

The Londonderry Monthly

Volume 5 Number 1

January 2014

Letter from the Editor:

Happy New Year!! Some people greet the New Year as a second chance. To do better, make smarter decisions, and be nicer than the year before. Did you yell at your kids a little too often? Spend more than you have (or should have)? Take your job/boss/wife/life for granted? Here is our chance to start over! I know that I want to do better this year, do more for my community; I want to be wiser about my decisions and kinder to my friends, family and neighbors. They say charity begins in the home. There is no better way than to start at home, whether it be at your literal house or in our community. I have seen our town and its citizens in action this past year and am always impressed and amazed at how much gets done, by mostly all volunteers. If you want to participate and help out – it need not be a full time experience. You can always donate your time and energy on a project by project basis or just for one day out of the year (like voting!). So most of all, on the cusp of the New Year, I wish you all the patience, strength and energy to achieve your goals and make this a wonderful year ahead.

Londonderry Volunteer Rescue Squad 50th Anniversary

In the fall of 1963 Londonderry Rescue Squad was formed by a group of local citizens. With the opening of Magic Mountain Ski area, the fourth ski area in the vicinity, the founding directors saw a need to have ambulance service available to the swelling number of visitors.

The first ambulance was a red and white 1953 Cadillac. This ambulance plus others in the pursuing years were housed in different locations. In 1992, the present headquarters was built on 8.9 acres donated by Rex Doane, also a founding member.

LVRS has responded to over 14,550 calls. Members of our present team exceed 40 members plus 35 additional members in the Technical Rescue Squad.

Due to volunteerism and community support, LVRS provides quality emergency care for the surrounding communities.

TUESDAY FEB 11TH 7PM
Candidate's Night at Town Office -
Twitchell Bldg followed by TOPP
public informational meeting.(see pg 2)
PLEASE ATTEND!!!

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Londonderry Candidates Night Scheduled for February 11th

Candidates running for town office positions are allowed only limited opportunity to speak at Town Meeting, so several years ago the town started holding a "Candidate's Night" prior to Town Meeting, to give persons interested in running for office a chance to speak about their interest, ideas, and qualifications.

This year, Candidate's Night will take place on Tuesday, February 11th, at 7:00 PM at the Town Office. Anyone interested in running for a town position, as well as citizens wishing to have the chance to hear candidates speak, should plan to attend this event. Attending Candidate's Night is not a prerequisite for running for office, but it is your best chance to let people know of your intentions.

Anyone who is interested in a town officer position can get more information by inquiring at the Town Office.

The following is a listing of town positions up for election in 2014:

<u>Position</u>	<u>Term</u>
Moderator	1 year
Town Clerk	1 year*
Treasurer	1 year*
Selectboard	3 years
Selectboard	2 years
Lister	3 years
First Constable	1 year
Second Constable	1 year
Delinquent Tax Collector	1 year
Town Grand Juror	1 year
Town Agent	1 year
Cemetery Commissioner	5 years
Cemetery Commissioner	3 years**
Trustee of Public Funds	3 years
Trustee of Memorial Park	5 years
RED (school) Board	2 years
RED (school) Board	2 years
Auditors (2 positions)	3 years***
Parks Board (5 positions)	1 year, 2 year, 3 year, 4 year, & 5 year terms

* may be changed back to 3 year term by town vote

** to fill out a term currently vacant

*** these positions may be eliminated by town vote

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Save the Date: After the Flood Open House Presentation

As a follow-up to November's lively public forum regarding the FEMA buyout properties in town, the After the Flood Task Force is planning a presentation in an open-house format on a weekend afternoon in January, tentatively set for Saturday, January 25, 1 – 4PM at the Depot in South Derry. Because the meeting in November focused so closely on the issue of the Williams Dam, the Task Force would like an opportunity to present other options and approaches specific to the re-use of FEMA buyout properties. There is overwhelming agreement that the dam discussion should be shelved for the time being so that other possible opportunities are not missed.

Several different suggestions will be presented – including ideas for performance space, improved river access, park signage, public restrooms, and increased parking. Attendees will be asked to provide feedback so that should the project move forward, planning can be done with community consensus.

Confirmation of date/time for the meeting will follow in early January; watch for public postings and be sure to sign up for the town's email list (by sending a request to londontown@vermontel.net). In the meantime, please visit the Rebuilding For Us website at www.londonderryrenewal.org.

Town Office

The Town Office Planning Project (TOPP), regarding upgrading the existing space and use of the basement level in the Twitchell Building, continues toward the end of its schematic design phase with general design and price estimates nearly complete and a public informational meeting planned to be held Tuesday, Feb. 11th immediately after Candidate's Night. As budget allows, the next phase of planning development would be to create documents for use in construction and obtaining more detailed pricing. The basement level of the building has been used for several purposes throughout the years, is currently unused, but for mechanical equipment and some storage. Upgrade examples to the overall building would include access from outside the building to both levels as well as interior access better use of space on the upper level, improvement of drainage around the building and backup power for the building in the event of emergencies such as Tropical Storm Irene. During such events the building will serve as the town's Emergency Operations Center. Happy 2014!

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Statement on the settlement agreement reached between Entergy and the State of Vermont

We are encouraged by today's announcement and believe this is a positive step forward in the effort to not-only revitalize the regional economy, but to help with the loss of over 650 highly paid jobs and the impacts those job losses have on the lives of the VY employee families. While we remain concerned about the overall impact the closure of Vermont Yankee will have on the regional economy, today's announcement is a very positive step which accelerates the path forward.

