

The Londonderry Monthly

Volume 8 Number3

March 2017

Letter from the Editor:

Congratulations Londonderry! Another successful Town Meeting Day. Democracy at work in its purest form. I would like to thank all the folks who cared enough to come and vote, without whom this would not work. I want to thank Floodbrook School and its students for attending and being a part of this process. And mostly I want to thank all the people who run for office and serve (or those that do not get the chance this go around – but thank you for offering up your time for public service). It can be a thankless job, it can require way more hours, effort and input than you ever imagined – yet you do it anyway. Londonderry does not work without you all tirelessly meeting, organizing, wrangling and fund raising. We actually do appreciate you!!

Nobody embodied this spirit of public service more than Steve Prouty. Kelly gave a lovely tribute to Steve at the Town Meeting and we are saddened by our collective loss. But I would be remiss not to mention the dedication Steve showed throughout his life to Londonderry and how lucky we are to have been on the receiving end of that gift. I believe Paul Gordon mentioned that to honor Steve we should all be better friends and neighbors to pay back in some small way all he gave to us. AMEN.
Darcy Duval

We do not have an obituary column in the monthly. And I'd prefer not to start one. But our community is suffering a host of losses that cannot go without mention. These men and women are the pillars of our community, the shoulders that our system of volunteerism and good works was built upon. The kind of people that earn our respect not with grand gestures or show but with the solid kind of commitment and dedication that is sorely lacking in much of the world. Our respects go out to the families of these fine people and we would like to honor their service to our community.

John D. Wiley 1925-2017 South Londonderry VT

Steve Prouty 1950-2017 Londonderry VT

Clyde Prouty 1931-2017 Londonderry VT

Jim Boyle 1954-2017 Weston VT

Barbara Rogers 1948-2016 South Londonderry VT

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Romance is not Dead!!!!



A very Vermont Fairy Tale indeed! In what has to be one of the most romantic gestures I have ever seen, Nate Bennett had friends set up the words PROM? in ski's on Magic Mountain to ask his girlfriend Holly Ross to Prom. On a perfect cold Saturday afternoon Nate and Holly skied down to arrive at the spot and unbeknownst to them the entire MAGIC SKI LODGE HELD ITS BREATH while she realized the question and skied up to him and hugged him with her acquiescence. The whole lodge erupted in cheers and applause and the acoustic talent stopped singing to ask "DID SHE SAY YES?". Yes, yes she did! Holly Ross and Nate Bennett will attend Holly's prom at Southington CT High School's on April 29 and also attend Nate's at Pomperaug CT High School's Prom on June 4. Nicely done kids!



Holly Ross and Nate Bennett

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First Baptist Church Update

First Baptist Church of South Londonderry Given a Matching Gift Donation for Their Rebuilding Project!

As First Baptist Church of South Londonderry has been continuing to rebuild after their previous building was destroyed by fire in 2010, they are excited to announce that they have been given a matching gift donation for their rebuilding project. The donor will match the first \$50,000 with 2 for 1 matching, which means for every dollar the church raises they will receive another two dollars. The donor will match the second \$50,000 with 1 for 1 matching, which means for every dollar the church raises they will receive another dollar. First Baptist Church has already received an anonymous \$10,000 donation to kick it off. If they raise the entire amount, they will be able to move in and use the whole building!

In order to be cost effective, First Baptist Church is now working directly with volunteers and construction workers to complete the the building project. They are continuing to raise funds for the added expense of meeting current commercial building codes. Donations towards the rebuilding project can be made online at gofundme.com/vt-church-rebuilds-after-fire or mailed to First Baptist Church (PO Box 278 South Londonderry, VT 05155) with “building fund” in the memo. For more information about the building, volunteering opportunities, and fundraising efforts take a look at their website firstbaptistlondonderryvt.org or call 802-856-7266.



