

LONDONDERRY TOWN LANTERN

APRIL 22, 2024



In honor of Earth Day, in this issue of the *Lantern*, I'd like to address the important topic of environmental protection and land stewardship within our community. Londonderry's commitment to maintaining open spaces and conserving natural resources is one of the things that sets Londonderry apart. Our efforts in preserving open spaces serve multiple purposes, including limiting growth and development, providing areas for recreation, safeguarding biodiversity, and maintaining the aesthetic appeal of our town. These spaces are invaluable assets that contribute to our quality of life and well-being.

A healthy natural environment also ensures that there are plenty of quality, free, outdoor recreational opportunities. I had an opportunity to explore some of our Town's trails recently, and I encourage all of you to do the same. Inside, you'll find some information on recreation opportunities on public land in Londonderry.

We all have an active role in protecting our environment. Whether it's participating in local clean-up events like the one to be held by Beautify Londonderry on May 4, supporting conservation initiatives like those undertaken by the Conservation Commission, or adopting sustainable practices in your daily lives, our contributions are essential in preserving the ecological balance of our community. Together, we can work towards securing a sustainable future for generations of Londonderry residents to come.

Mike Malaguti, Town Manager

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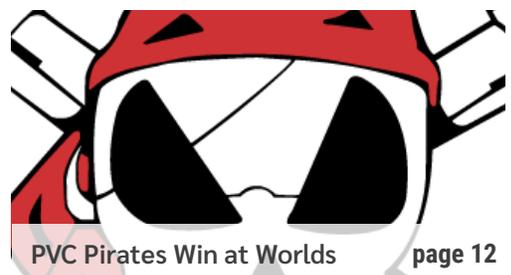
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BEAUTIFY LONDONDERRY GOES BEYOND CLEANUPS

Beautify Londonderry has been working to enhance Londonderry’s landscape and foster a sense of pride in our community since the early 2000s. This is one of the Town’s working committees, organized around producing events and education for members of the community. But this isn’t just any committee—it’s a powerhouse of positivity with a mission to make Londonderry’s public space as clean and aesthetically pleasing as possible. From organizing clean-up extravaganzas to hosting educational events that inspire residents to reduce waste and recycle like champions, their mission is to empower Londonderry’s citizens to share in the responsibility of upkeeping our public spaces. The Committee works year-round to develop and implement initiatives such as running the Sponsor-a-Road program and maintaining the five large blue “Welcome to Londonderry” signs on the major roads leading into town.



Beautify Londonderry is currently seeking one full member and two alternate members. So, if you’re ready to roll up your sleeves, get your hands dirty (in the best possible way), and be part of a dynamic team dedicated to making Londonderry shine, then Beautify Londonderry is the place for you. For more information, please reach out to chair Joy Muller at jmuller@tolboards.org or visit the committee page on the Town website at londonderrynh.gov/beautify-londonderry.

Beautify Londonderry

Annual Spring Cleanup

All ages welcome!
No sign-up necessary.

Saturday May 4th, 9-12
Matthew Thornton Elementary



We supply gloves & bags; just bring energy and a volunteer spirit.

and...

Colbie’s Cones at Sunnycrest Farm will gift each volunteer with a free small cone!



TAKE A HIKE

- on - LONDONDERRY'S CONSERVATION LAND & TRAILS

Want a rugged trail network for hiking or mountain biking? Or maybe you're in the mood for a nice meander in the woods with plenty of places to sit? Then again, you might be in the mood for a flat, paved path where you can walk with your dog and a stroller. No matter which of these you're craving, there's a place for you to spend time outside in Londonderry. Many of these areas are owned by the Town for the purpose of conservation.

When using these trails, please follow all posted rules and regulations. For the full trail details and maps, please see the Outdoor Recreation Guide featuring public land in Londonderry at londonderrynh.gov/trails.



