal can hop fastest. Each participant will leave with a bouncing plush bunny ball to help them keep the fun hopping along. This adventurous program is open to 90 participants of all ages, and advance registration is required.

Londonderry Rail Trail Spring Clean-up

Londonderry Trailways will hold its annual spring rail trail clean-up Saturday, April 20, from 9 - 11 a.m. Volunteers are asked to meet at the North Elementary School parking lot. Garage bags will be provided. Pick-up trucks are needed, and work boots and work gloves are recommended.

Healthy Kids Day

The YMCA of Greater Londonderry's Healthy Kids Day takes place on Sunday, May 5 at 206 Rockingham Rd., Londonderry, from 1 - 3 p.m. For more information, please contact Lisa Fitzgerald, Branch Director at lfitzgerald@graniteymca.org or call 603.437.9622.

Car Seat Check Event

The Londonderry Child Passenger Safety Program conducts inspection events to check your child's car seat installation. Trained technicians check for recall, proper installation and discuss with the caregiver how to improve the installation and therefore the child's safety. We conduct these inspections twice a month, the 2nd Saturday from 9 a.m. 9 - noon and the last (sometimes 4th) Wednesday night from 6 p.m. - 8 p.m. Appointments are required, please. Inspections are conducted at the Londonderry Fire Rescue South Fire Station 17 Young Road. For more information, or to make an appointment to have your seat(s) checked, please call 603-432-1104 ext. 4623 or via e-mail: cps@londonderrynh.org.

Remembrance Concert

Yom HaShoah Holocaust Remembrance Concert on Wednesday May 1, at 7 p.m., at Etz Hayim Synagogue, 1 1/2 Hood Rd., Derry. A concert of music composed by those who perished or survived the camps. Viktor Ullman's Quartet #3; Gideon Klein's Opus 2; Simon Laks'

String Quartet and Erwin Shuloff's Stucke Fur Streichquartett Performed by NH Lakes Region Symphony String Quartet Including Memorial Candle Lighting, Prayers of Remembrance and Kaddish.

Community Toy Sale

Save the Date! Saturday May 18, at Matthew Thornton Elementary is the Annual Community Toy Sale. It's time to start collecting all those used toys, games, and baby items. Let us sell your gently used toys, while you reap the rewards! All proceeds will be donated to the Londonderry Elementary and Kindergarten PTAs. For consignment sale rules and to register, visit the Leach Library or www.londonderrywomensclub.org/toysale. The event is hosted by the Londonderry Women's Club. Go to www.londonderrywomensclub.org

Opioid addiction forum

An open forum on Opioid addiction will be free to the public on May 16, at 6:30 p.m., at the Londonderry High School. For more info tkoski@londonderrynhpd.org.

Aviation Fun

The museum will have extended hours during spring school vacation week open on Thursday, April 25 from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Families are invited to visit and check out all our exhibits, including the new "Rob Holland Experience," which uses virtual reality to show visitors what it's like to be a world champion aerobatics pilot.

Q & A with Ted Kitchens

Airport of the Manchester-Boston Regional Airport, director Ted Kitchens, will hold a Q&A on Saturday, May 11 at 11 a.m.

Vintage Movie Night

Roman Novarro in 'The Flying Fleet' (1929) Classic aviation drama filmed on location at U.S. Navy bases; silent with live music will be shown on Thursday, May 23 at 7 p.m. at the Aviation Museum. Cost for Londonderry, residents \$5 for members, \$10 for members-yet-to-be.

Revival: Reimagined

Join us for an inclusive day of welcome on May 4, with music, spirituality, and exploration. In the afternoon (1 p.m.), we are

excited to hear the Rev. Tricia Lyons (Missioner for Evangelism and Community Engagement in the Diocese of Washington DC and author of 'Teaching Faith With Harry Potter') as our featured speaker to learn how to share our faith, engage our communities, to make a difference and find deeper peace and meaning in our lives. In the evening (6 p.m.), we will gather for song and celebration and close our day with a festive Eucharist as God's people. Come for all of the day or some. This is a free event that includes dinner and refreshments throughout the day. This event is a collaboration between two Episcopal Churches in Southern New Hampshire, St. Christopher's in Hampstead and St. Peter's in Londonderry, and is funded by a grant given by the Mission Resource Council of the Episcopal Church of New Hampshire. It is open, free of charge to the public, and includes dinner. Our focus area is Southern New Hampshire.