Shokler serigraph



Dayton Baptist Church

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First Baptist Church SILENT AUCTION

Join us on March 25, at a silent auction to benefit the First Baptist Church of South Londonderry's rebuilding project. Doors at the Londonderry Town Hall, 139 Middletown Rd, South Londonderry, will open at 5:30pm. The event ends at 10pm.

The entry fee is \$5.00 in advance (online only @ firstbaptistlondonderryvt.org/silent-auction.html. Ends Wednesday 3/22) and \$10.00 at the door. This includes: music, food prepared by Pierre Labeau, beverages, and a chance at a door-prize.

Come bid on items that include: Harry Shokler original serigraphs, Weston Playhouse Theater tickets, local business donations, and one of a kind donations, including a variety of paintings, antiques, porcelain, and quilts.

The First Baptist Church has always been an active church and community building. On August 3, 2010, the church building burned to the ground. Over that past six years we have, as a community, discovered the magnitude of the loss. The old building was the largest meeting place with a kitchen facility in the community. Sitting tall on the hill, it was a reminder to the community that God is present. This project has taken much needed time to heal and move forward as a church and the planning and progress of the rebuilding is a mission. We, as a church, are passionate about sharing God's love to this community. We will do this with or without a building, but having a building for weddings, funerals, celebrations, fellowship dinners, meetings, and gatherings is priceless. This building will bring people together again.

The reality of rebuilding is coming true, despite the costs of current commercial building codes. While these codes make the building more accessible and safer, they have come at a price much higher than our insurance coverage provided.

We have made considerable progress on rebuilding. The exterior is finished, and now we are working on the interior. Currently the sprinkler system installation is complete and the last big hurdle before us is the heating and plumbing systems. The proceeds of this event will go toward those expenses.

We have received a 2 for 1 matching gift donation, meaning that for every dollar we raise, we will be given two dollars, making your participation in this event doubly productive.

Questions? Contact Laura @ laura.fogg.muro@gmail.com

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SOUTH LONDONDERRY FREE LIBRARY

If you have computer or digital device questions, you can come to the library on Wednesday, March 1st and/or March 8th at 7:15 and computer whiz, Marc Fontaine will help you solve the mysteries. No question too silly, every skill level is welcome so we can help each other out.

On Saturday, March 11th at 10:30 Casey Junker Bailey will celebrate springtime and St. Patrick's Day by helping children make green fairies, elves and leprechauns. All kids and their adults are invited to participate.

While you are here you can view Maya Drumond's colorful acrylic paintings and old-fashioned hand-beaded lamps. All artwork is for sale a portion of the proceeds will be donated to the library.

Some new acquisitions are: *Swing Time* by Sadie Smith, *Extreme Prey* by John Sandford, *The Wrong Side of Goodbye* by Michael Connelly, *Dorothy Day: The World Will Be Saved by Beauty* by Kate Hennessy, *Cruel Mercy* by David John Mark, *Shantaram* by Gregory David Roberts, *Chaos* by Patricia Daniels Cornwell, *Insidious* by Catherine Coulter and *Faithful* by Alice Hoffman.

I am looking for a volunteer or two for 2 Saturdays in March. If you are free on March 18th and/or March 25th, please call me at 824-3371. The hours would be from 10am to 1pm and it would be a fun way to spend a few hours. The job entails checking in and out books and socializing with your neighbors.

We are re-registering all of our patrons. When you are here, please fill out a simple name & address form. This will enable us to give all of you a barcoded number. Barcoding of all our books is now completed thanks to the year-long work of many volunteers including Marge Malko, Jan Gordon, Peter Isakson, Helen Hamman, Linda Schroeder and Martha Dale.

Library Hours are: Monday, Wednesday and Fridays we are open 10 to noon & 1 to 5 pm with additional hours on Wednesday evenings from 7 to 9 pm and on Saturdays we are open from 10 am to 1 pm. You can contact us by calling, sending an email to southlondonderryfreelibrary@yahoo.com or better yet come on over and check out your welcoming House of Books.

