

Former Nashua man indicted on alleged sexual assaults

◆ **Incidents date back to late '80s:** W. Michael Keegan accused of repeated assaults of boy, between ages of 9 and 12, from January 1986 to December 1988.

By **KIMBERLY HOUGHTON**
Union Leader Correspondent

NASHUA — A man who coached local sports teams during the 1980s has been indicted on 36 charges of aggravated felonious sexual assault against a minor.

Superior Court grand jury handed up the indictments against W. Michael Keegan, 62, of 361 Gansevoort Road, Fort Edward, N.Y.

Keegan, who is incarcerated in the Valley Street jail in Manchester, is accused of repeatedly sexual assaulting a boy in Nashua from

January 1986 to December 1988.

According to court documents, the victim was between the ages of 9 and 12 when he allegedly was assaulted by Keegan. The victim, now 37, told local authorities about the assaults in February, according to court records.

The attacks took place in a vehicle, in a bedroom and occasionally during hunting

trips in the woods, according to an affidavit filed by Nashua police officer Mike Welch.

The victim estimated that he was sexually assaulted by Keegan an average of three times per month, the affidavit states.

Police said previously that Keegan served as an assistant volunteer coach for a Little League baseball team in the city and for a recre-

ational basketball league for pre-teens between 1983 and 1989.

He also volunteered for a local Cub Scouts group, according to authorities.

Earlier this year, Nashua police released a photo of Keegan from the 1980s, asking anyone with information about him to contact local authorities.

At the time, Lt. Francis Sullivan said these types of

crimes often are crimes of opportunity, and police released the old photograph in case their are other victims who would be interested in pursuing charges.

Since Keegan moved out of New Hampshire, the statute of limitations has not yet expired, Sullivan said, adding there is still time to prosecute if other victims speak up.

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High schoolers get driving tips from pros



Trinity driver's education student Anya Rochussen and NASCAR Nationwide Series driver Dakoda Armstrong buckle up before taking a ride during a visit at the Manchester high school on Tuesday.

DAVID LANE/UNION LEADER



NASCAR Nationwide Series drivers Dakoda Armstrong, left, and Chris Buescher speak with Trinity driver's education students during a visit at the Manchester high school on Tuesday.

DAVID LANE/UNION LEADER



NASCAR Nationwide Series drivers Dakoda Armstrong, left, and Chris Buescher speak during a visit to Manchester on Tuesday.

DAVID LANE/UNION LEADER

NASCAR duo show Trinity students a thing or two about safe driving

Staff Report

MANCHESTER

MEMBERS OF the driver education class at Trinity High School got driving tips Tuesday from two young men who race cars for a living.

The two men, who will race in the Sta-Green 200 July 12 at 3:30 p.m. at the New Hampshire Motor Speedway, are in the development driver program. Chris Buescher, 21, originally from Texas and now living in North Carolina, is driving No. 60 for Roush Fenway Racing.

Dakoda Armstrong, 21, originally from Indiana, is also now living in

North Carolina. He signed first with Penske Racing as a development driver, but took a detour to race trucks. The 2014 season is Armstrong's first full season in the NASCAR Nationwide Series, driving No. 43 for Richard Petty Motorsports.

The NASCAR Nationwide Series is the step below the NASCAR Sprint Cup Series. Both men were Automobile Racing Club of America Racing Series Rookie of the Year, Armstrong in 2010 and Buescher in 2011. Buescher was also the ARCA Racing Series Champion in 2012.

But Tuesday afternoon, both were in the Trinity parking lot to answer questions for Michael Healy's

students, pose for pictures and, most important, ride along with the students and offer pointers for safe driving off the race track.

But before climbing into vehicles with students, the race car drivers distilled their advice for the students. Armstrong advised at high speed or on city roads, look ahead, watching ahead: "It's the other people you have to watch out for."

Buescher phrased it more concretely: "Don't drive five feet ahead. Try and drive 50 feet out."

Zara Morrissey, 16, of Manchester, can identify with Buescher's advice.

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Londonderry woman accused of stealing from league

◆ **Former board member facing felony charges:** Had been in charge of fundraising monies; allegedly stole \$7,000.

