



The new year is upon us, and for me, the change in the calendar is an opportunity for reflection and for new beginnings. Looking back at 2023, I'm proudest that we continued to improve upon the already high level of service Town staff provide to residents. We're also closer to full staffing across Town departments than ever before, which is quite an accomplishment in this labor market. We continue to carefully manage the budget and aggressively seek new sources of revenue.

Here at Town Hall, we are also busy making plans for an exciting year ahead. In this issue you'll read about a brand-new Recreation Department logo and reservation system and our newest police recruit, Rioux the comfort dog. This year, we will commemorate our 125th annual Old Home Day celebration with our best festivities yet.

2024 is also a big year for elections, with four on the horizon, starting with the Presidential Primary on January 23 and then the town and school elections on March 12. Voting is the best way to have your voice heard by your government; we hope to see you at the LHS gymnasium when you cast your ballot. I also encourage you to look at open positions and consider seeking an elected or appointed position yourself.

My best wishes for a happy and healthy 2024.

Wike Malaguti, Town Manager

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Officer Rioux on Duty

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Londonderry's newest police officer is a very good boy.

At least, that's what his first puppy school report card said! But anyone who has met Rioux - Rio for short - can vouch for the fact that this 10-week-old Bernadoodle puppy has a bright future as the Londonderry Police Department's first comfort dog.

Rio officially joined the LPD on December 18, 2023, when Police Chief Kim Bernard introduced him to Londonderry at the Town Council meeting. Rio's recruitment to the force was made possible by a collaborative effort between LPD, the Town Manager, and generous partners in the community, without using taxpayer funds.

Chief Bernard had been looking into getting Londonderry a comfort dog for several months before Rio's arrival. Comfort dogs serve as a bridge between police and the community, helping to break the ice and put people at ease in difficult situations. In conversations with other police chiefs around New Hampshire, Chief Bernard heard overwhelmingly positive feedback about comfort dogs, with some departments going so far as to call it the best program they had. The idea of a new furry officer had widespread support within the LPD, where several officers advocated to introduce the program in Londonderry.



When Chief Bernard began his search for a suitable dog, he knew he wanted a dog that was distinctive, but also calm, reliable, and patient. It was luck that led him to learn that **the Rioux family of Dunbarton** had a Bernadoodle puppy that fit the description perfectly. The Riouxs generously agreed to discount Rio's adoption fee after learning what his role would mean for the community. Chief Bernard was able to secure an anonymous donor to cover the remaining fee, clearing the way for Rio (named, of course, for the family he came from) to find his new home in Londonderry.

"LONDONDERRY IS A COMMUNITY FULL OF PEOPLE WHO CARE, PEOPLE WHO ARE GOOD TO THE CORE - THE SUPPORT FOR RIO JUST ADDS TO THAT."

-Chief Kim Bernard

As anyone who has a dog knows, their care can be expensive: vet visits, food, and treats can add up. Fortunately, this is another area where the Londonderry community stepped up to donate goods and services. Phil Mahoney of <u>Sit Means Sit in Londonderry</u> volunteered his services to train Rio and his human partner. <u>Londonderry Animal Clinic</u> will be taking care of all his health needs. <u>Honey Dog Salon & Bakery of</u>

<u>Londonderry</u> will keep Rio's adorable fluff looking sharp. <u>Pets Plus of Londonderry</u>, through a partnership with <u>Fromm Family Pet Food</u>, will provide Rio with food for life. Last but not least, the <u>Rotary Club of Londonderry</u> provided a generous donation for anything else Rio might need.

In a few weeks, Rio will begin his comfort dog training academy. After that, you can expect to see Rio at community events, schools, senior communities, and any place where his presence can help calm and support those who need it.

...AND MEET RIOUX'S HUMAN PARTNER: OFFICER SEAN BENOIT

Comfort dogs have the ability to bridge differences and help people deal with anxiety in their worst moments. The same traits that a comfort dog needs - approachability, a calm demeanor, steadiness - are the things that make Officer Sean Benoit the ideal handler for Rio. Before receiving his canine partner, Officer Benoit was the student resource officer at Londonderry Middle School. Rio will live with Officer Benoit and his family, where he has already made friends with his new doggy sister Millie and staked out a prime spot to snooze in the sun by the sliding glass door.