See you at the library!
Mary K. Butera
Librarian Director

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MAGIC IS BACK!

Geoff Hathaway, President of the new ownership and operating entity SKI MAGIC LLC and GM of Magic Mountain, hosted the Londonderry Wantastiquet Rotary Club, Thursday February 16, 2017 at Magic Lodge. SKI MAGIC LLC, which is a Vermont-based LLC with a group of investors (15 investors comprised of Geoff, some local folks, long term people & home owners with an interest in Magic, and some college pals), purchased Magic Mountain Ski Area, a 709-acre, 1700 vertical drop ski mountain dating from the 1960's in Londonderry on November of 2016.

Geoff Hathaway gave us an update to the work being done at Magic, the challenges, and the successes they have achieved in the few short months they have been open. The commitment of money to both snowmaking and upgrading the mountain is clear. With the signing of the purchase agreement, SKI MAGIC began repair work to re-open Magic's second summit lift (the 5000' long Black Triple Chair) which has not operated for the past few years due to insufficient financial resources to complete the work required by the Vermont Passenger Tramway Board. The inspectors were there and it PASSED and is approved and open for operation! New capital will also be used in the future to expand and to re-create a learn-to-ski beginner area with a magic carpet and finish construction on the never completed mid-mountain chair lift, bringing access to easier parts of the mountain for novice and beginner skiers. Upon purchase, they also focused on repairing/expanding snow making

coverage with 3 new pump driven Variable Frequent Drive Snow Making Guns. Magic is the only ski resort in VT/New England that is 100% powered by VFD allowing them to blow greater quantities of snow in less time. The efficiency of the new snow making equipment enabled Magic to play some serious catch up and get the mountain covered earlier in the season when Mother Nature was not cooperating. She has since blessed the mountain and surrounding areas with a bounty of natural snow, offering some of the best skiing this area has seen in some time. Going forward, the improved snow making capacity will also enable Magic to open earlier in the year, possibly for the Thanksgiving/Christmas holidays, a commitment not always met in the past. This kind of service will enable more families to plan ahead and enjoy their holidays in Londonderry.

"This is an exciting opportunity for long-time fans of Magic, including myself, who want a better, stable and enduring future for such a special ski area and community," said Geoff. "And, with the targeted investment our SKI MAGIC investors are committing to during our initial 5-year business plan, Magic will deliver a much better skiing product to ski enthusiasts in our little corner of southern Vermont—not by changing what Magic's about, but by making its truly fun throwback ski experience more reliable and accessible to customers over a longer season. Magic is a place that people can call 'Home'. The ski industry has changed and is pricing a lot of families out of the market; Magic has a special niche and will build on 'celebrating the community' that has been its trademark over the years."

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Magic Mountain was originally founded by Swiss ski instructor Hans Thorner back in 1960 where the terrain reminded him of his native Switzerland. Magic has long been known for its steep, challenging terrain not found elsewhere in southern Vermont. As one of the three big mountains in the 1960s and 70s that formed Vermont's famed "Golden Triangle" along with Stratton and Bromley, Magic was a big part of a golden era of New England skiing. In 1985, Magic Mountain dramatically increased its skiable terrain, by purchasing and connecting the former Timber Ridge ski area. Magic Mountain and Timberside ceased operations due to bankruptcy in 1991. Magic re-emerged in the 1997-98 season, but the ski area has often been under-funded and under-marketed while suffering from divided and disparate ownership and operator structures which only served to compound its struggle to re-establish itself in the shadows of deep-pocketed corporate resorts that now dominate and control the ski industry.