By **APRIL GUILMET**
Union Leader Correspondent

LONDONDERRY — A Londonderry woman is facing felony charges after allegedly stealing nearly \$7,000 in funds that had been raised for a local youth sports organization while she was serving on its board.

Tanya Lemay, 37, of Hall Road, turned herself in on warrant to the Londonderry Police shortly before 7 p.m. Monday evening. Lemay was charged with felony theft and false report to law enforcement.

Detective Christopher Olsen said the warrant for Lemay's arrest was issued following investigation into money reportedly missing from the Londonderry Youth Football and Spirit Association (LYFS).

Olsen said Lemay had been the person in charge of fundraising monies at the time of her arrest and had been contacted by the organization's president after a month had passed without any money being deposited into LYFS's bank account.

"It's LYFS protocol that any money raised gets deposited within one week," Olson said, noting that Lemay initially told organization officials that the money had been stolen in a



Tanya Lemay, 37, faces charges of felony theft and false report to law enforcement.

COURTESY

burglary at her residence.

According to local police, Lemay later filed a report on the alleged burglary. The report alleged that other items, including prescription medications, had been stolen from her home as well.

Olsen said that during a police interview, Lemay later stated that she didn't deposit the funds within a week, because she was seeking approval to use some of those monies for league-related items. Police said she told them that when she didn't receive a response from LYFS, she claimed to have used "about \$200" for league-related purchases, claiming she'd saved some receipts.

Following a confrontation with LYFS officials, Lemay wrote an apology letter and submitted her resignation from the board, where she confessed she'd made a "huge mistake" when it came to the fundraiser money.

Lemay was released on \$5,000 personal recognizance bail. She will appear at 10th Circuit Court-District Division-Derry on Monday, July 14.

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Salem tackling sign issues

By **ADAM SWIFT**
Union Leader Correspondent

SALEM — There never seems to be an end to discussions about signs in town, specifically, what signs can go where.

According to Selectmen Chairman Pat Hargreaves, recent discussions have focused on where political signs can be placed and what happens to them when they end up where they shouldn't be.

The signs are not allowed within 10 feet for veterans' markers, on town property and or in public rights of way, Hargreaves said.

Any illegally placed signs that are picked by the Public Works Department are taken to the ballfield near the transfer station, where the town legally has to keep them for seven days past the appropriate election before it can dispose of them.

Selectman Stephen Campbell said his only concern with the process is that while the town is legally required to keep the signs for the allotted time, the ballfield is not technically in the town's control.

He asked if there was

“

I'm not paying one of our employees to guard other people's signs.”

PAT HARGREAVES

Salem Board of Selectmen chairman

somewhere else to keep the signs under tighter town control.

Selectman Everett McBride said the signs have been stored at the field for years.

"There are a lot of candidates that should be aware that you don't put them in the right of way," he said. "I'm sick and tired of (candidates) putting them where they are not supposed to be."

Hargreaves agreed that the greater responsibility should fall on the candidates.

"I'm not paying one of our employees to guard other people's signs," he said. "They are breaking the law by putting the signs where they're not supposed to be."

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Pinkerton names Hall of Fame class for 2014

By **HUNTER MCGEE**
Union Leader Correspondent

DERRY — Pinkerton Academy has named its Hall of Fame members for 2014.

Each year, the high school honors individuals who have made exceptional contributions to Pinkerton and society, said Anne Parker, alumni director.

The annual banquet to honor the new members is scheduled for Sept. 19 at 6 p.m. in the Spaulding café, Parker said.

Listed below are this year's Hall of

Fame members:

Gillian Abramson, Class of 1976

Graduate of UNH and Fordham School of Law. Former legal counsel for Gov. Stephen Merrill who appointed her as an associate justice to the NH Superior Court; current supervisory justice of Hillsborough Superior Court.

David Brown, Class of 1991

Three season, varsity athlete at Pinkerton; graduate of Norwich Academy and Army Ranger; long-

time mentor, coach, and teacher in Derry.

Charles Myette, Class of 1967

Student athlete and leader at Pinkerton; graduate of Plymouth State and the University of NH; long-time champion of environmental issues nationally and in Chester.

Lani Buskey, Class of 1998

Student leader and basketball stand-out; educator, coach, and class advisor; Pinkerton employee.

