

On Friday morning, January seventh, 2011, Londonderry High School, Londonderry, NH, held its fifth annual Pantene Beautiful Lengths donation event. Formerly part of the school's winter pep rally, the event has now grown to where it has become an event all its own, a fourth "pep rally" called the Celebration of Giving. Sports championship teams are feted, food and clothing drive leaders, among others, are recognized, and the climax is the simultaneous ponytail cut by friends and family, all done on the floor of the gym, without mirrors – the ones you love make the first cut, stylists are on hand downstairs, generously donating their time, to style and even things up.

As over two thousand students and community members watched, a record 207 students, parents of students, and staff had their ponytails cut. In previous years, this 1,750 student high school has had 67, 133, 141, 190 and now 207 donors on the floor. Most all have been students, but staff members have donated through the years, and a few parents. We ask that you have a solid connection to the school to donate, which included, this year, a few students from Pinkerton, our rival school, who know students at LHS.

The event itself is clearly a spectacle to see, but it is the end of a long journey, of growing your hair for this campaign, of looking into your life and choosing someone to make the cut that means something to you, a trusting friend, a family member or former teacher who has experienced the ravages of cancer and cancer treatment. A few of the many stories are shared on the gym floor that morning.

Most sad, and beautiful, are those who do this in memory of a loved one who cancer overcame. Sad, in that the person is not here to share in this moment of giving and celebration, and beautiful in that their memory is kept alive by love and positive action.

This year, the honor of calling out the "3-2- 1 cut" for the simultaneous donation went to Tammy Tenney and her twenty-year old daughter, Cassie. Tammy's other daughter, Becca, an LHS junior, passed away from a sudden illness earlier in the school year. Becca is the only Londonderry High School Pantene Angel we have ever lost in our five years. Her mom spoke to the crowd about how Becca planned to donate next year, her senior year, for a second time on the pep rally floor, and how Cassie was donating this year, in her sister's memory. Students have held fund raisers for scholarships in Becca's memory, and sorely miss this popular student. It meant a great deal to hear from her mom.

Everyone sees everyone's new look in the hallways the Monday following the event. Teachers, staff, guys whose hair is too short to donate, all compliment and support the angels as they see them. It is clear to all what a wonderful cause this is, and Lancer Nation responds. If every student and teacher were not behind this, it would not be the success it has been. Even in the wrestling room afterward, our makeshift salon, guys would stop in and tell the angels how great they looked.

This year, we have collected close to twenty-five sets of ponytails from students who cut at another time during the school year, and brought in their donation. Soon, we will send off the box of donated hair, set next year's date, and begin collecting permission slips. A math teacher and former student at the school, in her first year teaching at LHS and first year seeing the event and hearing the stories that brought people to the floor, has pledged for next year. Here we grow again!

Sabrina Aguilar
Emily Agostino
Stephanie Allen
Meghan Anderson
Kelsey Andrews
Tula Arabazhi
Farrah Ashe
Emily Balke
Samantha Banas
Rebecca Barker
Julia Barth
Rachel Beaton
Adele Beauregard
Alanna Beauregard
Amanda Bentley
Krysta Bilodeau
Colleen Birdsall
Alyssa Boccia
Steph Borjeson
Steffanie Bosteels
Tamarah Brousseau
Serina Brenner
Shannon Burke
Jordan Burnell
Caitlin Burns
Mary Buttafuoco
Michelle Calhoun
Tessa Caputo
Steve Carollo
Caroline Case
Erin Casey
Aimee Charest
Meagan Chisholm
Jennifer Chouinard
Riley Coburn
Shannon Coburn
Ally Comeau
Kaitlyn Condon
Racheal Condon
Anissa Cote
Kaffa Ann Cote
Sydney Countie
Bridget Crowley
Samantha Danis
Kristen Dapkus
Danielle Demers
Jackie Demers
Heather Doak
Tori Durrett
Melanie Eccles
Sandy Engler

Dawn Enwright
Devyn Enwright
Caroline Estabrook
Autumn Eustis
Danielle Estey
Janelle Evans
Amelia Fabiano
Chloe Ferraro
Rowyn Ferraro
Courtney Foster
Nancy Foster
Kathryn Fournier
Julia Frechette
Maria Gagliardi
Lydia Gallup
Madison Genrisch
Krysten Gosztyla
Carolyn Govoni
Samantha Guertin
Angela Gyorda
Carinne Haigis
Bethany Halloran
Samantha Hamilton
Abby Hansen
Sara Harper
Stephanie Henderson
Tyler Henderson
Lauren Holahan
Emily Homsey
Jordan Joncas
Elizabeth Juster
Kelly Juster
Panagi Karametrus
Meghan Kelly
Colleen Kennedy
Rebecca Kenney
Kial Keough
Janice Knepp
Ashley Kwiatkowski
Jules LaBranche
Heather Lanchester
Irene Lanchester
Abbey Lang
Amy Lagasse
Sydney Lagueux
Dariah Lauer
Alexandra Lawrence
Julie Lavalierre
Molly Lawrence-Webb

Jackie Lecaroz
Kelsey Lenfest
Kim Lesure
Kali Lombardi
Erin Lucey
Megan Lucey
Shirley Maczko
Sara Madden
Jackie Madison
Elisa MaGrath
Brittany Mahoney
Kirsten Malloy
Sherrill Manor
Amanda Marett
Jordan Marett
Kailey Martin
Lauren Mattucci
Michelle Mayer
Courtney McCarthy
Katie McGarry
Maggi McGarry
Morgan McGrath
Samantha McGrath
Megan McLaurin
Allison McNeel
Liz McQueeney
Lorin Melanson
Amanda Merck
Missy Miller
Rebecca Mitchell
Erika Moburg
Ashley Monks
Megan Moran
Diane Morrissette
Kaylyn Mounce
Katie Mullett
Caroline Muse
Rebecca Nader
Jessica Nunes
Ana O'Brien
Mary Osgood
Amanda Packard
Megan Packard
Sirena Paiva
Cecilia Palermo
Meredith Peabody
Shicora Pearce
Ginamarie Perez
Brandon Peters
Ellen Picanso
Amanda Plevinsky

Karyn Plevinsky
Cassie Plummer
Emily Powers
Kayla Rearick
Chantal Reid
Kaitlyn Rimol
Kim Roberts
Kelsey Robillard
John Robinson
Shea Robinson
Lily Rogers
Andrea Ruge
Viviana Ruge
Amy Sanborn
Kelsey Sanborn
Madison Sanborn
Jordan Shea
Elizabeth Sousa
Jillian Spinney
Erin St. Peter
Molly Stone
Bethany Sullivan
Samantha Summers
Jacqui Sweeney
Amanda Szymanski
Alyssa Swiderski
Olivia Taylor
Emma Tello
Natasha Telschow
Cassandra Tenney
Jennifer Tepper
Laurel Tessier
Sami Tocman
Amanda Trickett
Laura Troisi
Karen Turcotte
Kelsey Villars
Lizzy Vrettos
Dana Walker
Julie Walker
Rebecca Wallace
Christine White
Allison White
Lauren Wilbur
Emily Yeh
Alyssa Zamora