Magic is committed to realizing the full potential of a legendary, independent ski area. To stay true to what has made Magic Mountain special: its unmatched ski terrain in southern Vermont and welcoming ski community culture. The 5-year plan to bring Magic to ongoing operating profitability will help employees, local home owners, local businesses, and most importantly, its growing family of skiers and riders who want Magic to succeed and be their mountain adventure for generations to come. The efforts of Geoff and Ski Magic LLC are from the clouds of white snow billowing around Magic, the lights of the groomers, and the lively action in the lodge as families and customers

enjoy themselves in the lodge and at Black Line Tavern for apres ski. Thanks to the Rotary, Geoff and Magic for an insightful and enthusiastic look into the "New Old Magic".



TorchLight Parade last wkcd at Magic Mountain

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The recent Gubbilidis concert at Magic Mountain whereby Neighborhood Connections was designated as the recipient of the net proceeds of event pin and waffle sales by the White Light Foundation associated with the group netted us \$1244.

MONDAY MARCH
20th 1:00-2:30pm VOCAL
IMPROVISATION with Bidi

Dworkin

WEDNESDAY MARCH
22nd Discover your unique voice during a two-part vocal improvisation workshop open to anyone who enjoys singing. Bidi recently completed a year-long vocal improvisation immersion with Rhiannon (All The Way In0 - an intensive supported by The Vermont Council of the Arts. Participants will play with melody, rhythm, language and harmony; explore the rainbow of colors inherent in our voices; and join with other singers to create vocal landscapes, soulful harmonies and impromptu sonic masterpieces. The presentation requires 8 participants, so please sign up today!

TUESDAY MARCH 21st 10-11am **PREPARING FOR NESTING SEASON with Randy Schmidt**

Randy Schmidt from The Vermont Bird Place will discuss how to prepare your nesting boxes; how to match nesting boxes to specific birds; and where to place your nesting boxes to

increase the chance of habitation. He will also talk about the return of the Orioles and Hummingbirds and how to attract them to your backyard.

THURSDAY MARCH
23rd 5:30pm BOOK SIGNING
with Malcolm Bell

Malcolm was here recently discussing his role as assistant to the chief prosecutor tasked with investigating the carnage of the 1971 Attica uprising where unarmed prisoners and hostages were killed and tortured by the State Police and prison guards. His efforts were thwarted when it appeared that he was making progress. He has written a book about it entitled THE ATTICA TURKEY SHOOT: Carnage, Cover-Up and the Pursuit of Justice. He will be here signing his book which sells for \$26.99. Reservations are not necessary.

MONDAY MARCH 27
@10am SPRING WILDFLOWERS
IN SOUTHERN VERMONT with
Rick LaDue, steward for the Equinox
Preservation Trust

Rick is back with what is sure to be another interesting program! His

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Identifying Animals in the Wild last year was hugely popular. This time he will focus on Spring wildflowers - some of which grow in the Equinox Reservation and are not widespread in the Green Mountains.

FRIDAY MARCH 31 @6pm IT'S MOVIE TIME! hosted by Doreen Fabiano

Doreen will screen Michael Moore's *Where to Invade Next*. This award-winning film is an expansive, hilarious, and subversive comedy/documentary in which he confronts the most pressing issues facing America today and finds solutions in the most unlikely places. This epic movie is unlike anything he has done before - an eye-opening call to arms to recapture the American dream and restore it to, of all places, America.

ONGOING:

THURSDAYS 9:30-11am MOM, POP & TOT DROP-IN

Regina Downer, our Community Nurse has organized a drop-in for moms, dads and tots to enjoy play time and socialization.

WEDNESDAYS 9:30-11am SENIOR DROP-IN

Hosted by Noreen Lenilko, our Social Worker, seniors enjoy playing games and socializing.

TUESDAYS Until April 11th Noon-5pm AARP FREE TAX-AIDE

Free Tax-Aide is available through AARP. Call Neighborhood Connections to make an appointment. There are several slots still available.