Karaoke Night

Legion's Karaoke Night with DJ Sharon will be held on April 19, starting at 7 p.m. Non-members interested in joining Post 27 are welcome to attend. At 6 Sargent Rd., Londonderry (behind the fire station on Mammoth Road). For more information go to our website www.alpost27.com or call us at 437-6613.

VA Bingo

On April 22, Post 27 will be playing bingo with patients at the VA Hospital in Manchester from 7-8:30 p.m. We'll be serving pizza, donated by 501 Pizza, and diet soda as well as providing \$150 in prize money. For more information go to our website www.alpost27.com or call us at 437-6613,

Londonderry 50+ Softball League

The Londonderry 50+ Softball League is looking for players for the upcoming season. The league is for players 50 and over. The league is primary for Londonderry residents but non-residents are welcomed consistent with town restrictions. We play Tuesdays starting at 6:30 p.m. Expect to start playing sometime in April ending sometime in October. If you

are interested in playing contact Jim Edwards at jimedwards48@comcast.net or call 603-432-5720.

Giant Yard Sale

Londonderry Lions Giant Yard Sale is on April 27, from 8 a.m. - 2 p.m. NO EARLY BIRDS PLEASE! At the Londonderry Lions Hall, Rt. 128, 256 Mammoth Road, across from the Town Common. Donate your goods to the Lions! April 15 thru the Friday before the sale at the Londonderry Lions Shelter. Please, no large kitchen appliances, couches, skis, air conditioners, computers or TV's. Sell your own Goods by renting spaces, by call Tom in advance at 603-548-5011. Proceeds for donated goods and rented spaces to benefit: Lions Local Charities including Local Eye Care.

Free Symphony String Quartet Concert

On May 1, at 7 p.m., to commemorate the Day of Remembrance of the Holocaust and the Heroism ("Yom HaShoah Ve-Hagevurah"), Etz Hayim Synagogue, 1-1/2 Hood Road, Windham, is hosting an evening concert featuring the New Hampshire Lakes Region Symphony String Quartet. In addition to a memorial candle lighting and prayers of remembrance, the Quartet will present music composed by those who perished in or survived the camps: Viktor Ullman's Quartet #3, Gideon Klein's Opus 2; Simon Laks' String Quartet; and Erwin Shuloff's Stucke Fur Streichquartett. The concert is generously supported by Etz Hayim Synagogue of Derry, NH, Etz Hayim's William Einhorn Interfaith Education Fund, and the Jewish Federation of New Hampshire. Although the event is free, we would appreciate those who plan to attend to, if possible, RSVP on Etz Hayim Synagogue's Facebook page.

Londonderry Voter Information

The Supervisors of the Voter Checklist will meet at the Town Clerk's Office to correct the checklist and register voters on May 15, From 6 - 7 p.m. To register to vote, one must provide: Proof of Londonderry residency Proof of citizenship (passport, birth certificate,

Continued on page 19

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Londonderry Police Log

Selections from the Londonderry Police Logs

Monday - April 8

9:46 a.m. Attempted Suicide investigated on Pendleton Lane

10:32 a.m. Assisted Londonderry Fire Dept. on Ricker Avenue.

12:01 p.m. Services rendered for Domestic Disturbance at Peabody Funeral Home on Mammoth Road.

4:18 p.m. Keeping the peace on Yellowstone Drive.

5:14 p.m. Peace restored after Domestic disturbance on Boulder Drive.

5:26 p.m. Suspicious activity investigated by three officers at Walgreen Drug Store on Nashua Road

6:20 p.m. Report of assault leads to arrest on Boulder Drive. Joel Jack-

son, 55, of Londonderry charged with Second Degree Assault.

7:52 p.m. Auto fire extinguished on Pillsbury Road.

8:43 p.m. Services rendered in keeping the peace on Boulder Drive.

11:47 p.m. Three officers investigate a disturbance on White Plains Avenue.

Tuesday - April 9

6:03 a.m. Domestic Disturbance results in Arrest on Boulder Drive. Joel Jackson, 55, of Londonderry charged with Stalking and Default or Breach of Bail Conditions.

11:41 a.m. Suspicious activity at Building on West Road.

3:26 p.m. Three officers investigate suspicious activity on Chase Road.

7:48 p.m. Services rendered for suspicious activity on Galaxy Way.

11:23 p.m. Report of assault leads to arrest on Charleston Avenue. Three officers assist with charging Natasha Maunsell, 33, of Londonderry with Violation of Probation or Parole and two counts of Domestic Violence Simple.

Wednesday - April 10

10:24 to 10:37 a.m. Ten motor vehicles received Citation at LAFA Fields on Sargent Road.