Clockwise from left: A lady's slipper growing in the Musquash; a young hiker takes a break from a spring walk; Dr. David Ellis of the Londonderry Historical Society leading a cellar hole tour through the Musquash

The **Musquash Conservation Area** features more than 20 miles of trails over more than 1,000 acres open to hiking, mountain biking, and cross-country skiing. Spread throughout the forest are cellar holes remaining from when this was an inhabited area of Londonderry. Trails can be rugged and uneven, but are well-marked and a map is available for download. Parking is provided at multiple trail heads.

If you're in the mood for more wetlands, head down to the **Kendall Pond Conservation Area**. Hike the loop trail that edges along Beaver Brook and the marshland for prime wildlife viewing. After your walk, you can take to the water in your kayak or pause to fish on the banks of Kendall Pond. Trail maps and a parking lot are available.



In the center of Town behind the Londonderry Town Common sits the **Kent Allen Town Forest**, a wonderful place for a leisurely afternoon stroll with plenty of benches to sit, talk, and enjoy the day. Most of the trails are wide and well-graded. Parking and portable toilets (in the summer) are available at the Common.

The **Londonderry Rail Trail** consists of 4.5 miles of paved trail along a former railroad bed in North Londonderry. Managed by Londonderry Trailways, this is an excellent path for all ages and abilities. Alongside walkers, you'll find cyclists, roller bladers, skiers, and even the occasional horse! Park across from North School or at the Exit 5 Park & Ride. This trail will eventually be part of the Granite State Rail Trail, running 125 miles from Salem to Lebanon.



Left to right: Marshland at the Kendall Pond Conservation area in fall; wetlands along the Londonderry Rail Trail in summer.



FACEBOOK FAQ: RECYCLING QUESTIONS

We asked Londonderry residents on Facebook to give us their questions about Town recycling.

Can we put our yard waste in our curbside pick-up can?

No, please DO NOT put yard waste of any type in your curbside trash or recycling. This is actually prohibited by state law. Londonderry accepts yard waste at the Drop-Off Center for no charge.

Can I put a small metal object, like a small ironing board, in the trash/recycling bin?

No, please do not put medium-size household objects, furniture, appliances, or electronics in your curbside pick-up bin. Curbside pick-up is meant for municipal solid waste, which is small household garbage and trash. Just because an object fits does not mean it belongs in the bin; please bring these items to the Drop-Off center (a fee may apply).

24%

of the tonnage that Londonderry collects is recycling. That number has remained fairly stable despite the fact that the quantity of things being recycled is increasing. Why? Recyclables are getting lighter, meaning that even though the amount increases, the proportion doesn't go up as quickly.

How much of what we put in the recycling bin actually gets recycled and where does it go?

Our recycling is all handled by Waste Management, who then brings it to a materials recovery facility in Billerica, Massachusetts. There, the recyclables are sorted, baled, and then sold. The benefit of using Waste Management is that they are a large corporation with a large network of buyers. They have a stated policy that no baled materials will ever go to a landfill.

Does the Town provide compost bins?

No, the Town does not have compost bins or pick-up. Residents are encouraged to use backyard bins if they would like to compost.

Where can I donate/recycle used running shoes or sneakers?

Gently used shoes can be brought to local thrift shops or consignment stores. If your shoes have seen so many miles that they are beyond their useful life, we suggest searching for a company online who will recycle them into new shoes. Beware of cash-for-recycling scams, though!

Where can I recycle cardboard boxes when the Drop-Off Center is closed?

They can be cut up and recycled in your curbside bin. The best way to position them in your bin is to break them down fully and put them up against the outside edges of the bin.

What types of plastics can actually be recycled?

Londonderry recycles **rigid** plastics, regardless of the symbol. Generally, #1 & #2 plastics are the most useful to recyclers. The one type of plastic that should NOT go in your recycling is #6 (styrofoam).

Can I recycle batteries in Londonderry?

Yes, you can bring your batteries to the Drop-Off center to recycle, or to the Department of Public Works in Town Hall. The Town encourages recycling of rechargeable, lithium, or button cell batteries. Regular alkaline batteries can go in the trash; however, you can bring them to be recycled if you prefer. Staples in Londonderry also has an extensive, free recycling program for batteries, ink, and all types of technology; please visit the store or staples.com for details.