RECREATION DEPARTMENT ROLLS OUT NEW LOGO AND REGISTRATION PORTAL

The Recreation Department has a few significant changes that we're excited about launching at the start of the New Year for our Londonderry residents!



From late September to late
November, the Londonderry Recreation
Department ran a logo design contest.
After the contest closed, our panel
of judges looked over the seven
submissions to determine which
design would best incorporate our
department's mission and vision. We
are pleased to unveil the winning logo,
based on a design submitted by **Ashley Hanson** of Londonderry.

Our new logo will be used on our website, across our social media, and for other marketing and branding purposes, including promotional tools and apparel. The design reflects all the different types of activities supported by the Recreation Department, our goal of bringing people together, and, of course, the Town of Londonderry itself.

In January, our department will also be launching our online registration software on **MyRec.com**. This system will be used for all program and activity registrations. It will also provide facility and department information in the coming months. Londonderry residents and families are encouraged to create an account now in order to see the winter programs and events available once the system launches on Monday, January 1st.

The direct link to the registration software can be found here: londonderrynh.myrec.com.

Please see page 10 for a complete list of Winter 2024 recreation programs that are open for registration.

Winter 2024 programs and events are available for registration either using the new MyRec.com system or mailing/dropping off registration forms and payment to Town Hall.



For more information about our department and offerings, please visit our website at londonderrynh.gov/recreation.

BETTER FENCES MAKE A BETTER TOWN COMMON

ith the approval from the Heritage Committee, the Department of Public Works replaced the temporary logs at the edge of the Town Common parking area with a lovely and permanent wooden rail. The logs had become cracked, slippery, and easily movable, creating a safety hazard for residents. The new wooden rail provides safety for patrons on the Common and at the picnic tables and will require less maintenance - and, is guite a bit nicer to look at! Total Highway Services installed the rail in 90 minutes. It will serve the Common well for decades to come.

hat makes this project extra-special is that we had a well-known life-long resident of Londonderry step forward to cover the entire



cost of the project. Eric Turcotte, of Turcotte Tree Service and Peterson Sugar House and Farm, presented a check at the December 18, 2023 Town Council

meeting in the amount of \$2,490. We extend our thanks to Eric for this very special gift to the taxpayers and residents of Londonderry.

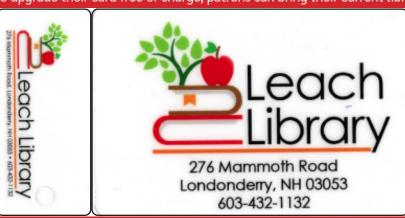


Right: The old log barriers

A NEW CARD FOR A NEW YEAR

Starting on January 2, 2024, the Leach Library will begin issuing brand new library cards to all current and new cardholders! The new library cards will include both a wallet and keychain size card.

To upgrade their card free of charge, patrons can bring their current library card or a valid photo ID to the library



any time during operating hours. For Overdrive and Libby users, the library staff will merge each patron's account information with their new card number. Please allow up to 72 hours for the account update.

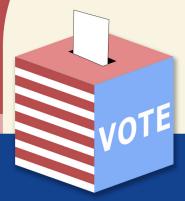
Leach Library staff encourages all cardholders to visit the library for a new card to take full advantage of library programs. For additional information, please call the library at (603) 432-1132.

LONDONDERRY ELECTIONS UPDATE

The New Hampshire State Presidential Primary will be held on <u>Tuesday</u>, <u>January 23</u>, <u>2024</u> in the Londonderry High School Gymnasium from 6:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Londonderry needs YOU to come work the polls!

The Town of Londonderry is looking for volunteers to work at the Presidential Primary Election. Poll workers check in voters, register new voters, maintain the paper checklist, greet people, hand count ballots and write-in votes, and more. This is a great opportunity to get involved with your community!