► See **Hall**, Page B4

Salem selectmen deny grant request to Boys and Girls Club for computers

◆ Fund not meant for operational expenses:

One approval this year to cover some costs to bring Vietnam War Memorial replica to town.

By ADAM SWIFT
Union Leader Correspondent

SALEM — Selectmen are looking to better educate local nonprofits about what kind of expenses are eligible to be covered by grants from the town's Lancaster Fund.

The town's Lancaster Fund is disbursed by selectmen to nonprofits that benefit Salem. The funds are typically for one-time events or special programs, and not for the general operational expenses of nonprofits.

On Monday night, the board denied a \$2,500 request from the Salem Boys and Girls Club to purchase new computers for the club's technology center.

As with a previous request that was denied by the board for the Salem Family Resources' preschool program, board members praised the nonprofit, but said the request did not square with the Lancaster Fund guidelines.

"The technology center is an existing facility that members use on a regular basis," said Selectman James Keller. "I struggle with this leaning more toward the operational expense of the site."



Paul Baptiste of Deerfield takes a picture in 2011 of the name of a friend who died in Vietnam — when the Moving Wall stopped in Wolfeboro — one of a couple of traveling Vietnam Wall memorial replicas. Salem selectmen earlier this year approved a request to have the Lancaster Fund cover some of the costs to bring an 80 percent scale-sized replica of the Wall to town.

Selectman Stephen Campbell agreed with Keller, noting that the plan to upgrade 20 computer workstations at the club would entail an ongoing expense for the next four years.

Selectman Michael Lyons voted to deny the grant request, but said there might be other programs that could be eligible for the Lancaster Fund in the future.

"I am familiar with the club, and I think there must be something at the club that would fit, but this doesn't," Lyons said.

With two out of the three Lancaster Fund requests from nonprofits denied this year, Lyons said there might be an opportunity for the town to better educate local nonprof-

its about its guidelines. Those guidelines were updated by selectmen in 2012.

Lyons also suggested that beginning next year, all Lancaster Fund requests should be considered by the board during a single meeting.

"It will also be a check on us to have the opportunity to make sure the standards are applied fairly," said Lyons.

The one Lancaster Fund request that was approved by the board this year was to help cover some of the costs of bringing the 80 percent scale-sized replica of the Vietnam Memorial Wall to town.

Selectmen stated that the request was for a one-time event.

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Keegan

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This week, Sullivan said he is unaware of any additional victims in New Hampshire.

Police have learned of a second possible sexual assault victim in New York. Those crimes allegedly took place after Keegan left the Nashua area and moved south, according to court documents.

New York authorities are

investigating those cases police said.

When Nashua police questioned Keegan about the alleged sexual assaults, "he initially stated it happened several times a month, then later stated no more than a dozen times," according to an affidavit on file at the 9th Circuit Court- District Di-

vision-Nashua.

"Mr. Keegan stated he never used force and never asked (the boy) to do anything he didn't want to do," says court records.

The newest indictments allege that Keegan abused the victim each month throughout the three-year time span.

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Driving

Continued from Page B1

She gives points to her parents for their attitude when she's behind the wheel. "They're actually pretty calm," she said.

Merrimack resident Thomas Watson, 16, said he has his cellphone with him when he's practicing, but he said: "I don't look at it."

There's Bluetooth in the car, but his phone is not connected. If it rings, he asks someone else to answer it. When he gets his license and is in the car alone, he said, he's planning to get an earpiece.

Caleb Wagner, 15, of Nashua, admits that when he got behind the wheel: "It was pretty scary at first."

He usually practices with his mom, who sometimes, he said: "Gets a little anxious."

When he first got behind the wheel in February, he said he had a problem with "me getting kind of distracted." So his mom had a right to be a bit anxious.

Sixteen-year-old Bethany Hart said she's been driving for a while. "Since I was 13," said the Manchester resident. Why is she taking it now? "Because it's mandated," she said, if she wants a license at her age. When driving, she said: "You get into some kind of mind state."

The two racers have been driving something with wheels since they were young children.

Armstrong started at age



Trinity driver's education student Daley Frenette changes a tire on the NHMS show car during a visit by NASCAR drivers at the Manchester high school on Tuesday.