NO PLASTIC BAGS OR FILM

belong in your recycling! It can jam up the machine and cause expensive down time, driving up recycling costs. If it can't hold its own shape (trash bags, bread wrappers, shopping bags, etc) it goes in the trash.

Battery recycling box from Staples in Londonderry. Staples also accepts cell phones. Remember to clear your device!



COMMUNITY CHOICE AGGREGATION UPDATE

At the April 22 Town Council meeting, Utilities Committee chair Lynn Wiles, along with representatives from Freedom Logistics and Colonial Power, provided an update on the progress of the Community Choice Aggregation Program for the Town of Londonderry. Community Choice Aggregation is a an optional electricity buying group organized by a community in order to secure the best possible rates for residents and businesses by purchasing in scale. The buying group puts out a bid to energy suppliers, and negotiates a rate per hour for a certain contracted amount of time.

Here are some important facts to know about Community Choice Aggregation:

- ❑ The program is opt-out, meaning that when it begins, all eligible Eversource customers would be rolled in unless they opt-out. However, consumers can opt out or in at the end of any billing cycle.
- ❑ Eversource would still service the delivery side (poles, wires, and maintenance) and residents will continue to be billed by Eversource. The difference is that the energy supply would come from elsewhere.
- ❑ The program would not go into effect unless the negotiated rate is below the Eversource rate. The rate is contracted for a period of time. The rate may not always be below the Eversource rate, but the program is designed to save residents and business money over the course of each contract from long-term stability.
- ❑ Net metered customers (those who contribute back to the grid through sources such as solar panels) will NOT be automatically rolled in, because the program cannot provide a net metering credit. Net metered customers may opt-in on their own.

The next step in the process will be a series of two public hearings, followed by approval from the Council, then a regulatory review. Residents will likely see the change take effect near the end of 2024. Before the transition happens, the program will undertake a public information campaign to make sure residents are informed.

COUNCIL VOTES TO ACCEPT GRANT FUNDING FOR OPIOID ADDICTION & SUBSTANCE ABUSE



The Town Council voted unanimously on April 22 to accept grant funds totaling \$178,000 to fund a full-time Londonderry Police Department detective through 2025 to focus on opioid addiction and substance abuse in the community. Funding comes from the Comprehensive Opioid, Stimulant, and Substance Abuse Site-based Program (COSSAP) administered by the US Bureau of Justice and is in partnership with the New Hampshire Department of Justice.

To date, the Londonderry Police Department has experienced success with a detective working on this program on a part-time basis. This award will allow the department to designate a detective to work full-time to build a program to proactively address issues of opioid addiction and substance abuse within Londonderry. This detective will work on community outreach about addiction, coordinate and direct people to resources available locally and state-wide, partner with other local groups on substance abuse

prevention initiatives, and serve as a point of contact for residents to reach out to with concerns about their loved ones dealing with addiction.

The purpose of a program like this, explained Police Chief Kim Bernard, is to build long-term trust between the Department and those affected by opioid addiction and substance abuse. By providing a dedicated contact for crisis moments, Bernard said, "we follow through on our commitment to community."

Once the program is fully underway, the Police Department will hold informational sessions and publicize how all Londonderry's residents can make use of and benefit from its resources.

If you or a loved one is dealing with opioid addiction or substance abuse, please reach out to Detective Sergeant Chris Olson at 603-432-1118 for help.

Now registering: Leadership Londonderry Class of 2024-25

Leadership Londonderry is a program designed to educate, inform, develop and motivate residents for leadership roles in the community and beyond. The purpose of the program is to educate participants about the operations, fiscal management, and issues of local government. The dynamic, fast-track curriculum provides an in-depth orientation regarding all local government functions as well as an opportunity for interaction with current community leaders.

Leadership Londonderry is a joint venture between the Town, School District, and private organizations. Any resident of Londonderry over the age of 18 may participate. The class works best when limited to a maximum of 18-20 participants. For 2024-2025, the program will be first-come, first-served with an enrollment cap of 20 and a waitlist. There is an \$80 fee per person to help cover program costs.