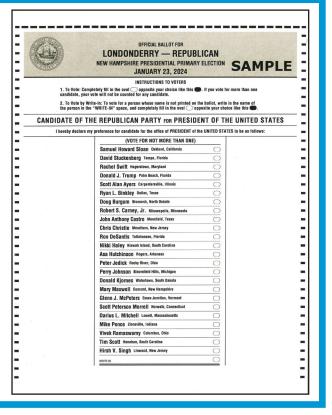
We are looking for people who would be available for shifts between 5:30 a.m. and 11:00 p.m. Training will be held for new poll workers on Wednesday, January 17, 2024. If you are interested, please fill out this form with your contact information and availability. Questions? Contact Kristin Grages at 603-682-0259 or kgrages@londonderrynh.org.

THE 2024 PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY IS TUESDAY, JANUARY 23, 2024.



londonderrynh.gov/vote

PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY SAMPLE BALLOTS OFFICIAL BALLOT FOR LONDONDERRY — DEMOCRATIC NEW HAMPSHIRE PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY ELECTION SAMPLE **JANUARY 23, 2024** 1. To Vote: Completely fill in the oval Opposite your choice like this . If you vote for more than one candidate, your vote will not be counted for any candidate. 2. To Vote by Write-in: To vote for a person whose name is not printed on the ballot, write in the name of the person in the "WRITE-IN" space, and completely fill in the oval () opposite your choice like this CANDIDATE OF THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY FOR PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES I hereby declare my preference for candidate for the office of PRESIDENT of the UNITED STATES to be as follows: (VOTE FOR NOT MORE THAN ONE) Paul V. LaCava Worcester, Mass Star Locke Port Aransas, Texas Stephen P. Lyons Damascus, Maryland Raymond Michael Moroz Colonie, New York Derek Nadeau Portsmouth, New Hampshire Mando Perez-Serrato Orange, California Donald Picard Cambridge, Massachi Paperboy Love Prince Brooklyn, New Yor Richard Rist Baltimore, Maryland Vermin Supreme Rockport, Mas John Vail Easton, New Hampshire Marianne Williamson Washin President R. Boddie Atlanta, Georgia Eban Cambridge Hayward, California Gabriel Cornejo Las Vegas, Nevada Mark Stewart Greenstein West Ha Tom Koos Woodside, California





Sherry Farrell, Town Clerk Town of Londonderry

Town of Londonderry ◆ 268B Mammoth Road ◆ Londonderry, NH 03053 (603) 432-1100 x199 ◆ <u>sfarrell@londonderrynh.org</u>

NOTICE OF OPEN ELECTED POSITIONS IN THE TOWN OF LONDONDERRY FOR THE ELECTION ON TUESDAY, MARCH 12, 2024:

Town Council	1 Position	Three (3) Year Term
Budget Committee	2 Positions	Three (3) Year Term
Budget Committee	1 Position	One (1) Year Term
Town Clerk	1 Position	Three (3) Year Term
Trustees of the Trust Fund	1 Position	Three (3) Year Term
Cemetery Trustees	1 Position	Three (3) Year Term
Supervisor of the Checklist	1 Position	Six (6) Year Term
Library Trustees	2 Positions	Three (3) Year Term

To sign up to run for any position, please go to the Town Clerk's office to complete the necessary forms during normal business hours (8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.) during the filing period listed above. If you have any questions, please call or email the Town Clerk as listed above.

OPEN ELECTED POSITIONS FOR LONDONDERRY SCHOOL DISTRICT ELECTION ON TUESDAY, MARCH 12, 2024:

School Board	2 Positions	Three (3) Year Term
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For questions or to sign up to run for School Board, please contact Kerri Stanley, School District Clerk, at kstanley@londonderry.org or 603-860-9369. Ms. Stanley will also be available at the School District Office, 6A Kitty Hawk Landing, Suite 101, Londonderry, on Friday, February 2, 2024 from 3:00-5:00 p.m.

Filing Period:

From Wednesday, January 24, 2024 until Friday, February 2, 2024 at 5:00 p.m.