Article Submission Information If your group or organization has community news to share, and you would like to submit an article to The Monthly for publication, please contact us via email at derrynews@aol.com. For your reference, our article submission deadline is the 23rd of each month. Due to space limitations it is up to our discretion to edit any and all submissions and/or reject submissions. The articles and information enclosed do not necessarily reflect the opinions or policies of the Town of Londonderry or its board members

Bone Builders meet FREE at the Twitchell Bldg every Monday and Wednesday at 9:30 a.m

TOWN EMAIL LIST The town has established an Email/distribution list to send important and emergency information to town residents and property owners. If you have not submitted your email address, please consider doing so. Your information will not be shared with anyone. Call the town office at 824-3356 or email to londontown@vermontel.net.

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MIGHTY LONDONDERRY

At the request of Mighty Londonderry, a Community Resilience Organization (CRO), 17 members of the Londonderry community and one state Emergency Management representative gathered on January 25, 2017 to hold an Emergency Management Coordination meeting.



Kevin Beattie & Rich Cogliano

Mighty Londonderry, along with Kevin Beattie, Londonderry's EMD, then met with the Select Board to give them an opportunity to learn more about VT Alert at their meeting Feb. 6.

Bruce Frauman, Planning Commission member Dick Dale and WRC representative George Mora formed the core of our local CRO. We work closely with our Emergency Management Director Kevin Beattie in planning our actions. For a digital copy of the PowerPoint presentation or a link to the video of the meeting, you can contact me by email: bfrauman@gmail.com.

A town-wide table top exercise is planned for the spring. We will keep you informed as plans solidify. We were all very encouraged by the turnout and the ensuing discussion. Many good ideas were expressed and we will do our best to keep the momentum moving. We look forward to continued communication with and between you all. The next meeting is set for Tuesday, March 14 at 11:00 am at the Twitchell Building.

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Official Results Draft Minutes Pending

WARNING FOR THE LONDONDERRY TOWN MEETING

The inhabitants of the Town of Londonderry, Vermont, who are legal voters of the Town Meeting, are hereby notified and warned to meet at their Town Hall, Tuesday, March 7th A.D. 2017 at 9:30 A.M. to act on the following Articles, namely:

BUSINESS TO BE TRANSACTED FROM THE FLOOR ON TUESDAY, MARCH 7, 2017:

Article 1: To choose a Moderator to preside at the Town Meeting. **Doug Friant**

Article 2: To act on the report of the Auditors. **passed**

Article 3: To elect Town Officials required by law to be elected at this meeting.

Town Clerk – Kelly Pajala

Town Treasurer – Tina Labeau

Selectboard – 2yr Georgianne Mora

3yr Jim Ameden

1yr remaining of a 3yr Thomas Cavanagh

Lister – Geof Long

1st Constable – Roger Sheehan

2nd Constable – Nick Doane

Delinquent Tax Collector – Joan Dayton

Town Grand Juror – Peter Pagnucco

Town Agent – Huzon Alexander III

Cemetery Commisioner – Laurie Krooss Mullen

Article 4: To elect two (2) members of the RED Board for a term of three (3) years

Stuart Osnow

Charlie Cave

Article 5: To elect (1) member of the RED board to fill the remaining two (2) years of a three (3) year term.

Bruce Frauman

Article 6: To elect one (1) Trustee of Public Funds for a term of three (3) years. **Kathy**

Mosenthal

Article 7: Will the Town of Londonderry vote to renew the exemption from Property Taxes for the following:

Champion Fire Building – Main Street, South Londonderry

Champion Fire Building – Route 100/Crescent Street, South Londonderry

Phoenix Fire Building – Route 100, Londonderry

Londonderry Rescue Squad Building – Route 100, Londonderry

passed

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Article 8: Shall the Town of Londonderry vote to approve a sum of \$86,000.00 (Eighty-Six Thousand) to fund contracting with the VT State Police for policing the Town of Londonderry? **passed**

Article 9: Shall the Town vote to raise the sum of \$120,000 (One Hundred Twenty Thousand), to be put into the Highway Equipment Reserve Fund?