Leadership Londonderry meets one Thursday per month during the months of September through May, generally from 4:30 PM – 7:30 PM. Some sessions will end earlier than 7:30 PM; some may wrap a bit closer to 8:00 PM. Topics covered during the nine-month program include Town government, School government, public safety (police, fire, and public works), planning & economic development, finance & the budgetary process, environmental issues, zoning & code enforcement, Londonderry schools, Manchester-Boston Regional Airport, and quality of life.

To register, please visit londonderrynh.myrec.com and sign up thorough there. For questions about the program of study, please contact Program Managers Mark Oswald (603-867-5800; markoswald@masiello.com) or Pollyann Winslow (603-858-6696; pollyann9@gmail.com) or visit the program website at londonderrynh.gov/leadership-londonderry.

For questions about registration, For questions about registration, please contact Doug Cole at dcole@londonderrynh.org or 603-437-2675 (Recreation Hotline). If you are a Londonderry-based organization or member of a Town or School department and would like to be part of a presentation or workshop, please reach out to Kirsten Hildonen at khildonen@londonderrynh.org or 603-432-1100 x153.



Discover the Future of Manchester-Boston Regional Airport at Aviation Museum Event

Keen to know about the latest airline arrivals and upcoming routes at Manchester-Boston Regional Airport? Eager to understand the airport’s cargo operations and future developments? Then save the date: May 9th at 7 p.m., at the Aviation Museum of N.H. at 27 Navigator Road in Londonderry.

At the ‘Ask the Airport Director’ presentation, Ted Kitchens, the aviation director of Manchester-Boston Regional Airport, will provide firsthand insights. Under Kitchens’ direction, cargo traffic at the Manchester-Boston Regional Airport has continued to expand, making it the third-busiest cargo terminal in New England, while on the passenger side, the number of low-cost airlines providing new routes is still increasing, giving travelers more options than ever to fly out close to home and avoid Logan traffic.



Ted Kitchens A.A.E., director of Manchester-Boston Regional Airport admires a Northeast Airlines DC-9 presentation model (an aircraft that served Manchester 1966-72) at the Aviation Museum of N.H.

As part of the museum’s ‘Exploring Aviation’ series, this free event offers a unique platform for public interaction with airport leadership. The event is sponsored by Hoyle Tanner and Grappone Auto. For more information on this and other Aviation Museum events, visit aviationmuseumofnh.org or call (603) 669-4820.

LEACH LIBRARY HAPPENINGS

Free Comic Book Day & Star Wars Day

Stop by the Leach Library on Saturday, May 4 during regular hours for two fun celebrations!

Check out the Free Comic Book Day activities in the Main Reading Room. During this all-day event, visitors

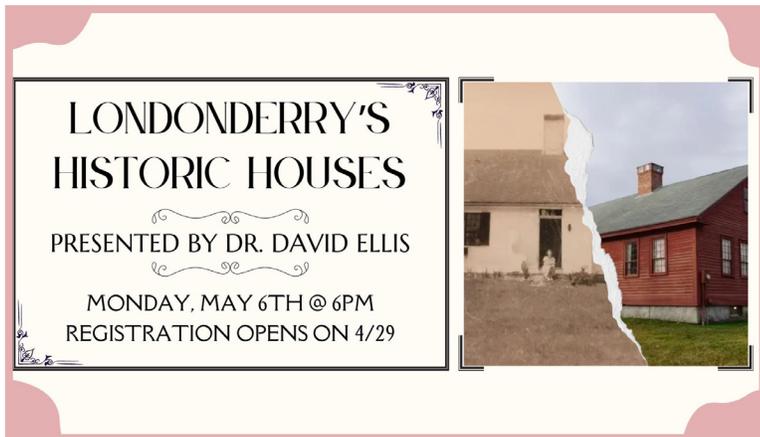
may receive a free comic book (one person per person while supplies last). After getting your free comic book, stop by the teen section to pick up supplies to create your very own DIY comic at the library or at home!