LOOKING AHEAD: MARCH 12, 2024 MUNICIPAL TOWN & SCHOOL ELECTIONS

Londonderry High School Gymnasium Polls will be open 6:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Warrant articles available January 29, 2024

Michael Malaguti

Town Manager

Kellie Caron

Assistant Town Manager



Town Council

Chair John Farrell Vice Chair Chad Franz Jim Butler Ted Combes Ron Dunn

Town of Londonderry ● 268B Mammoth Road ● Londonderry, NH 03053

The Town of Londonderry is seeking volunteers to serve on the following Boards:

Beautify Londonderry

One (1) Ad-Hoc Full Member Position

Conservation Commission

One (1) Three-Year Alternate Position

Heritage Commission

One (1) Two-Year Alternate Position
One (1) Three-Year Alternate Position

Senior Resources Committee

One (1) One-Year Alternate Position
One (1) Three-Year Alternate Position

Southern New Hampshire Planning Commission

One (1) One-Year Alternate Positions

Zoning Board of Adjustment

One (1) Three-Year Alternate Position

You must be a resident of Londonderry to apply for one of these positions. Information regarding these boards can be found on the Town's website. There is an application deadline of **Wednesday**, **January 31**, **2024** at **5:00 p.m.** Talent bank forms can be found on the Town website or by emailing Kirsten Hildonen at khildonen@londonderrynh.org. For more information, please call Kirsten at (603) 432-1100 x153.

NEWS AROUND TOWN

Assessing Update

Deadline to file an abatement - March 1, 2024

An abatement may be filed with the Town of Londonderry Assessing office following the receipt of your final tax bill. The date of filing is the date the form is either hand delivered to the municipality, postmarked by the post office, or receipted by an overnight delivery service. Deadline to file is March 1st. Pursuant to BTLA Tax 203.02(d) the applicant must sign the application.

Deadline to apply for Exemptions and Tax Credits - April 15, 2024

The following exemptions and credits are available to those qualifying residents: blind exemption, disabled exemption, elderly exemption, solar and wind powered exemption, and Veterans' tax credits.

For more information on abatements, exemptions, and tax credits, please contact the Assessing Department at 603-432-1100 x135 or visit our website at londonderrynh.gov/assessing.

IMPORTANT DATES FINANCE & TAXES



SECOND BUDGET HEARING

Friday, January 12, 2024; 7:00 p.m. Moose Hill Council Chambers



PROPERTY TAXES DUE

Wednesday, January 18, 2024



DELIBERATIVE SESSIONS

School: Friday, Feb. 9, 2024; 7:00 p.m. Town: Saturday, Feb. 10, 2024; 9:00 a.m. Londonderry High School Cafe

For the Love of Music Jam Session

Londonderry Senior Center

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

Sunday // January 14th // 2-5pm







મુંદ્ર મુક્તિ મુક્તિ

Let the snow fly! We still need music...

Sponsored by the Londonderry Senior Center and Arts Council.

Local musicians will be performing in a coffee house setting.

Members of the Senior Center and Londonderry residents over 55 are welcome to stop in, hang out or participate.

POT LUCK! Bring a dish to share.

Coffee, Tea and water will be provided.

For questions please contact Ilona Arndt at the Senior Center, 603-432-8554.

FOR WINTER CLOSURES & CANCELLATIONS, PLEASE CHECK:

- The Town website (<u>londonderrynh.gov</u>)
- The Town Hall phone message

The <u>Town Facebook page</u>

WMUR on Channel 9 and online

Calling All Artists:

Apply Now for the Library Artist Program

Are you an artist looking for a way to share your work with the public and connect with other art lovers? If so, you might be interested in the Library Artist Program, a fantastic opportunity offered by the **Londonderry Arts Council.** This program allows you to display your work for one month at the Leach Library and reach a wide audience of library visitors. Whether you work in painting, sculpture, photography, fine crafts, or any other medium, you are welcome to apply and showcase



your talent. To apply, simply fill out the online Application Form on the Londonderry Arts Council's website and submit digital images of your work and a short bio. A panel of Arts Council members will review your submission and let you know if you are selected. Don't miss this chance to be part of Londonderry's vibrant art scene and join the Library Artist Program today! For more details, visit londonderryartscouncil.org/featuredartist or contact the Arts Council at artscouncil@londonderry.com.



New Year's Week Trash & Recycling Pick-up 1 Day Delay



During the week of January 1 - 6, 2024, Trash & Recycling collection will be will be delayed one day after the holiday.