10:45 a.m. Assisted Londonderry Fire Dept. at Felton Brush Inc. on Burton Drive.

1:17 p.m. Warrant Served and Arrest made at Hooksett Police Dept. Dennis

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Around Town

Continued from page 16

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.

Evolve!

A group for young woman ages 13 to 18 to talk about today's challenges meets every Wednesday from 5:30 - 6:30 p.m. at the Upper Room, 36 Tsienneto, Rd. Derry. This is a free weekly group. To register, Call 437-8477 to register ext. 16.

Teen Information for Parenting Success

A weekly support program for young parents ages 13 to 23 will meet every Wednesday, from 5 - 7 p.m. at the Upper Room, 36 Tsienneto, Rd. Derry. This is a free weekly group. Childcare available. Call 437-8477 to register, ext. 12.

Vaping Deterrent Workshop

Do you know someone who is looking to give up

vaping? This workshop will show teens how to break the habit and replace it with healthier options. On Thursday, May 2, from 2:30 to 4 p.m. at the Upper Room, 36 Tsienneto, Rd. Derry. Participants will gain strength by being with other people also trying to quit. This event costs \$25. Call 437-8477 to register, ext. 15. Will also be held on June 6.

Transitions Young Adult Strategies

A new group where young adults can talk about things that are challenging meets every Thursday from 6 - 7 p.m. at the Upper Room, 36 Tsienneto, Rd. Derry. This is a free weekly group. Drop ins welcome. Call 437-8477 to register ext. 24 for more information/options for dates and times.

UR Parents

A weekly Resource group for parents, grandparents and caregivers raising teens meets every Thursday, from 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. at the Upper Room, 36 Tsienneto, Rd. Derry. This is a free weekly group. Drop ins welcome.

Londonderry Early Education Program

Now accepting applications for the 2019-2020 school year! Are you considering preschool for your

child? If your child turned 3 by Sept. 1 and is a Londonderry resident, consider enrolling your child in the Londonderry Early Education Program (LEEP) preschool program. We are a developmentally appropriate preschool that is respectful of the talents and needs of individual children. Our teachers are all certified educators and the program is provided by the Londonderry School District. Programs for three-year old preschoolers meet from 8:45 - 11 a.m. either 2 or 4 days per week and our program for our prekindergarten students meet from 12 - 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. Prekindergarten: \$180 per month for a 3 day per week program and \$200 a month for a 4 day per week program. 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 Kathy Kelley at 437-5855 ext. 7223 Please email Kathy Kelley at kkelley@londonderry.org or Kim Speers at kspeers@londonderry.org.

9:38 a.m. Services rendered for unlawful activities on Longleaf Place.

12:51 p.m. Neighborhood Disputes investigated on Pleasant Drive.

3:19 p.m. Services rendered Suspicious Activity on Heritage Lane.

Friday - April 12

8:20 a.m. Criminal mischief investigated on Capitol Hill Drive.

10:27 a.m. Suspicious activity investigated at Cracker Barrel Old Country Store on Nashua Road.

1:31 p.m. Suspicious activity investigated on Misty Lane.

5:31 p.m. Four officers respond to Disturbance on Woodhenge Circle, which results in transport to hospital.

Saturday - April 13

1:58 a.m. Services ren-

dered for medical emergency on High Range Road.

10:44 a.m. Services rendered for Criminal Threatening at Londonderry Motor Car Company on Rockingham Road.

12:26 p.m. Four officers investigate disturbance at Cinema 12 Theater on Orchard View Drive.

3:21 p.m. Unlawful activities investigated on Cross Road.

8:55 p.m. Overdose on Woodhenge Circle transported to hospital.

10:51 p.m. Criminal Threatening investigated on Capitol Hill Drive.

Sunday - April 14

3:48 a.m. Criminal Mischief investigated on Pleasant Drive.

4:33 a.m. Overdose investigated on Charleston Avenue.

Women's Writing Group

Derry Women's Creative writing group meets the second and fourth Thursdays of every month at the Derry public Library at 6:30 p.m.

Lamplighters

A womans group with the goal of helping less fortunate woman and people in New Hampshire meets the fourth Thursday of the month at 7 p.m. at Londonderry Presbyterian Church at 128 Pillsbury Road, Londonderry. If you have any questions please call 781-866-9976.

Bingo

The Londonderry Senior Center at 535 Mammoth Road in Londonderry, has Bingo every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 12 p.m. to 2 p.m. all seniors over 55 are welcome, come and enjoy the fun. Cash prizes, small fee per card. If you want more information call Senior Center at 432-8554.