Southeastern Vermont Economic Development Strategies (SeVEDS) has been working since 2007, and officially organized in 2011, to evaluate and strategize recovery of the 20 year economic decline in Windham County. The telltale symptoms of that decline have been stagnant wages, population loss, and loss of younger population. SeVEDS has successfully engaged both the public and private sector in supporting, developing, and implementing long term strategies for improving our economy.

SeVEDS has recently completed a draft of a federally recognized Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) which outlines strategies and actions for improving the regional economy including mitigating the VY closure impacts, SeVEDS is required to allow for a 30-day public comment period. Today's announcement allows the region to step up the implementation of critical projects resulting from the significant planning that has been underway.

The draft 2013 Southeastern Vermont CEDS will be available for public review and comment from December 6th, 2013 to January 10, 2014 via the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) page of the SeVEDS website at www.seveds.com. Hard copies will be made available upon request at the Brattleboro

Development Credit Corporation headquarters at 76 Cotton Mill Hill, Brattleboro, VT, 05301.

Comments should be received no later than 5:00 p.m. on Friday, January 10, 2014, and should be submitted in writing to Laura Sibilgia, Director Economic Development at BDCC lsibilgia@brattleborodevelopment.com or postal mail to 76 Cotton Mill Hill Brattleboro, VT 05301. These comments will be forwarded to the CEDS Committee for review prior to final submittal to EDA.

On October 28th, 2013 BDCC, SeVEDS and Post VY testified to the House Commerce and Economic Development and House Natural Resources and Energy Committees about minimizing the economic impact that would result from the closure. That testimony can be found here: <http://seveds.com/testimony/>

SeVEDS is affiliated with and staffed by the Brattleboro Development Credit Corp (BDCC), the regional development corporation serving Windham County. BDCC has a 59 year history of helping to grow jobs in Windham County through business assistance and real estate redevelopment. Most recently, BDCC has taken the lead in business and economic recovery efforts from severe flooding in 2011 and continues to be engaged in those efforts.

SeVEDS and BDCC will continue working closely with the Windham Regional Commission, our local municipalities, regional businesses and state and federal government by taking swift and decisive action to not only stabilize but to reinvigorate the Southeastern Vermont economy.

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Shoe Barn Wall Update

On a cold day in late November 2013, the graffiti on the Shoe Barn wall disappeared! Artists Garrison Buxton and Jaime Townshend cleaned the concrete and applied a fresh coat of paint donated by the Londonderry Hardware. During the second work day, as the artists began to lay out the multi-colored background of the final design, a light drizzle became more of a deluge and run off collected behind the concrete. This condition saturated the wall, interfered with adhesion of the paint and temporarily halted the project. The result alarmed many passers-by, concerned

that the streaking paint was intentional and permanent!?! Since this unfortunate event, the wall has dried out and work has resumed with quick drying paint that is not sensitive to winter temperatures. Thanks to support and understanding of the Thrifty Attic and the Rotary Club (and drier conditions), the artists expect to complete the approved and permitted design in the first weeks of January. Folks are reminded that the intention of this project is to display positive change in our community with an image of renewal and hope. For more information about the ongoing effort of "Rebuilding for Us" please visit <http://www.londonderryrenewal.org>

Community News and Information

TOWN EMAIL LIST

The town has established an Email/distribution list to send important and emergency information to town residents and property owners. Your information will not be shared with anyone. Call the town office at 824-3356 or email to londontown@vermontel.net.

Select Board

Your select board meets the first and third Mondays at the Twitchell Building (Town Office) at 7:00 pm. We encourage input and your attendance at our meetings or contacting your selectmen. To further communications, the town website, londonderryvt.org is being updated on a regular basis. If you have input, please contact Paul Gordon at 824-5235 or email gordonpj@myfairpoint.net.

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VALENTINE'S DAY DANCE

TO BENEFIT PINGREE PARK REVITALIZATION PROJECT

FEATURING



**INCLUDES LOCAL
AND AREA
MUSICANS**

**FUN
RAFFLE ITEMS**

**BRING YOUR
DANCING SHOES**



MAGIC MOUNTAIN BASE LODGE

FEBRUARY 14TH 8:00 PM-11:00PM

ADMISSION \$8.00 FOR SINGLE \$15 FOR COUPLE

*ADVANCE TICKET PURCHASE AT
GREEN MOUNTAIN PHARMACY IN THE MOUNTAIN
MARKETPLACE*

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT londonderrytownparks@gmail.com

OR CALL THE TOWN OFFICE 824 3356

The Londonderry Monthly is available online
You can get your copy of The Monthly online from the Town of Londonderry's website
www.londonderryvt.org

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TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE HOURS

MON

8:30-2:30

TUES

8:30-2:30

WED 10-5

THURS

8:30-2:30

FRI 8:30-2:30

CALL
824 3356
WITH ANY
QUESTIONS

DOG REGISTRATION RENEWAL **DEADLINE IS APRIL 1, 2014** **PLEASE BRING YOUR DOG'S** **UPDATED RABIES CERTIFICATE**

TOWN OF LONDONDERRY THE TWITCHELL BUILDING 100 OLD SCHOOL ST.
SOUTH LONDONDERRY

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.

The Londonderry Monthly is available online
You can get your copy of The Monthly online from the Town of Londonderry's website
www.londonderryvt.org