Then visit the Star Wars Day display in the Main Reading Room where you can take a selfie with C-3PO and R2D2! There will also be an action figure inspired photobooth set up for patrons to pose with a lightsaber prop. All visitors are encouraged to dress up as their favorite character! These drop-in activities are open to all ages and registration is not required.

Ewok Catapults



Kids are invited to celebrate May the 4th at 10:00 a.m. at the Leach Library by making pint-sized catapults using popsicle sticks, rubber bands, and bottle caps. Once finished, we'll test them to see if the catapults will help the Ewoks in battle. Registration is required and begins on Saturday, April 27. To register, visit the library's online event calendar or call (603) 432-1127.



LONDONDERRY'S
HISTORIC HOUSES
PRESENTED BY DR. DAVID ELLIS
MONDAY, MAY 6TH @ 6PM
REGISTRATION OPENS ON 4/29



Londonderry's Historical Houses

Come to the Leach Library on Monday, May 6 at 6:00 p.m. for a presentation on Londonderry's historical houses. Learn about our town's history from local historian and member of the Londonderry Historical Society, Dr. David Ellis. Registration is required and opens on Monday, April 29. To register, visit the library's online event calendar or call (603) 432-1132.

Bird of Prey Demonstration with Monadnock Falconry

Join the Leach Library staff on Thursday, May 16 at 6:00 p.m. at McDermott Field for a live bird of prey demonstration with Master Falconer Henry Walters from Monadnock Falconry!

Henry earned his falconry license in Massachusetts before eventually moving to New Hampshire, where he worked as a seasonal raptor biologist for New Hampshire Audubon and co-founded the New Hampshire Young Birders Club. As a teacher, naturalist, and writer, Henry has found ways to make environmental education a creative endeavor.



Monadnock Falconry offers the chance for nature enthusiasts of all ages to imagine life as a bird of prey. The hour-long program gives the opportunity to meet a Harris's Hawk and see it on the wing, while answering all your questions about their life histories and relation to their human handlers. This program has a rain date of Thursday, May 30 at 6:00 p.m.

McDermott Field is located within the LAFA Complex at 17 Sargent Road in Londonderry. This program is open to the public, and registration is not required. For more information, call the library at (603) 432-1132.

NEWS AROUND TOWN

Clerks' Corner

April is Dog Registration Month!

Dog registration may happen annually in April, but your Town Clerk would like to remind you to let the clerks know year-round if your very good boy or girl no longer lives in Londonderry. As of this newsletter, we have about **2218 dogs left to be registered for this year**. All dogs over four months old must be registered. You can register your dog online or in person in the Clerk's office.

WHY DO I NEED TO REGISTER MY DOG?

Dog registration is required under State of New Hampshire law (RSA 444:1). The revenue raised from dog registration goes toward statewide rabies testing programs to keep all animals - and people! - safe. Plus, registering your dog means that if they are talented escape artists, Londonderry Police can help get them home.

Please reach out to the Town Clerk's office with any questions at 603-432-1100 x195. More information on dog registration can be found at londonderrynh.gov/dogs.



Town of Londonderry Employment Opportunities

The Town of Londonderry is seeking applicants for the following positions:

For full job descriptions and more information on how to apply, please visit londonderrynh.gov/human-resources.



Recreation Department
Part Time



Town Planner
Planning & Economic Development
Full Time



Summer Voyageur Camp Counselor
Recreation Department
Part Time (summer)



Solid Waste Attendant
Department of Public Works & Engineering
Part Time



Truck Driver/Laborer
Department of Public Works & Engineering
Full Time



Certified Police Officers
For info, contact Sgt. Justin Hallock at:
jhallock@londonderrynhpd.gov or (603) 425-5916
Apply at www.policeapp.com

Londonderry Senior Center

Presents:



Thursday May 9, 2024

11am-12pm

535 Mammoth Rd, Londonderry NH 03053 // 603-432-8554

Come join Visiting Angels President Susan Carman to learn about the process of aging in place. She will explain the benefits of aging in place and go over things you should do to ensure the safety of your loved one, along with resources that would be helpful to have on hand.