Monday's pick-up will be on Tuesday Tuesday's pickup will be on Wednesday Wednesday's pickup will be on Thursday Thursday's pick-up will be on Friday Friday's pick-up will be on Saturday

Please make sure all trash and recycling is placed at the curb by 7AM.

Any questions contact the Department of Engineering & Environmental Services at (603)432-1100 X193.



Saturday, December 30, 2023 & Saturday, January 6, 2024

9:00 am to 3:00 pm

Electronics will be accepted (Standard fees will apply.)

No other materials will be accepted.

*Weather Permitting. To confirm opening call 603-432-1100 X193

WINTER WISDOM FROM PUBLIC WORKS

The Town of Londonderry has a winter parking ban in effect from November 1 to April 1. From 12:00 a.m. to 8:00 a.m., no motor vehicle can be parked on any public road or right-of-way in such a way that impedes snow removal. Please do not place any objects like stakes, delineators, or rocks in the right-of-way as these can damage snow removal equipment.

Sand barrels are positioned around Town and are available for residents' use. Please limit yourself to (2) five-gallon buckets and plan ahead - residents should not exclusively rely on public sand barrels. During a storm, the Town's priority is to treat and plow the public roads. The most up-to-date map of sand barrel locations can be found at londonderrynh.gov/sand.

When there is snow on the ground, please do not place your trash and recycling barrels in the street, as this can impede snow removal. Please place them in your driveway or clear a spot outside of the travel lane.

Never clear snow from vehicles or driveways into the streets, as this can cause hazards and accidents.

Penior Center Calendar

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

		J	anuary 2024			
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	09:00 Cards	09:00 Cards	09:00 Cards	09:00 Cards	09:00 Cards	
	10:00 Chair Exercise	09:00 Yoga	10:00 Knit/Crochet	09:00 Yoga	10:00 Chair Exercise	
	11:00 Bone Builder	10:00 Chair Exercise	10:00 Chair Exercise	10:00 Chair Exercise	11:00 Bone Builders	
	11:00 MOW	11:00 MOW	11:00 MOW	11:00 MOW	11:00 MOW	
	12:15 Cribbage	12:15 Bingo	11:00 Acrylic Painting	12:15 Cribbage	12:00 Diamond Art	
	12:00 Mah Jongg		12:15 Bingo	12:30 Cornhole	12:30 Tai Chi	
	12:30 Ceramics					
	12:30 Line Dancing					
31-Dec	1-Jan	2-Jan	3-Jan	4-Jan	5-Jan	6-Jan
	Closed New Years					i I
	Day 2024					
7-Jan	8-Jan	9-Jan	10-Jan	11-Jan	12-Jan	13-Jan
				10-12 Hearing Test	9:30 Book Club	
14-Jan	15-Jan	16-Jan	17-Jan	18-Jan	19-Jan	20-Jan
Jam Session		New 8 week YOGA		New 8 week YOGA		
2-5pm POT LUCK		session begins	10:00 Murder Mystery	session begins		
21-Jan	22-Jan	23-Jan	24-Jan	25-Jan	26-Jan	27-Jan
28-Jan	29-Jan	30-Jan	31-Jan	1-Feb	2-Feb	3-Feb
			BIRTHDAY CAKE			

ecreation Programs

YOUTH PROGRAMS

DODGEBALL

Fridays, Jan 5 to Mar 8; times vary by age Grades K-1 \$27 resident, \$37 non Grades 2-4, 5-8 \$40 resident, \$50 non Registration Deadline: January 4, 2024

FLAG FOOTBALL CLINIC

Fridays, Jan 5 to Feb 2; 6:30-8 p.m.

Ages 6-14 \$75 resident, \$85 non

Registration Deadline: January 3, 2024

GYM CLASS HEROES SAMPLER

Fridays, Feb 16 to Mar 29; times vary by age Grades K-8 \$25 resident, \$35 non Registration Deadline: February 9, 2024

All of the above programs will be held in the Matthew Thornton Gym.