DAVID LANE/UNION LEADER

6 with go-karts and won the 1998 World Karting Association Championship in his first year of racing. He went on competing and collecting more than 200 wins in go-karts, quarter midgets, bandolero, micro/mini springs, Kenyon midgets, 410 non-wing sprint cars and midgets. He's also raced trucks, when taking a break from cars.

Buescher was all of 6 when he began racing motorcycles, moving over to the Bandolero Series at age 9 and winning at the nationals in 2004, at age 12. He then moved to the Legends Car Series in 2005. The following year, at 13, he was the youngest winner

in the pro division of the Legends Car Series Summer Shootout.

The two speedsters did admit it's sometimes hard to slow down. "I've had a few speeding tickets," Armstrong admitted.

Buescher said he'd been stopped, but got off with a warning "by not talking back."

Asked if playing driving video games helps in real life, Armstrong said: "Yes." Buescher was more cautious. "I'm on the fence," he said.

While it might help coordination, he cautioned: "Don't ever think because you played a video game, it's going to help you on the road."

Two to be inducted to Holman Hall of Fame

◆ Initiated in 2009:

Richard Belanger and Fred Lajoie to be newest inductees with July 4 ceremony.

By KIMBERLY HOUGHTON
Union Leader Correspondent

NASHUA — Two Nashua natives will be inducted into the Nashua Lions Holman Stadium Sports Legends Hall of Fame next week as the community recognizes them for their commitment to city youth and athletics.

Fred Lajoie, a longtime youth baseball activist and former commissioner for the city's Parks and Recreation Department, along with the late Richard 'Dick' Belanger, former assistant superintendent of schools in Nashua, will be bestowed the honor during a ceremony July 4 at Holman Stadium.

"Both of these men were legends. Both of them placed Nashua on the map during a time when football reigned supreme," said Ed Lecius, chairman of the Lions Hall of Fame Committee. "Fred and Dick — they are really old Nashua at its best. They are truly representative of those who were born here

and grew up here."

To date, 14 recipients have been inducted into the Nashua Lions Holman Hall of Fame, a program that was initiated in 2009 to recognize and honor individuals who have spent hundreds of hours at Holman Stadium with a passion for athletics and youth.

Belanger, or 'Red' as he was known to some, died when he was just 40 in 1976, but made a significant mark in the 16 years he was active in Nashua, according to Lecius.

He was a former teacher in the Nashua school district, a coach, faculty manager, assistant principal and eventually assistant superintendent. Belanger, who grew up in Nashua's French Hill neighborhood, was the "go-to" guy for anything related to Nashua High School football, said Lecius.

Lajoie, who is still living, devoted his life to the youth of the city through his involvement in Little League, Babe Ruth League/Cal Ripken, Jr. baseball programs. During his tenure, he brought the Babe Ruth Bambino World Series to Nashua, served 12 years on the

Park Recreation Advisory Commission and served as state commissioner for Babe Ruth/Cal Ripken leagues for three decades.

Lajoie spearheaded several upgrades at Holman Stadium in the late 1970s and early 1980s, including renovated lights and locker rooms.

"Everything got done that needed to be done because of Fred," explained Lecius.

About 24 names have been submitted for consideration to the Holman Stadium Sports Legends Hall of Fame. Lecius said those names will be carried on for consideration in future years.

Belanger's three children are expected to attend the upcoming induction ceremony, along with Lajoie and his extended family.

The recognition ceremony will take place at 8 p.m. July 4 at Holman Stadium, prior to the city's fireworks display and a performance by the Nashua Spartans. Mayor Donnalee Lozeau will join Louise Deschenes, Lions President, along with several Hall of Fame committee members, for the awards presentation.

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Mont Vernon police will reward children for their good behavior through safety campaign

◆ Staying safe: Police will give children citations for a free slushy if they see kids doing something right, like wearing a bike helmet.

By KIMBERLY HOUGHTON
Union Leader Correspondent

MONT VERNON — Local police will be out in full force this summer to ensure area children are making safe decisions while school is out.

The Police Department is implementing its 2014 summer safety campaign, called "Caught in the Act."

Police will be on the lookout for children acting in a safe manner throughout the next several weeks, according to Sgt. Aaron Daigneault.