Members of the Londonderry Senior Center, their family members and residents of Londonderry are all welcome. Please call 603-432-8554 to sign up.



ALZHEIMER'S AND DEMENTIA EDUCATION YOU CAN TRUST

Londonderry Senior Center

535 Mammoth Rd, Londonderry NH 03053

Thursday, May 16, 2024 // 12:00pm

Please join us to learn about the warning signs of Alzheimer's Disease and the importance of an early diagnosis. A review of lifestyle choices that impact the aging process such as nutrition, exercise, cognitive activity and social engagement will also be covered.

The 10 Warning signs of Alzheimer's

This education program will help you recognize common signs of the disease in yourself and others, and includes next steps to take, including how to talk to your doctor

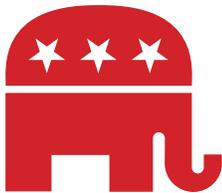
Healthy Living for your Brain and Body

Lifestyle choices impact the aging process. Learn about important research into diet and nutrition, exercise, cognitive activity and social engagement. Use hands-on tools to develop a plan for healthy aging.

Londonderry Senior Center Members and Londonderry Seniors are welcome to attend. Please contact 603-432-8554 to sign up.

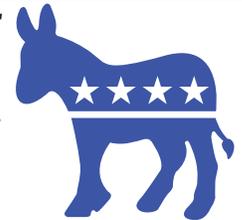
AN ITALIAN LUNCH WILL BE SERVED

seating is limited // \$3.00



LAST DAY FOR PARTY CHANGES BEFORE THE SEPTEMBER PRIMARY IS JUNE 4, 2024.

Change your party in the Town Clerk's office during normal business hours or attend the Supervisors of the Checklist session on Tuesday, May 7 from 6:00-7:00 pm. For more information, please visit londonderrynh.gov/vote.



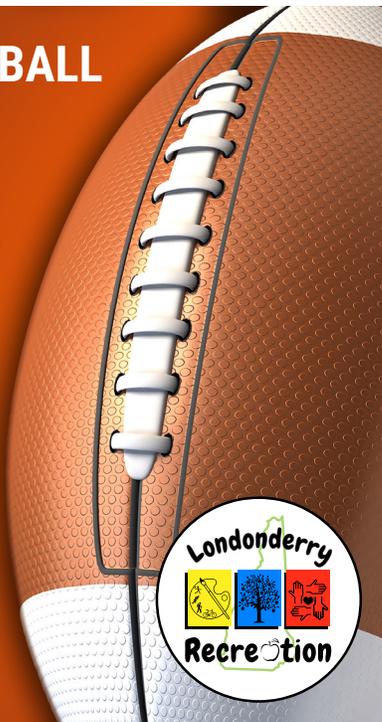
CO-ED ADULT FLAG FOOTBALL

Saturdays, 5/11 to 6/29
Games at 1pm, 2pm, or 3pm

\$119 per player
18+; deadline to register 5/1

Londonderry Recreation is partnering with 22:6 Athletics, LLC to offer this league. Both team and free agency registration is available.

londonderrynh.myrec.com



Thanks to this issue's contributors:

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Donna Plante
Sean O'Donnell
Brendon Saranich

Would you like us to write about your event or organization? Have a photo for us to use? We'd love to hear from you!