For more information, or to sign up for a program, please visit <u>londonderrynh.gov/recreation</u>

ADULT PROGRAMS

DANCE AEROBICS

Wednesdays, Jan 20 to Mar 20; 6-7 p.m. Londonderry Senior Center 18+ \$50 resident, \$60 non-resident Registration Deadline: January 11, 2024

TAP DANCE

Wednesdays, Jan 20 to Mar 20; 7-8 p.m. Londonderry Senior Center 18+ \$50 resident, \$60 non-resident Registration Deadline: January 11, 2024

"FOUNTAIN OF YOUTH" P.E. SAMPLER

Mondays, Jan 22 to Mar 11; 6:45-8 p.m.

Matthew Thornton Gym

18+ \$30 resident, \$40 non-resident Registration Deadline: February 9, 2024



PUBLIC MEETINGS - JANUARY 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, January 3	7:00 p.m.	Moose Hill Council Chambers
Leach Library Board of Trustees	Wednesday, January 3	7:00 p.m.	Leach Library Community Room – 276 Mammoth Road
Trustees of the Trust Funds	Thursday, January 4	11:00 a.m.	Sunnycrest Conference Room
Traffic Safety Committee	Monday, January 8	5:30 p.m.	Moose Hill Council Chambers
LHRA	Monday, January 8	6:30 p.m.	Sunnycrest Conference Room
Recreation Commission	Monday, January 8	7:30 p.m.	Moose Hill Council Chambers
Conservation Commission	Tuesday, January 9	7:00 p.m.	Moose Hill Council Chambers
Planning Board	Wednesday, January 10	7:00 p.m.	Moose Hill Council Chambers
Londonderry Arts Council	Thursday, January 11	7:00 p.m.	Moose Hill Council Chambers
Town Council	Thursday, January 12	7:00 p.m.	Moose Hill Council Chambers
Senior Resources Committee	Tuesday, January 16	6:00 p.m.	Sunnycrest Conference Room
Supervisors of the Checklist	Wednesday, January 17	6:00 p.m 7:00 p.m.	Town Clerk's Office
Budget Committee	Wednesday, January 17	7:00 p.m.	Sunnycrest Conference Room
Zoning Board of Adjustment	Wednesday, January 17	7:00 p.m.	Moose Hill Council Chambers
Beautify Londonderry	Monday, January 22	6:00 p.m.	Sunnycrest Conference Room
Town Council	Monday, January 22	7:00 p.m.	Moose Hill Council Chambers
Conservation Commission	Tuesday, January 23	7:30 p.m.	Moose Hill Council Chambers
Heritage Commission	Thursday, January 25	7:00 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

First Annual Suitcase Drive



Londonderry High School Lobby January 6th 2024 9am-12pm

Gently used **suitcases** and **duffle bags**: Empowering

Fostered Youth

LANCERS TAKE LONDON!

The Londonderry High School Lancer Marching Band took to the streets of London on January 1, 2024 as part of the annual London New Year's Day Parade. Students travelled "across the pond" to perform in front of more than 500,000 people lining the London streets, as well as more than 500 million people watching on television around the world. The Lancer Band is no stranger to travel, as they performed at the Olympics in China in 2008, as well as at dozens of parades across the United States.



Have a suggestion for a future issue?

Send ideas, suggestions, requests & feedback to Kirsten Hildonen at 603-432-1100 x153 or khildonen@londonderrynh.org.



The Londonderry Historical Society is here to celebrate the rich history of our community, offering historical programs, beautiful buildings and grounds, and a site for community events & family photos. Member Sandy Dahlfred is ready to answer your genealogy questions. Historian Dr. David Ellis researches and answers questions regarding the history of many Londonderry homes. To learn more, please visit londonderryhistory.org.

Do you want your non-profit or organization to be featured here?

Please submit all requests to be included on this page to khildonen@londonderrynh.org and include "Lantern" in the subject line. The following guidelines apply:

- -Must be a registered non-profit organization based in Londonderry and serve people in Londonderry.
- -Must not discriminate on the basis of age, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, race, creed, color, marital status, familial status, physical or mental disability or national origin.
- -No political advertisements, endorsements, organizations, or events.
- -No sales or soliciting monetary donations.
- -All advertised events must take place in the month of publishing.
- -The Town of Londonderry reserves the right to edit, redesign, or alter any text or images as needed to fit the space and theme of the Londonderry Town Lantern. Submissions are not guaranteed to be accepted.
- -Any text must be less than 100 words and any images must be copyright free.