"The motivation for this is to get police out and interacting with the kids in the community and to reward the children for anything safe," said Daigneault.

Children who are caught

in the act of doing something safe — wearing their seatbelt, wearing a bike helmet or using a designated crosswalk — will be rewarded with a Caught in the Act citation.

The certificate may be redeemed at the Mont Vernon General Store for a free slushy, said Daigneault.

"It is so great for the kids to be rewarded for good behavior," said Dan Bellemore, owner of the town's general store. "A lot of times we comment on their behavior when it is not that great, so this is a way to keep kids thinking positive and doing the right things. If we can help in any small way, it is all good."

Last summer, free ice cream treats were distributed as part of the program, and Daigneault said local police documented 23 occasions in which certificates were distributed, although the number of children who

received the rewards was nearly triple that amount.

"We are going to hand out as many as we can this summer," he said.

Daigneault visited the Mont Vernon Village School recently to inform students about the summer safety campaign, encouraging them to remain safe and make smart decisions while school is not in session.

"There are kids that will go out and do laps waiting for us to notice them," he said, warning children to not solicit police who may be in the middle of important work.

"The program is a great way for the police department to interact with the children of our community and give positive reinforcement for safe behavior," Chief Kevin Furlong said in an online posting.

The program will run until Sept. 1.

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Hall

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Nichole Bukowski, Class of 1997

Student athlete in five sports; all-time leading goal scorer in field hockey; scholarship to Boston College; dedicated teacher and mentor for inner-city youth.

Paul Cino, Class of 1979

All-American in lacrosse; graduate of West Point; president and CEO of IT Federal Sales; long-time girls' lacrosse coach and creator of the Windham Youth program.

Brewster Bartlett, Faculty

Dedicated Pinkerton teacher for over 40 years; advisor to the ski club, mogul monsters, Students for Environmental Action, and Citizenship committee. Recipient of the National Science Foundation award.

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Nashua's Legacy Playground gets the OK

By KIMBERLY HOUGHTON
Union Leader Correspondent

NASHUA — Following months of debate and lots of meetings about where to place the state's largest fully accessible playground, city officials on Tuesday finally granted permission for the playground to be built at Greeley Park.

Despite a moratorium on new development at Greeley Park, the Nashua Board of Aldermen voted 8-6 to allow Legacy Playground to be built on the east side of Greeley Park.

"I think that it is time to look at this (proposal), pass it and move on," said Alderman Richard Dowd.

There has been considerable division from the public and aldermen on whether to allow the playground — spearheaded by Leadership

Greater Nashua and paid for by donations — to be built at Greeley Park.

Alderman David Schone-man said the existing moratorium at the park should set precedence, and that the park should be preserved rather than developed.

Alderman Paul Chasse voiced different concerns, maintaining the actual cost to taxpayers has not yet been determined. Although the playground is a gift, he said there will be unknown infrastructure costs that the city will likely have to incur.

"This is not a final vote for us tonight," said Alderman Lori Wilshire, explaining aldermen will have the last word on what the design of the playground will actually look like.

"We still have the final say," said Wilshire, who supported the Greeley site.

An independent study was conducted to determine the best site for the future playground, and three of the seven sites suggested included various locations at Greeley.

"This playground does not need to be in Greeley Park," said Alderman Dan Moriarty, maintaining there should be a compelling reason to override a building moratorium. Since there are other feasible sites within the city, Moriarty said he could not support Greeley Park as home to the playground.

Alderman Ken Siegel stressed that Legacy Playground will not soil the integrity of the park, but may actually increase the park's integrity and usability, which he said is the project's whole purpose.

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Derry police, Red Cross set to hold blood drive

◆ Goal for 300 to donate blood: On Wednesday, a blood drive will be held at Promises to Keep.

By HUNTER MCGEE
Union Leader Correspondent

DERRY — The Derry Police

Department and American Red Cross will hold a summer blood drive and cook-out from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Wednesday at Promises to Keep, 199 Rockingham Road.

Organizers are hoping approximately 300 people will

donate blood, with a collection goal of 265 pints, said John Peterson, manager of donor recruitment for the American Red Cross in Manchester.

To schedule an appointment, call 1-800-733-2767.

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