Senior Center Calendar

535 Mammoth Road, Londonderry
londonderrynh.gov/senior-affairs

May 2024						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	09:00 Cards/Games 10:00 Chair Exercise	09:00 Cards/Games 09:00 Yoga	09:00 Cards/Games 10:00 Knit/Crochet/Crafts	09:00 Cards/Games 09:00 Yoga	09:00 Cards/Games 10:00 Chair Exercise	
	11:00 Bone Builder 11:00 Meals on Wheels 12:15 Cribbage 12:00 Mah Jongg 12:30 Ceramics 12:30 Line Dancing	10:00 Chair Exercise 11:00 Meals on Wheels 12:15 Bingo	10:00 Chair Exercise 10:30 Walking Club 11:00 Meals on Wheels 12:15 Bingo	10:00 Chair Exercise 11:00 Meals on Wheels 12:15 Cribbage 12:30 Cornhole	11:00 Bone Builders 11:00 Meals on Wheels 12:00 Diamond Art 12:30 Tai Chi	
28-Apr	29-Apr	30-Apr	1-May	2-May	3-May	4-May
				Visiting Angels Presentation 11am-12pm		
5-May	6-May	7-May	8-May	9-May	10-May	11-May
				10-12 Hearing Test	9:30 Book Club	
12-May	13-May	14-May	15-May	16-May	17-May	18-May
Mother's Day			10:00 Murder Mystery	Alzheimer's Presentation and Luncheon 12pm-1pm	12:15 Greeting Card Class	
19-May	20-May	21-May	22-May	23-May	24-May	25-May
				AARP Smart Tech Presentation 10:30am		
26-May	27-May	28-May	29-May	30-May	31-May	1-Jun
	Closed Memorial Day		BIRTHDAY CAKE	Off Our Rockers 11:30am		

Leach Library Calendar

May 2024

Register for events at londonderrynh.gov/leach-library

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Program Key: Children Young Adult Adult * Registration Required		1 7:00pm: Board of Trustees Meeting	2 10-12: Drop-In Tech Help	3	4 All Day: Free Comic Book Day & Star Wars Day 10:00am: Ewok Catapults*
6 6:00pm: Londonderry's Historical Houses with Dr. David Ellis*	7 9:00am: Little Sprouts* 10:30am: Wiggle Worms*	8 10:30am: Wiggle Worms* 4:00pm: Crafternoon	9 10-12: Drop-In Tech Help	10	11 12:00pm: Family Yoga with Lauren Young*
13 Puzzle & Board Game Collection Begins 1:00pm: Friends of the Library Meeting 4:30pm: Craft Time*	14 9:00am: Little Sprouts* 10:30am: Wiggle Worms* 3:30pm: Apple Byte Open Play*	15 10:30am: Wiggle Worms*	16 10-12: Drop-In Tech Help 6:00pm: Bird of Prey Demo with Monadnock Falconry @ McDermott Field	17	18 Puzzle & Board Game Collection Ends
20 10-7: Puzzle & Board Game Exchange	21 9:00am: Little Sprouts* 10:30am: Wiggle Worms*	22 10:30am: Wiggle Worms* 11:30am: Mystery Lovers Book Discussion*	23 10-12: Drop-In Tech Help 10:00am: Duplo* 4:30pm: Lego*	24	25 10:00am: Tinker Time
27 Library Closed	28	29 4:00pm: Block by Block Coding Club and Maker Lab*	30 10-12: Drop-In Tech Help 6:00pm: Monadnock Falconry (rain date)	31	



PUBLIC MEETINGS – MAY 2024

In accordance with RSA 91-A:2, you are hereby notified that the following boards, commissions, and committees will meet on the indicated days at the indicated times and locations.