Article 10: Shall the Town of Londonderry vote a sum not to exceed \$200,000 for a Salt/Sand shed to be constructed on the Prouty Land; and to finance no more than \$160,000 over a period not to exceed 5 years with \$40,000 toward the cost through current taxes. **passed**

Article 11: To see how much the Town will vote for a General Fund. **Amended to \$1,785,282.94 to eliminate schedule 23 (Public Works Director) from the budget**
passed

Article 12: Shall the Town vote for its taxes to be paid to the Town Treasurer as provided by law, due date to be on or before October 2nd, 2017? **passed**

Article 13: Shall the Town vote to raise the sum of ~~\$93,900~~ \$67,900 for the following organizations?

American Red Cross	\$ 200.00	
Champion Fire Company #5	\$ 20,000.00	
Flood Brook Athletic Association	\$ 2,500.00	
Grace Cottage Foundation	\$ 500.00	
Greater Northshire Access TV	\$ 2,000.00	
Green Mountain RSVP	\$ 415.00	
Green Up Vermont	\$ 100.00	
Health Care & Rehabilitation Services	\$ 1,513.00	
Londonderry 4 th of July	\$ 1,000.00	
Londonderry Conservation Fund	\$ 1,000.00	
Londonderry Vol. Rescue Squad	\$ 6,000.00	
Mountain Valley Medical Center	\$ 26,000.00	
Neighborhood Connections	\$ 5,000.00	
Senior Solutions	\$ 850.00	
SEVCA	\$ 1,700.00	
Southeast Vermont Watershed Alliance	\$ 415.00	
The Collaborative	\$ 1,000.00	
Valley Cares	\$ 2,742.00	
Visiting Nurse Assoc. of VT & NH	\$ 7,000.00	
Vermont Rural Fire Protection	\$ 100.00	
West River Montessori School	\$ 2,000.00	
Windham County Historical Society	\$ 250.00	
Windham County Humane Society	\$ 500.00	
Windham County Youth Services	\$ 315.00	
Women's Freedom Center	\$ 800.00	
South Londonderry Library	\$ 10,000.00	passed as amended

Article 14: To transact any other business that may legally come before the Meeting.

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LIONS CLUB

Londonderry Area Tri-Mtn Lions Club is busy with eye screenings!

In Vermont the Lions have 5 vision screening cameras which travel to the different Clubs around the state for screening the vision of children in our local schools. The screening checks for near and far sightedness, astigmatism, and gaze deviation. Early detection and correction is our goal.

In October 2016 Londonderry Tri-Mtn Lions assisted and trained with Springfield Lions in screenings at Floodbrook. In January and February Londonderry Tri-Mtn Lions screened 559 students in the following schools: Leland & Gray, Elementary schools in Townshend, Jamaica, Wardsboro, Windham, and Newfane.

Randee Keith, Sight & Vision Chairperson

Blue Gentian, Chaves Excavating and SLFD work together on Hydrant at Magic

In the Spring of 2015 Ken & Lisa Alberti, owners of Blue Gentian Lodge on Magic Mountain Access Road, inquired to the SLFD about the possibility of getting installed a working fire hydrant on the snowmaking pond near their property. Currently, the Magic Village Community Water System doesn't support water flow to its hydrants. The SLFD worked on getting approval and grant funding, while Ken & Lisa got approval to install a dry hydrant from Magic Mountain Management.

In November of 2016 a dry hydrant was installed at the upper portion of the snowmaking pond next to the Blue Gentian Lodge. This is the second such dry hydrant that SLFD has installed in Magic Village. Chaves excavating of Londonderry donated equipment and labor to make this happen in the last few warm days of November with the members of SLFD. The result of this community Team Work is savings of 10% on the Alberti's insurance and providing much needed year round accessible water on Magic Access Road for Phoenix Fire Department in Londonderry, Champion Fire Department in South Londonderry and all mutual aid fire departments that get fire calls to the Magic area. Thank you Lisa and Ken for reaching out!