Walking Together

A support group for widows and widowers meets every 1st and 3rd Tuesday of the month at 7 p.m., at the Manse at Londonderry Presbyterian Church, 128 Pillsbury Road, Londonderry. When we meet, we walk together our journey of grief. No need to do it alone. If you have any questions, please call 781-866-9976.

12:53 p.m. Assisted Londonderry Fire Dept. with transported to hospital from Hillcrest Lane.

3:02 p.m. Assisted Londonderry Fire Dept. with transport to hospital from All American Assisted Living on Button Drive.

3:32 p.m. Motor vehicle stop leads to arrest on Routeli-93 northbound between Exits 4 and 5. Casey Gurley, 30, of Derry charged with Driving after Revocation or Suspension; Possession of Controlled/Narcotic Drugs; Possession of Drugs (in a motor vehicle); and Failure to Obey Inspection Requirements.

4:22 p.m. Larceny /Forgery/Fraud reported, and arrest made at Verizon Wireless on Nashua Road. Kandice Miceli, 34, of Elmont, N.Y. charged with Attempt to Commit Larceny.

Journey of Hope

Healing through grief and loss due to addiction. Londonderry Senior Center 535 Mammoth Rd., Londonderry. We offer the group on the second and fourth Sundays at 6 - 7:30 p.m. Our mission is to promote healing in the grieving process for those who have lost a loved one through the unique circumstances and chaos of addiction; through education, encouraging support and compassion. Facilitated by: Jim Gamache, Julia Gamache, & Jerry Goncal, Journey-ofhopenh@gmail.com

Greater Manchester Lyme Disease Support

Hosted by David Hunter this group meets on the third Wednesday of every month at 6:30 p.m. at the: Bedford Presbyterian Church 4 Church Road Bedford. For more information call 660-3425 or email dhunter31@gmail.com

Walk with Me

Are you losing or have lost someone? A child, a parent, a sibling or a friend? It can be a painful journey but you don't have to walk it alone anymore. Just come "Walk With Me". Meetings are the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the month at 7 p.m., at the Londonderry Presbyterian Church, 128 Pillsbury Road, Londonderry. If you have any questions please call 781-866-9976.

National Model Railroading

Seacoast Division of the National Model Railroad Association is running their Fun Night program. The program is held the second Friday night of each month, 7 - 9 p.m., at the Marion Garish Community Center, 39 West Broadway, Derry.

Using Molds to make resin parts Rich Breton will be on hand to show examples of various molds, including two part molds, and will spend in time with an interactive discussion and a show and tell type format. Mold making/casting is a way to get small detail parts not otherwise available. Always a part of the program is Model Showcase where modelers bring in the latest project they are working on to show and discuss. We will set up a swap table so bring anything that you would want to give away, sell or swap. Remember, one man's junk is another man's treasure. If you are interested in model trains and would like to join other like-minded hobbyists from beginner to expert for a fun evening program come to Derry Fun Night the second Friday of each month. For additional information go to the Division's website at seacoastnmra.org/calendar.

Child Find

Free Community Child Find Program for all Londonderry residents ages two half years through five years, eleven months of age who are suspected of having vision or hearing problems or developmental concerns. The Child Find Program will be held at Londonderry early education program (LEEP) Moose Hill School located at 150 Pillsbury Rd., on April 4. we encourage parents of preschoolers to set up an appointment if they have any concerns. For more information, or to schedule an appointment, call: Kathy Kelley 437-5855, ext. 7223 between 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. No Child Will Be Seen Without An Appointment.

Police Log

Continued from page 18

Bishop, 22, of Hooksett Charge with Identity Fraud: nine counts of Fraudulent Use Of Credit Card; Theft; Receiving Stolen Property; and Theft By Deception.

4:24 p.m. Services rendered in keeping the peace on Yellowstone Drive.

5:04 p.m. Neighborhood disputes investigated on Constitution Drive.

5:25 p.m. Criminal Mischief investigated on Nashua Road at High Range Road.

10:11 p.m. Services rendered for Neighborhood Disputes on Kestree Drive.

Thursday - April 11

9:29 a.m. Services rendered for suspicious activity at Homegoods on Michels Way

Seeking for Historical Events

Seeking Military Reenactors, Military Displays (Vehicles, Equipment, etc.) from any time period. Londonderry Historical Society is looking for any interested groups or individuals who would be interested in celebrating our 300th and/or forming a relationship to participate in our functions throughout the year. If you or your group is interested please contact Roger Fillio at 603-434-1694 or email rogerfillio@myfairpoint.net.

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