Planning Board	Wednesday, May 1	7:00 p.m.	Moose Hill Council Chambers
Leach Library Board of Trustees	Wednesday, May 1	7:00 p.m.	Leach Library Meeting Room 276 Mammoth Road
LHRA	Monday, May 6	6:30 p.m.	Sunnycrest Conference Room
Town Council	Monday, May 6	7:00 p.m.	Moose Hill Council Chambers
Supervisors of the Checklist	Tuesday, May 7	6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.	Town Clerk's Office
Utilities Committee	Tuesday, May 7	7:00 p.m.	Moose Hill Council Chambers
Planning Board	Wednesday, May 8	7:00 p.m.	Moose Hill Council Chambers
Planning Board – Special Meeting	Thursday, May 9	7:00 p.m.	Moose Hill Council Chambers
Londonderry Arts Council	Thursday, May 9	7:00 p.m.	Sunnycrest Conference Room
Recreation Commission	Monday, May 13	7:30 p.m.	Sunnycrest Conference Room
Conservation Commission	Tuesday, May 14	7:30 p.m.	Moose Hill Council Chambers
Zoning Board of Adjustment	Wednesday, May 15	7:00 p.m.	Moose Hill Council Chambers
Budget Committee	Thursday, May 16	6:30 p.m.	Sunnycrest Conference Room
Old Home Day Committee	Thursday, May 16	6:00 p.m.	Moose Hill Council Chambers
Beautify Londonderry	Monday, May 20	6:00 p.m.	Sunnycrest Conference Room
Town Council	Monday, May 20	7:00 p.m.	Moose Hill Council Chambers
Senior Resources Committee	Tuesday, May 21	6:00 p.m.	Sunnycrest Conference Room
Trustees of the Trust Fund	Thursday, May 23	11:00 a.m.	Sunnycrest Conference Room
Heritage Commission	Thursday, May 23	7:00 p.m.	Moose Hill Council Chambers
Conservation Commission	Tuesday, May 28	7:30 p.m.	Moose Hill Council Chambers

Please note that this list of meetings is not meant to be exhaustive. Other public meetings may be added as need dictates, and they will be individually noticed as required by NH RSA 91-A:2. Unless otherwise indicated, all meetings take place at Londonderry Town Hall, 268B Mammoth Road, Londonderry, NH 03053.

SCHOOLS & COMMUNITY

PVC PIRATES PREVAIL: LHS ROBOTICS TEAM SAILS TO VICTORY AT WORLDS



Last week, the Londonderry High School PVC Pirates Robotics Team capped off a season of expansion and excellence with a victory at the *FIRST* Robotics Competition world championships held in Houston, Texas. Londonderry's team placed first in their division, defeating 74 other teams to win a Division Championship and secure one of only 32 division titles. Over 1000 teams from 58 countries competed across multiple divisions at the world championships this year.

Londonderry High School has competed in the *FIRST* Robotics Competition program for more than 20 years, and the team is growing in both success and the number of participants. *FIRST* is a robotics community that prepares

young people for the future through a suite of inclusive, team-based robotics programs for ages 4-18. The program encourages problem solving, fosters independent thinking, builds technical skills, and teaches teamwork ability. Lead programmer Sean O'Donnell signed up for the program last year as a junior, and knew nothing about programming. In addition to programming knowledge, O'Donnell (now a senior) explained that being part of the team, "taught you how to learn," which improved his ability to expand his own skills.

Each year, the *FIRST* organization issues a specific challenge that competing teams have to design a robot to meet. This year's challenge, called *CRESCENDO*, involved directives including shooting foam rings, placing objects in designated slots, and climbing a chain. The PVC Pirates constructed their robot, Black Pearl, to meet this specific series of tasks.

The PVC Pirates team is made up of about 25 LHS students, 17 of whom traveled to Houston to compete accompanied by four of their adult mentors. The team enjoyed a dominant run through early season tournaments, including qualifying matches in Salem, NH and at the University of Rhode Island, and at the New England regional competition at the Big E in Springfield, Massachusetts, all in March. At the Salem qualifying event, the team won their first ever Autonomous Award. During the first 15 seconds of the event, their robot was required to perform on its own based on coding without a team member driving it, and Black Pearl performed these tasks with outstanding consistency to earn the PVC Pirates the award.

Along their path to the world championship, the PVC Pirates received support not only from a skilled group of mentors, but also from the community at large. "We're very grateful for the incredible assistance from not only our mentors, but also the High School, our sponsors, and the community for their help in making this happen," stated LHS senior & team captain Brendon Saranich. The team was sponsored by Londonderry High School, The Weather Channel, SL Chasse Steel, Londonderry Foundation for STEM Education, Fleet Ready Corp, and Dysfunctional Training.

Have a suggestion for a future issue? Send ideas, suggestions, requests & feedback to Kirsten Hildonen at 603-432-1100 x153 or khildonen@londonderrynh.org.